

CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

323 Reform St. N.
NYA, MN. 55368

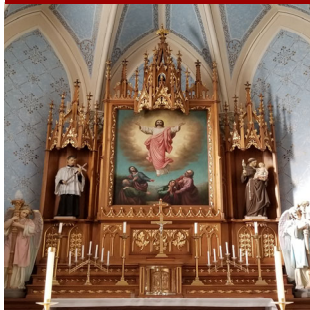
PASTOR

Fr. Abraham Kochupurackal CMI

OFFICE952-856-1050
frabraham@st-bernard-cologne.org

ST. BERNARD CHURCH

212 Church Street E.
Cologne, MN. 55322



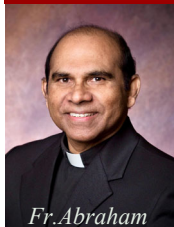
Website: AscensionNYA.org
Parish Office Hours:
Mon.—Wed & Fri. 9am—2pm
Office Phone: 952-467-3351
Business Administrator:
Sherry Witte.....952-777-0110
busadmin@ascensionnya.org
Safe Environment Coordinator:
Sarah Smith....952-777-0111
bookkeeper@ascensionnya.org

Website: St-Bernard-Cologne.org
Parish Office Hours:
Tues 9am-2pm & Fri. 9am—12pm
Office Phone: 952-466-2031
Business Administrator:
Sherry Witte.....952-856-1051
busadmin@st-bernard-cologne.org
Safe Environment Coordinator:
Sarah Smith....952-856-1052
bookkeeper@st-bernard-cologne.org



Pentecost Sunday – May 27 & 28, 2023

“Lord, Send out Your Spirit..”



Fr. Abraham

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Pentecost was originally a Jewish festival called “Shavuot” celebrated on the fiftieth day after Passover. It is also the ‘Festival of Weeks’, which commemorates the giving of the Torah at Mount Sinai fifty days after the exodus from Egypt. The word Pentecost comes from the Greek for “*pentekoste*” meaning “fiftieth.” For Christians, it is a memorial of the day the Holy Spirit descended on the apostles and the Blessed Virgin Mary, in the form of fiery tongues, an event that took place fifty days after the resurrection of Jesus. The feast also commemorates the official inauguration of the Church by the apostolic preaching of St. Peter, resulting in the conversion of 3,000 Jews to the Christian faith. Pentecost is, thus, the official birthday of the Church.

On the day of Pentecost, Jesus fulfilled his promise to send the Advocate or Paraclete. The gift of the Spirit would also enable them to fulfill Jesus’ commission to preach the gospel to all nations. Today’s gospel passage also tells us how Jesus gave to the Apostles the power and authority to forgive sins. “Receive the Holy Spirit. Whose sins you forgive are forgiven them, and whose sins you retain are retained.” (Jn 20: 23). These wonderful words, which bind together inseparably the presence of the Holy Spirit and the gift of forgiveness, are referred to directly in the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

The Acts of the Apostles describes how the Holy Spirit empowered the early Christians to bear witness to Christ by their sharing love and strong faith. This “anointing by the Holy Spirit” also strengthened the early Christian martyrs during the period of brutal persecution that followed. Today’s Scripture readings remind us that the gift of the Holy Spirit moves its recipients to action and inspires them to share this gift with others.

How beautiful is the thought that the Holy Spirit lives within us! St. Paul reminds the Corinthian community of this fact when he asks, “Do you not know that you are God’s temple and that God’s Spirit dwells in you?” (1 Cor 3:16). It is the Holy Spirit who develops our intimacy with God. “God has sent the Spirit of His Son into our hearts crying, ‘Abba’(Father).” (Gal. 4:6). “God’s love has been poured into our hearts by the Holy Spirit who has been given to us.” (Rom 5:5). “No one can say, ‘Jesus is Lord,’ except by the Holy Spirit.” (1 Cor 12:3). Moreover, we know that it is the Holy Spirit who teaches us to pray (Rom. 8:26). By the power of the Spirit, we also know the Lord Jesus through his Church. It is the Holy Spirit who enlivens, enlightens, guides, and sanctifies the Church.

