

**CHURCH OF
THE ASCENSION**
323 Reform St. N.
NYA, MN. 55368

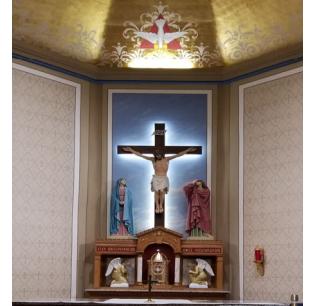
PASTOR

Fr. Abraham Kochupurackal CMI
OFFICE952-856-1050
frabraham@st-bernard-cologne.org



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

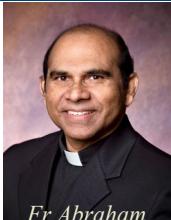
**ST. BERNARD
CHURCH**
212 Church Street E.
Cologne, MN. 55322



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
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Fifth Sunday of the Easter— May 6 & 7, 2023

Place our Faith and Trust in Jesus



Dear Sisters and Brothers,

Fr. Abraham

The gospel for the 5th Sunday of Easter offers great consolation and encouragement to us. This passage is part of Jesus' farewell discourse to his disciples before his crucifixion. It contains some of the most beautiful and profound words that Jesus ever spoke. Jesus knew his apostles would have to face trials and persecution after he will return to his Father in heaven. Jesus is aware of the deep anxiety of his own disciples, as they face the reality of his departure. So, Jesus said "Do not let your hearts be troubled. You have faith in God; have faith also in me." (Jn 14: 1). No matter what challenges we may face in life, we can always find peace and comfort in Jesus.

"It is the Lord who goes before you; he will be with you, he will not fail you or forsake you; do not fear or be dismayed." (Dt 31:8). Just as God went ahead of the Israelites in the wilderness to lead them safely to the Promised Land, Jesus tells his disciples that he is going ahead to prepare a place for them in God's house, a place of refuge, peace, security, and everlasting happiness.

Jesus knew that his followers could not find the way to the Father in heaven on their own without his help. Jesus made a statement which only God could make. Jesus proclaimed: "I am the way, and the truth, and the life." Jesus does not simply give advice and direction. He personally is the Way, and we cannot miss it. As a Good Shepherd, he guides us on the right path and offers us the security of his love. Our Lord not only promises that he is the way that leads to life. Jesus is the Life. He gives the kind of life which only God can give, abundant life which never fails nor ends. Through his life-giving Word and Eucharist, Jesus leads and guides us personally to the Father, to eternal home. Jesus also is the Truth. Many can say, "I have taught you the truth." Only Jesus can say, I am the Truth. Moral truth cannot be conveyed in words alone; it must be conveyed in example. Jesus embodies the truth in his person.

From time to time, we all experience fears and anxieties. It is natural that we may have worries, fears and questions regarding our life in this world and of eternal life just as Thomas and Philip had. But today Jesus stands before us with the answer. "Do not let your hearts be troubled. You have faith in God; have faith also in me," "In my Father's house are many rooms." We have to look for a life, beyond this materialistic world. When we are afraid or troubled, when we are worried or anxious, when we are sick or weak Jesus is right in front of us, consoling us with his strengthening words, "Let not your hearts be troubled, Be not afraid". Many times, in our life we may long for consolation and strength from God. We may struggle and look around helplessly for a ray of hope. Such a time our eyes and ears may open enough to see and hear Jesus. Let us place our faith in Jesus and let us come out of our unnecessary worries and fears. Let us rejoice in God, reach out to the poor and the needy, and forgive others as our heavenly Father forgives us.

I am glad to inform you that **Virginia Hanson** has accepted the position of **Administrative Assistant** for Ascension and St. Bernard. Virginia will start her job officially on July 1st, her orientation started in the first week of May.

Virginia, thank you for accepting our offer to the position and we are excited.

Rosary Intention: "For the grace to follow in our Mother Mary's footsteps as she leads us closer to Jesus."

Yours in Christ, Fr. Abraham Kochupurackal CMI, Pastor

Church of Ascension Norwood Young America, MN

CALENDAR FOR ASCENSION AND ST. BERNARDS' PARISHES

Sun. May 7	9:00am	KC Donut Sunday
Thurs, May 18	7:00pm	JMT-Joint Mission Team Meeting StB
Sat. May 20	6:00pm	"Linger Longer" after Mass StB
Sun May 21	11:00am	"Linger Longer" after Mass StB

Synod, small groups and why they matter to your parish

Pastors and Synod Evangelization Team (SET) members throughout the Archdiocese have been busy preparing for the Year 1 Synod Priority: Small Groups.

