

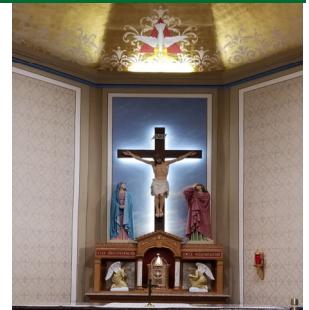
**CHURCH OF  
THE ASCENSION**  
323 Reform St. N.  
NYA, MN. 55368

**PASTOR**

**Fr. Abraham Kochupurackal CMI**  
OFFICE ..... 952-856-1050  
[frabraham@st-bernard-cologne.org](mailto:frabraham@st-bernard-cologne.org)



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

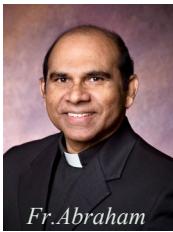


**Website:** [AscensionNYA.org](http://AscensionNYA.org)  
**Parish Office Hours:**  
Mon.—Wed & Fri. 9am—2pm  
**Office Phone:** 952-467-3351  
**Business Administrator:**  
Virginia Hanson ...952-777-0110  
[busadmin@ascensionnya.org](mailto:busadmin@ascensionnya.org)  
**Safe Environment Coordinator:**  
Sarah Smith...952-777-0111  
[bookkeeper@ascensionnya.org](mailto:bookkeeper@ascensionnya.org)

**Website:** [St-Bernard-Cologne.org](http://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](mailto:busadmin@st-bernard-cologne.org)  
**Safe Environment Coordinator:**  
Sarah Smith....952-856-1052  
[bookkeeper@st-bernard-cologne.org](mailto:bookkeeper@st-bernard-cologne.org)

## Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time – July 1 & 2, 2023

### Be Worthy Followers of Jesus



Dear Sisters and Brothers,

The readings for the 13th Sunday in Ordinary Time remind us to make our relationship with God first in all we do. As the part of the commissioning of the apostles for their mission, Jesus reminds them of the cost and the reward of the commitment. Jesus says, “Whoever loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me...” (Mt 10: 37-42). These words of Jesus may sound a bit extreme, since family comes first for most of us. Does this mean that Jesus wants us to turn our backs on our parents or to reject them? Certainly not! The fourth commandment explicitly teaches us to honor our fathers and our mothers. What does Jesus mean by this command? Jesus is talking here about a higher form of love than filial love. He is not denying family love. Rather he wants us to understand that if we love God first the way Jesus loves us, we will love our families even more.

The second command really strikes us as extreme. “Whoever loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me.” How can this be? It is simply that Jesus Christ must be the center of our lives. We love our children because they are not just our children; they are God’s children. Parents are in the responsibility of raising children for the Lord, not for themselves. If parents separate their love for their children from their love for the Lord, if the worship of God is not a priority for them, then these parents would be loving their children more than God. They would be unworthy of being a follower of Christ.

But if parents allow the presence of God in their homes to motivate their every action, if parents are committed to raising their children to be the Christian men and women, then their love for their children will reflect their love for the Lord. Their love for their children is an expression of their love for God. Everyone is bound to love his or her parents and family members, but love for family or any creature should never become an obstacle to the love of Christ.

And finally, “Whoever does not take up his cross and follow after me is not worthy of me.” Christ had to carry his cross and so we too, are called to take up our cross and follow him. It means we will have to die to ourselves. If we refuse to follow the Lord because we are persuaded that our crosses are too much for us, then we are not worthy of being called disciples of the Lord. Today’s gospel makes it clear that there is a cost to discipleship. If we put Christ first in our life, everything else will fall into place.

#### Mission Appeal, Weekend of July 8 & 9<sup>th</sup>

Our parishes are hosting the Annual Mission Appeal for the **Missionaries of Our Lady of LaSalette** during the Weekend of July 8 & 9<sup>th</sup>.