We know Jesus through the Sacramental Mysteries of the Church, and the Holy Spirit is at the heart of the sacramental life of the Church. Baptism, Confirmation and Holy Orders are the Sacramental Mysteries through which people receive the seal of the Holy Spirit. It would be impossible for us to receive Jesus in the Eucharist without the descent of the Holy Spirit at the Epiclesis of the Divine Liturgy. Even the forgiveness of sins, comes through the Holy Spirit (Jn 20:21-23). The Holy Spirit both confirmed the apostles in Holy Orders as priests and empowered them to forgive sins by His power, a work which He continues today in each of our priests. May the Holy Spirit rekindle in us the spirit of new life and the fire of God’s love, and renew the face of the earth.

Ordination: Good news is that four Seminarians were ordained to the priesthood on this Pentecost weekend (May 27th) at the Cathedral of St. Paul. Please keep them in your prayers.

Rosary Intention: “For the newly Ordained Priests”

Yours in Christ, Fr. Abraham Kochupurackal CMI , Pastor

Parish Mission Statement We, the family of St. Bernard and Ascension, united through Baptism, redeemed by Christ’s death and resurrection, and strengthened by his Word and Eucharist, are called to follow him by nurturing a rich sacramental and spiritual life, supporting strong Catholic faith formation and fostering fellowship and community.

CALENDAR FOR ASCENSION AND ST. BERNARDS' PARISHES

Saturday June 17 after 5pm Mass "Linger Longer" @ St.B
Sunday June 18 after 10am Mass "Linger Longer" @ St.B



The Memorial Day Mass this year will be at 8:45am on Mon., May 30th at St. Bernard followed by a salute to the veterans by The Flags & Honor of MN Honor Guard at the cemetery at 9:30am. At Ascension, there will be a short service at 9:30am followed by a salute by The

VFW Honor Guard in honor of the veterans. Please come to pay respect to those who served to keep our country safe and protect the freedoms we all enjoy. May God bless and keep each of them.

Prayer Opportunity for Praying for our Children

Anyone who would like to offer up prayers for their children (and/or grandchildren and/or great-grandchildren) in union with others are invited to come to Ascension Church on Thursdays at 5:30 p.m.

We will pray together for 1 hour, and prayers will be provided. There will be opportunities during our prayer time to say the names of our children, and any intentions we might have for them, out loud or in the silence our hearts.

People from other parishes other than Ascension are warmly welcome to join us!

If you are unable to come on Thursdays but would like a copy of the prayers, please let us know and we can get those to you. In addition, if you are unable to come but would like us to pray for your children/intentions, please let us know. Call or text Tamara at 612-790-5720 or Rita at 612-282-7030.

A Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend is a private weekend away from the distractions of daily life for couples in good marriages. Give your marriage this gift! The next available Weekends are Oct 6-8, 2023 in Buffalo, MN and Feb 9-11, 2024 in Buffalo, MN. Early registration is highly recommended. For more information visit our website at: twincitieswwme.org or contact Brent & Tracy at applications@twincitieswwme.org or 612-234-7440.

Archdiocesan Marriage Day

Saturday, June 10, 10 a.m., Cathedral of Saint Paul, St. Paul

Celebrate the beautiful mystery of the mutual self-gift between a man and woman in the Sacrament of Matrimony! This celebration includes Mass, renewal of vows, and a short reception. Couples celebrating their silver, golden and platinum anniversaries will be honored in a special way. Families and friends of all couples are welcome! Registration is encouraged by contacting 651.291.4488. Couples married one year or more may request a commemorative certificate signed by Archbishop Hebda. To request a certificate, please contact the Office of Marriage, Family & Life by June 5 at 651-291-4488 or mfl@archspm.org.

I assure you that it is not by faith that you will come to know him, but by love; not by mere conviction, but by action. John the Evangelist is my authority for this statement. He tells us that anyone who claims to know God without keeping his commandments is a liar. — St. Gregory the Great

Eucharistic Adoration St. Bernard-Wednesday 2-7pm

Each hour you spend with Jesus will deepen His Divine Peace in your heart. To commit to a regular Adoration hour, contact Doris @ 612-910-2365. Thank you in advance for your consideration.