Remember these tips for keep parishioners engaged in the Synod,

- **Pray.** One of the primary ways parishioners can continue to be engaged in the Synod process is through their prayers.
- **Read, listen & reflect:** This is a great time to dig deeper into the pastoral letter. Read the letter, listen to the podcast, and find reflection questions at archspm.org/synodletter.
- **Hear from Archbishop:** Archbishop Hebda extends invitations to all the faithful, in various walks of life, in his [Year 1 Archdiocesan Synod Implementation Plan](#) that accompanied the pastoral letter (pages 9-11). Encourage each parishioner to review this document and see how Archbishop is inviting deeper involvement in Synod implementation.

And hear updates on Practicing Catholic:

- In this recent show, Deacon Michalak explained the School of Discipleship and how it has been helping SET members grow as activated disciples.
- Coming up this weekend: Fr. Leonard Andrie, Vicar of Evangelization and pastor at St. Therese in Deephaven, talks about the upcoming Small Group Visioning Day for pastors and SET members.

Class of St. Therese (The Little Flower)
Embrace the Little Way and
Join the Class of St. Thérèse of Lisieux!

This fall, the **Catechetical Institute** will offer the two-year Pillars Program in-person at **St. Patrick's in Edina** and via live stream at **Our Lady of the Prairie, Belle Plaine** and St. Maximillian, Delano. Classes will be held on **Monday evenings** from **7 PM - 9 PM**. The classes are divided into four eleven-week modules with two Saturday morning formative sessions per module. Apply today at [custodian.com!](#) Applications due August 1, 2023 for September 2023-May 2025.

NOTE: Ascension and St. Bernard will assist with half of the tuition for these classes.



ARCHDIOCESAN Rural Life Sunday 2023 PLEASE JOIN US!

Sunday, June 25, 2023 1:30 p.m. Mass
 Celebrated by Archbishop Bernard Hebda
 Hosted by Tim & Amy Leonard Family Farm
 Address: 13315 106th St. • Norwood Young

America, MN 55397

Host parish: St. Joseph Catholic Community • Waconia, MN
 Activities and Entertainment:

- Lunch following Mass (free will offering gratefully accepted).
- Children's activities and games, see the animals.
- Please bring your own lawn chairs.
- Outdoor restrooms and handicap parking available.
- Hand washing station available.
- In case of rain, the celebration will be held inside a shed at the farm.

"Remarkably, the Lord made you in His very own image. That means your life is sacred. It has value. You have been made by love and with love. It is hard to believe, but you look a lot like God."

- Allen Hunt -Genesis Bible Study Workbook

Church of St. Bernard

Cologne, MN

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.

News from the Quilting Circle: On May 2nd, after the 6:15pm Mass at Ascension, this year's quilts will be blessed by Father Abraham.

Thank you to St. Bernard's for the use of the Narthex basement; to Monica for helping with set-up and take-down; and to St. Bernard's Catholic United Financial group for their donation. Thank you for tops sewn by Rosie, Sue, Carol, Cheryl, and Vicki - very creative pieces. Thank you to the 12+ ladies that knotted every Tuesday - we have made over 50 quilts, 10+ fleece throws, and 8 wheelchair size blankets. We donate to over 8 different state locations. If you know of a family or individual in need, please let me know.

To continue our mission we are always looking for cotton material, yarn, thread, flat sheets, and batting. To cover some of the cost, we are selling blankets that will be on display at Ascension the weekend of May 7th. Single size are \$50.00. Full size are \$75.00. Queen/King are \$95.00 Please contact Irene at 612-716-7063 with questions.

May is the **month of devotions to the Blessed Virgin Mary**. It has been a long-standing Catholic tradition to honor the Blessed Virgin Mary as "the Queen of May". We can honor the Blessed Virgin by praying the Rosary daily. The following is a list of a few TV and Radio stations that air the Rosary.

TV-EWTN: 6:30am, After the TV Mass at Approximately 8:00am.: 2:30pm.; 8:30pm.

Catholic TV Network: 9:00am; 5:30pm Nuverna Nu Tel Cable TV Ch 21

Radio: -Revelant Radio 1330am: 7:00pm. "Family Rosary across America"

Word of Life—“Without a foundational, practical formation, it is difficult for our consciences to guide us well in concrete situations. As Catholics, we have the immense gift of the teaching authority of the Catholic Church and can turn to it for help forming our consciences. For example, learning about Christian moral principles, reading the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, or researching what the Church says about a challenging teaching will help us grow in knowledge of the truth.”

USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities, “Understanding Conscience”



...a royal priesthood..."

If you had to summarize the essential core of the Christian life, what would it be? Mercy, truth, or love, perhaps? The readings today suggest another word which may surprise you. That word is priesthood.