The Missionaries of Our Lady of La Salette minister to people of every race, language, culture and way of life – beginning at the La Salette Shrine in France where our Blessed Mother appeared in 1846. With our cooperation, the Missionaries of La Salette can continue to provide spiritual and financial assistance to 27 mission countries as they bring God’s reconciling message to the poor. Fr. Bibin Parekunnel will celebrate Mass and preach the Annual Mission Appeal. Please cordially welcome him, generously support the Missionaries of Our Lady of LaSalette and keep them in your prayers.

As we celebrate “**the Fourth of July**”, let us pray to the Lord for our nation and for our people to enjoy real freedom and peace, and let us remember all who sacrificed their lives for freedom, and those who continue to serve our nation. God bless our nation.

#### Happy Independence Day.

**Rosary Intention:** “For the preservation of religious freedom in our country”

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.

## Church of Ascension Norwood Young America, MN

### CALENDAR FOR ASCENSION AND ST. BERNARDS' PARISHES

Sat, July 8th Cologne Lions Pancake Breakfast for the Food Shelf 9am-11am @ St. Bernard Cafeteria

**The Cologne Lions will be hosting a pancake breakfast in the St. Bernard School Cafeteria for the new Cologne Food Shelf on Saturday July 8<sup>th</sup> from 9am-11am. Breakfast is a free will offering. Cash or food donations will be gratefully accepted. Bring your disposable shopping bags to be reused by families shopping the food shelf. Fill yourselves and fill the shelves!**



Tuesday throughout the United States, we celebrate our freedom. Our rights are protected and opportunities abound. We recognize that freedom has a cost, one we celebrate and honor on days such as this. It's good to honor those who fight for our country, who may well pay the ultimate price for the liberties we're afforded. As faithful Catholics, we recognize that there is more to freedom than simply being at liberty to make our lives what we want them to be. St. John Paul II reminds us: "Freedom is not just doing what we can, it is doing what we ought." We become freer within ourselves and within our relationships when we choose what is right and good. When we choose sin, we become trapped in egoism - less free, not more. This Independence Day, let's continue to pursue virtue and good character and encourage others to do this same. ©LPI

### Catholic Services Appeal Foundation Update

Both Ascension and St. Bernard are close to meeting their goal for the CSAF. Please prayerfully consider donating so we can exceed our goal. Reminder that 50% percentage of anything over our goal is given back to the parish.

#### Ascension

**Goal:** \$9,258.48

**Total Pledged & Received:**

\$9,153.00

**Under Goal:** (\$105.48)

#### St. Bernard

**Goal:** \$11,185.86

**Total Pledged & Received:**

\$10,775.00

**Under Goal:** (\$410.86)

### Peter's Pence Collection-Weekend of July 1-2

Today is the Peter's Pence Collection, a worldwide collection that supports the work of the Universal Church, including the works of the Holy See and the charitable works of Pope Francis and be a sign of mercy to our suffering brothers and sisters. Please be Generous today.

**The Ascension Knight of Columbus would like to say THANK YOU to everyone that helped at Winstock. We were able to raise \$3000!**

**Directory Update:** Thank you again to all the individuals and families that participated in getting their photos taken for the combined pictorial directory. You should have all received your photos by this time. If you have not received your photos or have concerns with your order, you should contact the photo company at 419-522-5011. Also, final directories are anticipated to be shipped to the parishes in the fall and distributed to individuals and families at that time.

### Congratulations Rich and Sue!!

A \$40 donation was made to our Homebound Ministry in honor of Rich and Sue Tellers' 50th Wedding Anniversary. God Bless you both!

"Christ is truly present among us in the Eucharist. His presence is not static. It is a dynamic presence that grasps us, to make us his own, to make us assimilate him." —Pope Benedict XVI

## Church of St. Bernard

## Cologne, MN

**Thank you**—The Southwest Carver County Food Shelf gratefully acknowledges the recent gift of 19lbs. Of food donated to the Food Shelf. Your contribution is appreciated on behalf of those served by the Food Shelf. During the summer months when children are not in school the need for food rises. Please consider adding an item to your grocery cart for the Food Shelf. Items needed are juice, peanut butter, Tuna, canned meats, canned fruits, canned vegetables, meal in one, cereal, rice, noodles, pasta and crackers. Items can be brought to the box in the narthex at St. Bernard and the shelf in the entrance at Ascension.