Please consider joining the Chili Feed committee on Monday June 12th at 7 pm in the church narthex for a planning meeting. We are looking for new and fresh ideas! Questions, contact Monica at 952-466-5769 or Sandy B at 612-240-4977

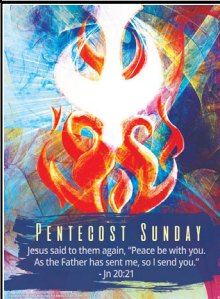
Widows of Joy - Full Day Retreat "Hope & Healing" - Free Event - June 3, 2023

St. John Paul II Area Faith Community invites all recent and long-time widows to attend a full day retreat on Saturday, June 3, 2023 from 8:30-4:00pm, at The Church of the Holy Trinity in Winsted, MN. Our retreat begins with Mass at 8:30am, followed by praise and worship, two reflection talks on "Hope & Healing After the Loss of a Loved One" presented by Deacon Mike McKeown of the New Ulm Diocese, group discussion, prayer ministry, and fellowship! Registration is requested for meal planning. To register: Call HT Parish @ 320-485-5651. Register by Thursday, June 1, 2023. Questions? Contact Roxanne Felder @ 612-396-0727.

All are welcome, invite a widowed friend to join!

Word of Life-"Even the weakest and most vulnerable, the sick, the old, the unborn and the poor, are masterpieces of God's creation, made in his own image, destined to live forever, and deserving of the utmost reverence and respect."

USCCB Respect Life flyer quoting Pope Francis' "Day for Life Greeting" © 2013 Libreria Editrice Vaticana. Used with permission. All rights reserved.



May 28, 2023 Pentecost Sunday

I hope you'll acknowledge with me a simple fact: it's not normal to have tongues of fire "part and come to rest" on people. It is actually pretty strange. Yet that is precisely what we celebrate in this feast of Pentecost. How can this mean something to us in our daily lives?

Jews had a tradition that heaven is a temple made of bricks of fire. So, through the apostles, the heavenly temple is coming to earth. But this fire looks like tongues, not bricks. That means that heavenly speech will be crucial to building a dwelling place for God on earth among men and women. So, it's no surprise when the apostles begin to speak in a miraculous way that is understood by all language groups. They are speaking of what God has done in and through Jesus: bringing heaven to earth and uniting all peoples to God and to each other. How often our speech divides: gossip, slander, insults, and so on. How strange and rare it is when people speak in ways that truly unite instead of divide. Imagine how powerful it would be if you and I began to speak at home, at work, and in our community in a way that made people hear heavenly speech. Imagine if you spoke of the mighty deeds of God in a way that everyone could understand. That's precisely what the Holy Spirit descends upon us to do. Ask Him to come as a tongue of fire to you once again, and He will. Then speak! — Father John Muir

Mass Ministry Schedule—May 29-June 4

| Mass Ministry | St. Bernard Monday. 8:45 am | St. Bernard Sat 5:00 am | Ascension Sun. 8:00 am | St. Bernard Sun. 10:00 am |
|----------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------|--|-------------------------------------|
| Sacristan | Patricia Quinn | Doris Mielke | Volunteer | Patricia Quinn |
| Servers | Dan Worm & Logan Pellegrino | Volunteers | Brianna Duenow & Payton Stender | Dan Worm, Luca Hoen & Buckley Jones |
| Reader | Roger Storms | Roger Storms | Cheryl Coyle | Julie Kleindl |
| EMHC | Andy Kleindl | Mary Meuwissen | Jean Schmitz (H), Irene Yaeck (C) | Andy Kleindl |
| Ushers | Bob Symanitz & Leo Willems | Ralph Laumann | Steve Coyle & Tom Lano | Bob Symanitz & Leo Willems |
| Greeters | Julie Kleindl | Volunteer | Colleen & Dave Donnay | Sarah Foley & Brian Vos |
| Homebound Ministers | N/A | N/A | Grp A—Cheryl & Steve Coyle Grp B- Tim George & Steve Helget | N/A |

Mass Times Intentions

| Monday | May 29 8:45am | St. Bernard | All Veterans |
|-----------|----------------|-------------|----------------------------|
| Tuesday | May 30 6:15 pm | Ascension | Joyce Hally † |
| Wednesday | May 31 8:00 am | St. Bernard | Bernard & Blanche Schuld |
| Thursday | June 1 8:00 am | St. Bernard | Hilbert & Euella Knauer †† |
| Friday | June 2 8:00 am | Ascension | Mass of Reparation |
| Saturday | June 3 5:00 pm | St. Bernard | All Parishioners |
| Sunday | June 4 8:00 am | Ascension | All Parishioners |
| Sunday | June 4 10:00am | St. Bernard | George & Ethel Worm †† |



Eucharistic Adoration
Ascension

Every Tuesday
3:00 pm until 6:00 pm

St. Bernard

Every Wednesday
2:00 until 7:00 pm

SACRAMENTS

Baptisms: By appointment.

