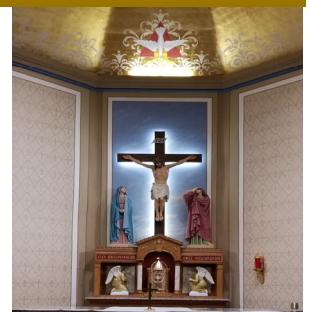


**CHURCH OF
THE ASCENSION**
323 Reform St. N.
NYA, MN. 55368



PASTOR
Fr. Abraham Kochupurackal CMI
OFFICE 952-856-1050
frabraham@st-bernard-cologne.org

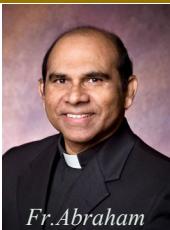
**ST. BERNARD
CHURCH**
212 Church Street E.
Cologne, MN. 55322



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

The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ (Corpus Christi) – June 10 & 11, 2023



Fr. Abraham

Eucharist: Our Spiritual Food and Drink.

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

The traditional day for Corpus Christi is the Thursday after Holy Trinity Sunday. Thursday was chosen because it was the day on which the Last Supper was celebrated. Many dioceses in the United States, however, celebrate it on the following Sunday, so that more people can attend. Where it occurs on Thursday, it is a Holy Day of Obligation, that is, Catholics must participate in the Mass. The feast of Corpus Christi was established in Liege, Belgium, in 1247. Pope Urban IV extended it to the universal Church.

This year's readings for the feast emphasize the theme of the Eucharist as our spiritual food and drink. Jesus says, "*I am the living bread that came down from heaven; whoever eats this bread will live forever*" (Jn 6:51). On this feast of *Corpus Christi*, we reflect on this promise of Christ to "live forever." Does this mean that if we receive communion once in our lifetime we're guaranteed eternal life? Does it mean that the more often we receive communion, the better our chances of getting to heaven? Probably neither of these extremes is what Jesus meant when he said that whoever "eats this bread" will live forever. It is possible to receive Holy Communion on a regular basis and still not have a deep, Eucharistic faith and life. On the other hand, someone who cannot receive the Eucharist like a catechumen or candidate preparing to be received into the Church, or someone in an irregular marriage situation, or a child before their First Communion, could have a strong faith in the Eucharist. The mere act of "eating this bread" does not magically create a deep Eucharistic faith and life. The key to what Jesus meant is a few verses later in today's passage, where Jesus says, "Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood remains in me and I in him." (Jn 6:56).

The act of receiving Holy Communion is meant to foster the abiding presence of the Lord in our soul and in our heart. The Eucharist is the Lord's dying gift to us. We receive His Body, His Blood, His humanity and Divinity. We celebrate the Living Memory of Jesus Christ. We speak to Him within ourselves. And He speaks to us, calling us to unite our pains to His Cross, strengthening us with the Living Food for the Journey of our Lives.

The Feast of the Body and Blood of Christ invites us to renew and deepen our faith in the Eucharist. When our faith in the real presence of Jesus in the Eucharist is strong, then our desire to participate in the Mass and to receive communion often is strong. Eucharistic devotions are meant to deepen our love for Christ really and truly present in the Eucharist. A deeper love for Christ in the Eucharist always leads to a deeper love for our family and our neighbor. The Holy Communion and Eucharistic adoration strengthen our unity, mutual love, and spiritual and physical health. Let us celebrate the feast of Corpus Christi with fervent devotion, love and respect.

The **Corpus Christi procession** is a centuries-old tradition of the Catholic faith. We will have a Corpus Christi procession at Ascension on June 10th after the 5pm Mass and at St. Bernard's on June 11th after the 10am Mass.

Members are needed for Parish Council (JMT).

Our Parish Council, known as Joint Mission Team (JMT), is seeking two members for St. Bernard and one member for Ascension shall commence on July 1st. The Parish Pastoral Council is an advisory body and consultative role with the Pastor of the parish (Code of Canon Law, c. 536). Eligibility to serve on the Parish Pastoral Council is limited to practicing Catholics in full communion with the Roman Catholic Church and its bishops. Employees of the parish, or members of their immediate family, are not eligible for appointment to the Parish Council. If you are interested in these positions, please contact me or Julie Gesinger, the JMT chair. Thank you for your consideration.

Rosary Intention: "For peace and comfort to all the sick, suffering and home bound."