St. Peter says to us, “You are a ‘chosen race, a royal priesthood...’” To be part of a priesthood is to offer a particular sacrifice in order for the community to survive and thrive. Jesus is the great high priest because he offers the one perfect sacrifice which heals and perfects the entire human race. Peter the Apostle wants us to know that all the baptized share in this priestly ministry. The whole of our lives, including every detail, is meant to become our acceptable offering to God.

The baptized exercise this priesthood in many ways, I'll mention three. At Sunday Mass, in private prayer, and in daily work. At Mass, we offer the sacrifice of our lives with that of the priest, who symbolizes Christ the Priest. In our prayer, a “morning offering” prayer is a great way to offer up all the joys and sufferings of the day to come. In our daily work, we sacrifice our time, comfort, money, and energy to do good for others. All this gives the deepest possible meaning to our lives: we share in the priesthood which saves the world. That's at the core of our faith. — Father John Muir ©LPi

Mass Ministry Schedule—May 13-14

Mass Ministry	Ascension Sat. 5:00pm	Ascension Sun. 8:00am	St. Bernard Sun. 10:00am
Sacristan	Ann Dettmann	Cheryl Coyle	Patricia Quinn
Servers	Payton Stender & Hailey Stender	Nathan Duenow & Briana Duenow	Logan Pellegrino & Gabby Remer
Reader	Volunteer	Cheryl Coyle	Helen Nicklaus
EMHC	Brenda Seifert	Steve Coyle	Victoria Amst
Ushers	Jim Mulville & Steve Schrupp	Don Whitaker & Paul Lano	Brian Vos & Leo Willems
Greeters	Cathleen Williams	Leo Pouliot	Casey Jones & Monica Kooiman
Homebound Ministers	N/A	Grp A – Tim George & Steve Coyle Grp B – Steve Lemmer & Curt Wilson	N/A

Mass Times Intentions

Monday	May 8	No Mass	
Tuesday	May 9 6:15 pm	Ascension	Thomas Fahey †
Wednesday	May 10 8:00 am	St. Bernard	Elvira Winkler †
Thursday	May 11 8:00 am	St. Bernard	Hilbert & Euella Knauer ††
Friday	May 12 8:00 am	Ascension	Steve Haugh †
Saturday	May 13 5:00 pm	Ascension	John G. Worm †
Sunday	May 14 8:00 am	Ascension	All Parishioners
Sunday	May 15 10:00am	St. Bernard	Marcy Wickenhauser † & All Parishioners

Readings for the week of May 7, 2023

Sunday: Acts 6:1-7/Ps 33:1-2, 4-5, 18-19 (22)/1 Pt 2:4-9/Jn 14:1-12 **Monday:** Acts 14:5-18/Ps 115:1-2, 3-4, 15-16/Jn 14:21-26 **Tuesday:** Acts 14:19-28/Ps 145:10-11, 12-13ab, 21/Jn 14:27-31a **Wednesday:** Acts 15:1-6/Ps 122:1-2, 3-4ab, 4cd-5/Jn 15:1-8 **Thursday:** Acts 15:7-21/Ps 96:1-2a, 2b-3, 10/Jn 15:9-11 **Friday:** Acts 15:22-31/Ps 57:8-9, 10 and 12/Jn 15:12-17 **Saturday:** Acts 16:1-10/Ps 100:1b-2, 3, 5/Jn 15:18-21 **Next Sunday:** Acts 8:5-8, 14-17/Ps 66:1-3, 4-5, 6-7, 16, 20 (1)/1 Pt 3:15-18/Jn 14:15-21

Feast Days of this week

May 10 St. John of Avila

May 12 Sts. Nereus and Achilleius
May 13 Our Lady of Fatima

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.



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.

St. Bernard Stewardship of Treasure

Budget for week	3,060.28
Contributions 04-19– through 4-25-2023	3,106.00
Total Actual Collection YTD	155,681.70
Total Actual Collection Over (Under) Budget	2,119.76
Forward in Faith	
Envelope Income	250.00
Electronic Donations	0.00
Forward in Faith Total	250.00
Forward in Faith YTD	43,764.71

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 4/23/2023

Weekly Operating Budget:	\$ 2,942.31
Weekly Envelopes/Plate:	1,914.80
Weekly E-Giving:	1,565.00
Collections Budget YTD:	126,519.33
Actual Collection YTD:	138,210.40
Total Collected Over (Under) YTD:	11,691.07

Capital Improvement Offering:	250.00
Capital Improvement-E-Giving:	110.00
Capital Improvement YTD:	16,825.00
Sign up for electronic giving at ascensionnya.org	
Under Links -> E-giving. Or call the parish office for more Information: 952-467-3351.	