Marriage Arrangements

The couple should contact the priest as soon as they become engaged. They must meet with the priest twice before setting a marriage date. These two meetings need to be completed 6 months before the proposed date.

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Ascension: Tues. 5:45pm - 6:05pm

St. Bernard: Wed: 7:30am-7:50am

Saturday: 4:30pm—4:50pm

at parish hosting the Mass

By appointment with Father- Call 952-856-1050

Communion for Homebound

Ascension - Sue Tellers.....612-247-6881

St. Bernard - Barb Knorr.....952-484-9628

Anointing of the Sick

Call the parish office at any time.

Readings for the week of May 28, 2023

Sunday: Vigil: Gn 11:1-9 or Ex 19:3-8a, 16-20b or Ez 37:1-14 or Jl 3:1-5/ Ps 104:1-2, 24, 35, 27-28, 29, 30 (see 30)/Rom 8:22-27/Jn 7:37-39 Extended Vigil: Gn 11:1-9/Ex 19:3-8a, 16-20b/Ez 37:1-14/Jl 3:1-5/ Ps 104:1-2, 24, 35, 27-28, 29, 30 (see 30)/Rom 8:22-27/Jn 7:37-39 Day: Acts 2:1-11/Ps 104:1, 24, 29-30, 31, 34 (see 30)/1 Cor 12:3b-7, 12-13/ Jn 20:19-23 **Monday:** Gn 3:9-15, 20 or Acts 1:12-14/Ps 87:1-2, 3 and 5, 6-7/Jn 19:25-34 **Tuesday:** Sir 35:1-12/Ps 50:5-6, 7-8, 14 and 23/Mk 10:28-31 **Wednesday:** Zep 3:14-18a or Rom 12:9-16/Is 12:2-3, 4bcd, 5-6/Lk 1:39-56 **Thursday:** Sir 42:15-25/Ps 33:2-3, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9/ Mk 10:46-52 **Friday:** Sir 44:1, 9-13/Ps 96:10, 11-12, 13/Mk 11:11-26 **Saturday:** Sir 51:12cd-20/Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 11/Mk 11:27-33 **Next Sunday:** Ex 34:4b-6, 8-9/Dn 3:52, 53, 54, 55, 56 (52b)/2 Cor 13:11-13/Jn 3:16-18

**Bulletin copy is due by
Thursdays @ NOON
for the bulletin
two weekends out;**

St. Bernard copy must be
emailed to:

bulletin@st-bernard-cologne.org
and pquinn55322@hotmail.com
Ascension copy must be emailed
to:

busadmin@ascensionnya.org

**All inserts and weekend Mass
announcements** can be emailed
or a paper copy brought to the
Parish office at
St. Bernard or Ascension.

St. Bernard Stewardship of Treasure

| | |
|--|-----------------|
| Budget for week | 2,874.31 |
| Contributions 05-10– through 5-16-2023 | 4,427.00 |
| Total Actual Collection YTD | 165,178.45 |
| Total Actual Collection Over (Under) Budget | 2,993.58 |

Forward in Faith

| | |
|-------------------------------|------------------|
| Envelope Income | 50.00 |
| Electronic Donations | 795.52 |
| Forward in Faith Total | 845.52 |
| Forward in Faith YTD | 45,333.23 |

Did you know you can have your contributions automatically deducted from your checking or savings account?

For more information call the parish office 952-466-2031,

Ascension Weekly Collection Report

Totals as of 5/14/2023

| | |
|--|-------------|
| Weekly Operating Budget: | \$ 2,942.31 |
| Weekly Envelopes/Plate: | 4,051.00 |
| Weekly E-Giving: | 400.00 |
| Collections Budget YTD: | 135,346.26 |
| Actual Collection YTD: | 147,338.17 |
| Total Collected Over (Under) YTD: | 11,991.91 |

Capital Improvement Offering: 290.00

Capital Improvement-E-Giving: 20.00

Capital Improvement YTD: 17,655.00

Sign up for electronic giving at ascensionnya.org

Under Links -> E-giving. Or call the parish office for more Information: 952-467-3351.