Yours in Christ, Fr. Abraham Kochupurackal CMI, Pastor

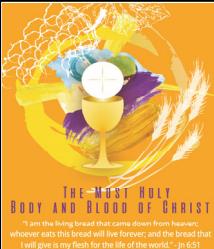
Parish Mission Statement

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

Thurs, June 15th 7:00pm JMT-Joint Mission Team Meeting St.B
Saturday June 17 after 5pm Mass "Linger Longer" @ St.B
Sunday June 18 after 10am Mass "Linger Longer" @ St.B
Tues, June 27th 4:00pm Ascension Finance Council Meeting



The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ

This year after the 5pm Mass at Ascension and 10am Mass at St. Bernard, there will be a Corpus Christi procession. Please join us in participating in this scared tradition.



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.

Catechetical Institute – Apply today for the Class of St. Thérèse of Lisieux – **Applications due August 1, 2023** for September 2023 – May 2025. The Saint Paul Seminary's Catechetical Institute 2-year Pillars Program brings students through the Catechism of the Catholic Church as a story from blessing to blessing. Students participate in 4 modules that focus on the Creed, sacraments, moral life, & prayer. In-person class at St. Patrick's, Edina, and live-streamed to six satellite locations on Monday evenings, 7 p.m.-9 p.m., with two formative sessions per module. After completing all 4 modules, students receive a certificate of completion. Both Parishes offer tuition reimbursement for half of the class if you wish to go.

Spirit of the Vine Christian Music Festival

Sunday, July 2, noon-9 p.m., Sovereign Estates winery, Waconia. Overlooking a beautiful vineyard and Lake Waconia, The Spirit of the Vine Music Festival is a full-day event with nationally acclaimed Christian contemporary artists. Featuring - We are Messengers, Jason Gray and hometown favorite Jenn Bostic - all with Minnesota connections! Between headliners our small stage will host local contemporary worship groups. Live music all day long! Learn more at saintboni.org.

12th Annual Widows Day of Reflection

Saturday, June 17, 8 a.m.-1 p.m., Our Lady of Grace, Edina. The day will begin with Mass, followed by inspirational talks by Fr. John Klockeman on the topic of prayer as an offering of the heart. There will also be ample time for fellowship. This event is for all widows; both recent and longtime widows will experience the Church's concern for them as they navigate a status in life they did not choose. Cost is \$30 and includes breakfast and lunch. Register by June 7 at olgparish.org.

"The Body and Blood of Christ are given to us so that we ourselves will be transformed in our turn. We are to become the Body of Christ, his own Flesh and Blood. We all eat the one bread, and this means that we ourselves become one." — Pope Benedict XVI quoted in Fr. Florian Racine's book, Could You Not Watch with Me One Hour?

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.

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

Word of Life—“Christ’s blood reveals to man that his greatness, and therefore his vocation, consists in the sincere gift of self. ...It is from the blood of Christ that all draw the strength to commit themselves to promoting life. It is precisely this blood that is the most powerful source of hope, indeed it is the foundation of the absolute certitude that in God’s plan life will be victorious.”

Pope Saint John Paul II, *Evangelium vitae* © 1995, Libreria Editrice Vaticana. NABRE © 2010 CCD. Used with permission.

Prayer for a Synodal Church

This October, Bishops from around the world will meet in Rome to explore this theme: “For a Synodal Church: Communion, Participation, and Mission.” The Bishops of our own country ask us all to pray in preparation for this event. Archbishop Hebda encourages each parish to participate in this prayer as it determines best.

Prayer: Father, we want to walk together and with You, Father, we want to walk together and with You, is the “way” of being the Church of Jesus Christ, opening up horizons of hope and fulfilling the mission that He entrusts to us. We want to renew in the Church her evangelizing mission, today, to keep on offering women and men a way of being and living, in which everybody may feel included and protagonist. We specially ask You for the ecclesial groups and movements, may they rediscover their role in this Synod committing themselves to live in a listening attitude as a mission and proclamation. Amen.



June 11, 2023 The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ

Years ago, a woman at daily Mass approached me in the communion procession. She had her arms crossed, indicating she wanted a blessing instead of the Sacred Host. She had tears in her eyes. I gave her a little blessing. She returned the next day. And the next. The same thing repeated. After a few weeks, I asked her why she didn't receive Holy Communion. She said she wasn't Catholic yet and was preparing to become so. I asked her why she wanted to be Catholic. She said, “Because I long to be in a real communion with Christ and with everyone I love.” That, I submit, is a darn good reason. A few months later, she became Catholic and received the Body and Blood of Christ with unspeakably great joy and still does to this day.