**Glad Days Booth** Ice Cream Sundaes—Farmers Market/Bake Sale. Can you help? Baked Goods, Canned Goods, Garden Produce or work. A two hour shift? Contact Julie Kleidl to help serve Ice Cream (952)-807-3522. Parents/Lids. Please Help.

Contact: Carol Hoen about your donations (952)-297-4630.

#### Booth Dates/Hours

Friday—July 28 open 5p-9pm

Saturday—July 29 Open 10am-9pm

Sunday—July 30 Open Noon to 4pm—Ice Cream only

The Glad Days Booth is sponsored by the St. Bernard branch of Catholic United Financial. Proceeds benefit Faith Formation.

### Mission Appeal, Weekend of July 8th & 9<sup>th</sup>.

Our parishes are hosting the Annual Mission Appeal for the **Missionaries of Our Lady of LaSalette** during the Weekend of July 8th & 9<sup>th</sup>. The Missionaries of Our Lady of La Salette minister to people of every race, language, culture and way of life – beginning at the La Salette Shrine in France where our Blessed Mother appeared in 1846. Her final words, “Well, my children, you will make this known to all my people,” echo Jesus’ Gospel mandate. It is little wonder that the La Salette Congregation has always been mission orientated. When called upon by the Vatican to preach the Gospel in foreign lands, they eagerly responded. This spirit brought them to mission in 27 countries, especially among the poor in Angola, Argentina, Bolivia, Haiti, India, Madagascar, Myanmar and the Philippines. With our cooperation, the Missionaries of La Salette can continue to provide spiritual and financial assistance to these mission countries as they bring God’s reconciling message to the poor. Please generously support the Missionaries of Our Lady of LaSalette and keep them in your prayers.

**Word of Life-** “O God our Creator... through the power and working of your Holy Spirit, you call us to live out our faith in the midst of the world, bringing the light and the saving truth of the Gospel to every corner of society.”

United States Conference of Catholic Bishops  
“Prayer for Religious Liberty”



July 2, 2023

#### 13th Sunday in Ordinary Time

As a boy my favorite board game was “Chutes and Ladders.” The players roll dice to move from the start to the finish, from the bottom of the board to the top. If you land on a chute, you slide back and down. It was a bummer. Land on a ladder, and you jump well up the board and near the goal. It was a thrill to find a ladder and draw closer to the goal. That’s life, isn’t it? At every moment, we’re either moving closer or farther from the goal of our lives.

How do we win? Jesus tells us the secret of life’s chutes and ladders hinges on getting our loves rightly ordered. What we love in life is meant to be a ladder, drawing us up into God’s love — including our family, friends, work, play, food, and drink. Even to give your water to someone out of love for Christ leads to a sure reward.

But those ladders of our loves can become chutes. If we love even our family members more than Christ, we slide down and back. If we love the persons and things in our life for the sake of Christ, He says we “surely will not lose our reward.” The key difference between a chute and ladder, between our spiritual regression and advancement, is our willingness to renounce everything — even our own life — for the love of Jesus. To allow everything and everyone we love to draw us to love him more — that’s the difference between chutes and ladders.