Saint Paul says of the Eucharistic bread, “**Is it not a participation in the body of Christ?**” For Paul, the answer is obvious. Yes, it is exactly that. Which is why he can say, “**we, though many, are one body.**” Jesus is truly, really, and substantially present in the Holy Eucharist. This is no magic trick, but a mystery of our salvation. He feeds us with the Sacrament of his body so that our communion with him — and with the other members of his body — is built up and becomes mature. That's why the Eucharist quenches our deep thirst for love and communion. The Body and Blood of Christ is the best reason to be Catholic. It's our participation of love in the one we love. — Father John Muir ©LPI

Mass Ministry Schedule—June 17-18

| Mass Ministry | St. Bernard Sat. 5:00pm | Ascension Sun. 8:00am | St. Bernard Sun. 10:00am |
|---------------------|--|---|--|
| Sacristan | Doris Mielke | Kathy Kloempken | Patricia Quinn |
| Servers | Volunteer (2) | Lacey Buckentin & Callie Buckentin | Luca Hoen & Marshall Panning |
| Reader | Joyce Schwartz | Brian Willems | Rob Wickenhauser |
| EMHC | Volunteer (H) Bernie Shambour (cup) Volunteer (cup) | Irene Yaeck (H) | Victoria Arnst (H), Sarah Foley (cup), Helen Nicklaus (cup) |
| Ushers | Ralph Laumann & volunteer | Justin Buckentin & Don Whitaker | Brian Vos & Leo Willems |
| Greeters | Roger Storms | Leo Pouliot | Andy & Julie Kleindl |
| Homebound Ministers | N/A | Grp A – Tim George & Steve Helget Grp B – Sue & Rich Tellers | N/A |

Mass Times Intentions

| | | | |
|-----------|---------|---------|---|
| Monday | June 12 | | No Mass |
| Tuesday | June 13 | 6:15 pm | Ascension Harry Schoewet |
| Wednesday | June 14 | 8:00 am | St. Bernard Sister Brenda Kelzer † |
| Thursday | June 15 | 8:00 am | St. Bernard Earl Peters † |
| Friday | June 16 | 8:00 am | Ascension Vernon Raether † |
| Saturday | June 17 | 5:00 pm | St. Bernard Gerald & Mohrbacher † & All Parishioners |
| Sunday | June 18 | 8:00 am | Ascension Paul & Corrine Prososki Family |
| Sunday | June 18 | 10:00am | St. Bernard John & Jeff Slimmer †† |

Readings for the week of June 11, 2023

Sunday: Dt 8:2-3, 14b-16a/Ps 147:12-13, 14-15, 19-20 (12)/1 Cor 10:16-17/Jn 6:51-58 **Monday:** 2 Cor 1:1-7/Ps 34:2-3, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9/Mt 5:1-12 **Tuesday:** 2 Cor 1:18-22/Ps 119:129, 130, 131, 132, 133, 135/Mt 5:13-16 **Wednesday:** 2 Cor 3:4-11/Ps 99:5, 6, 7, 8, 9/Mt 5:17-19 **Thursday:** 2 Cor 3:15-4:1, 3-6/Ps 85:9ab and 10, 11-12, 13-14/Mt 5:20-26 **Friday:** Dt 7:6-11/Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 6-7, 8, 10 (see 17)/1 Jn 4:7-16/Mt 11:25-30 **Saturday:** 2 Cor 5:14-21/Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 9-10, 11-12//Lk 2:41-51 **Next Sunday:** Ex 19:2-6a/Ps 100:1-2, 3, 5 (3c)/Rom 5:6-11/Mt 9:36-10:

Feast Days

June 13—St. Anthony of Padua
June 16—The Most Sacred Heart of Jesus
June 17—The Immaculate Heart of the Blessed Virgin Mary

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 pqquinn55322@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 | 2,874.31 |
| Contributions 05-24– through 5-30-2023 | 2,207.00 |
| Total Actual Collection YTD | 168,836.45 |
| Total Actual Collection Over (Under) Budget | 902.96 |

Forward in Faith

| | |
|-------------------------------|------------------|
| Envelope Income | 0.00 |
| Electronic Donations | 100.00 |
| Forward in Faith Total | 100.00 |
| Forward in Faith YTD | 45,483.23 |

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 5/28/2023

| | |
|--|-------------|
| Weekly Operating Budget: | \$ 2,942.31 |
| Weekly Envelopes/Plate: | 1,626.12 |
| Weekly E-Giving: | 1,565.00 |
| Collections Budget YTD: | 141,230.88 |
| Actual Collection YTD: | 152,398.29 |
| Total Collected Over (Under) YTD: | 11,167.41 |

| | |
|--------------------------------------|-----------|
| Capital Improvement Offering: | 440.00 |
| Capital Improvement-E-Giving: | 110.00 |
| Capital Improvement YTD: | 18,380.00 |

Sign up for electronic giving at ascensionnya.org
Under Links -> E-giving. Or call the parish office for more Information: 952-467-3351.