—Father John Muir

©LPI

## Mass Ministry Schedule—July 8-9

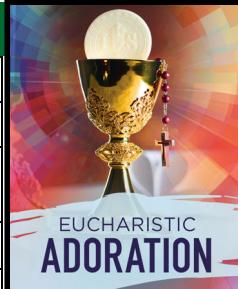
Mass Ministry	Ascension Sat. 5:00pm	Ascension Sun. 8:00am	St. Bernard Sun. 10:00am
Sacristan	Ann Dettmann	Rita Fahey	Patricia Quinn
Servers	Volunteers (2)	Brianna Duenow & Nathan Duenow	Buckley Jones & Lexy Allison
Reader	Volunteer	Brian Willems	Brenda Jones
EMHC	Cathleen Williams (H), Jim Mulville (C), Jean Schmitz (C)	Pat Johnson (H), Kathy Kloempken (C), Irene Yaeck (C)	Julie Clemensen
Ushers	Dave Donnay, Tom Lano	Tim George & Richard Tellers	Kieran Allison & Vern Elke
Greeters	Julie & Jeremy Gesinger	Steve Coyle	Casey Jones & Monica Kooiman
Homebound Ministers	N/A	Grp A – Rich & Sue Tellers Grp B – Theresa Hartmann & Pat Johnson	N/A

### Mass Times Intentions

Monday	July 3		No Mass
Tuesday	July 4 6:15 pm	Ascension	No Mass
Wednesday	July 5 8:00 am	St. Bernard	Glen, Lorraine, Terry & Jake Wickenhauser ††††
Thursday	July 6 8:00 am	St. Bernard	Hilbert & Euella Knauer ††
Friday	July 7 8:00 am	Ascension	Mass of Reparation
Saturday	July 8 5:00 pm	Ascension	All Parishioners
Sunday	July 9 8:00 am	Ascension	Harry Schoewet
Sunday	July 9 10:00am	St. Bernard	Gilbert Rademacher †

**Readings for the week of July 2, 2023**  
**Sunday:** 2 Kgs 4:8-11, 14-16a/Ps 89:2-3, 16-17, 18-19 (2a)/Rom 6:3-4, 8-11/Mt 10:37-42 **Monday:** Eph 2:19-22/Ps 117:1bc, 2/Jn 20:24-29 **Tuesday:** Gn 19:15-29/Ps 26:2-3, 9-10, 11-12/Mt 8:23-27 **Wednesday:** Gn 21:5, 8-20a/Ps 34:7-8, 10-11, 12-13/Mt 8:28-34 **Thursday:** Gn 22:1b-19/Ps 115:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9/Mt 9:1-8 **Friday:** Gn 23:1-4, 19, 24:1-8, 62-67/Ps 106:1b-2, 3-4a, 4b-5/Mt 9:9-13 **Saturday:** Gn 27:1-5, 15-29/Ps 135:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6/Mt 9:14-17 **Next Sunday:** Zec 9:9-10/Ps 145:1-2, 8-9, 10-11, 13-14 (see 1)/Rom 8:9, 11-13/Mt 11:25-3  
**Feast Days**  
 July 3—St. Thomas, Apostle  
 July 4—Independence Day  
 July 5—St. Anthony & St. Elizabeth of Portugal  
 July 6 — St. Marie Goretti  
 July 8 - BVM

**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	3,016.63
<b>Contributions 06-14– through 6-20-2023</b>	<b>3,446.00</b>
Total Actual Collection YTD	179,419.37
<b>Total Actual Collection Over (Under) Budget</b>	<b>2,435.99</b>

#### Forward in Faith

Envelope Income	125.00
Electronic Donations	695.92
<b>Forward in Faith Total</b>	<b>820.92</b>
<b>Forward in Faith YTD</b>	<b>47,162.15</b>

**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 6/18/2023

<b>Weekly Operating Budget:</b>	\$ 2,942.31
<b>Weekly Envelopes/Plate:</b>	902.00
<b>Weekly E-Giving:</b>	280.00
<b>Collections Budget YTD:</b>	150,057.81
<b>Actual Collection YTD:</b>	158,667.29
<b>Total Collected Over (Under) YTD:</b>	8,609.48

<b>Capital Improvement Offering:</b>	150.00
<b>Capital Improvement-E-Giving:</b>	35.00
<b>Capital Improvement YTD:</b>	19,015.00

**Sign up** for electronic giving at [ascensionnya.org](http://ascensionnya.org)  
 Under Links -> E-giving. Or call the parish office for more Information: 952-467-3351.