

CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

323 Reform St. N.
NYA, MN. 55368

PASTOR

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

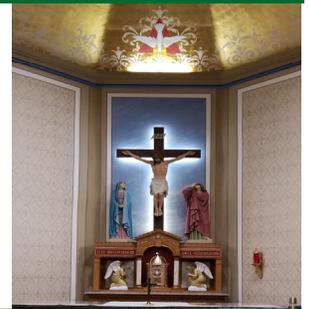
ST. BERNARD CHURCH

212 Church Street E.
Cologne, MN. 55322

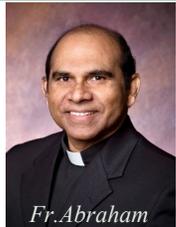


Website: AscensionNYA.org
Parish Office Hours:
Mon.—Wed & Fri. 9am—2pm
Office Phone: 952-467-3351
Business Administrator:
Virginia Hanson ...952-777-0110
busadmin@ascensionnya.org
Safe Environment Coordinator:
Sarah Smith...952-777-0111
bookkeeper@ascensionnya.org

Website: St-Bernard-Cologne.org
Parish Office Hours:
Tues 9am-2pm & Fri. 9am—12pm
Office Phone: 952-466-2031
Business Administrator:
Virginia Hanson952-856-1051
busadmin@st-bernard-cologne.org
Safe Environment Coordinator:
Sarah Smith...952-856-1052
bookkeeper@st-bernard-cologne.org



The Transfiguration of the Lord – August 5 & 6, 2023



Fr. Abraham

The Feast of the Transfiguration of the Lord

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

We celebrate the Transfiguration of the Lord twice a year: on August 6th and on the 2nd Sunday of Lent. Jesus took three of his disciples, Peter, James and John, to the top a mountain and revealed his glory. The disciples were given a glimpse of this on the top of a high mountain. They saw Jesus transfigured and his face shown like the sun and his clothes became dazzling as light. Together with Jesus they also saw Moses and Elijah. Moses the great Law giver and Elijah the great prophet, represent the Law and the Prophets. These representatives of the Law and the Prophets foreshadowed Jesus who is the culmination of the Law and the Prophets.

At the gaze of Jesus in his glory, Peter cried out “*Lord, it is good that we are here.*” (MT 17: 4). Peter never forgot the glorious Transfiguration of Jesus. He referred to it this way in his second letter. “With our own eyes we saw his greatness. We were there when he was given honor and glory from God the Father, when the voice came to him from the supreme Glory, saying, ‘This is my Son, my beloved, with whom I am well pleased.’ We ourselves heard this voice coming from heaven, when we were with him on the holy mountain” (2 Peter 1:16-18). The disciples did not want to go down, to leave that majestic and mystical experience. They wanted to stay there forever together with them.

On the top of the high mountain Jesus showed his glory, a glory that we are to share (Rom. 8:17) through sharing his suffering on earth. The Transfiguration of the Lord must give us courage and confidence to face and encounter the challenges the world raises in our faith living. As true Christians, we too have to be transfigured through the Word of God, through the sacraments and certainly through our daily prayers and living of our faith.

St. Paul exhorts “do not conform yourselves to the standards of the World, but let God transform you inwardly by the complete change of your mind. (Rom.12:2). God has called us in Christ to be his son. We should be changed into the likeness of Christ, the beloved Son of the Father. Unless we are thus transformed, we shall not be worthy of heaven. But once transformed, we shall experience the glory of Christ already here on earth. “This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him.” God revealed Jesus as His son -His beloved-the one in whom He is well pleased and to whom we must listen.

In the Holy Mass, the bread and wine become transformed into the body and blood of Jesus. Hence, just as the transfiguration strengthened the apostles in their time of trial, each Holy Mass should be our source of renewal of our lives. In addition, each Holy Communion should transform us both internally and externally. In moments of doubt, despair and helplessness, the expectation of our transfiguration in heaven helps us to reach out to God and to listen to His consoling words: ‘This is my beloved son/daughter in whom I am well pleased.’

Rosary Intention: “We lift up in prayer all our shepherd priests at Ascension and St. Bernard; past, present, living and deceased.”

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

Sat. Aug. 19th after the 5pm Mass "Linger Longer" at St. Bernard
Sun. Aug. 20th after the 10am Mass "Linger Longer" at St. Bernard

Ascension will be raising Cemetery Plot prices November 1st. See the insert for pricing changes.

Ascension's CUF FUNDRAISER

Help us raise money for Ascension parish and our Faith Formation program.

In partnership with the Epilepsy Foundation of MN, we will have a matching grant clothing drive from August 1- September 24. Bag up your unwanted clothes, linens, shoes, purses, belts, hats, gloves and other cloth items. (No household items)

Please bag your items and drop them off in Faith Formation classroom # 7 (across the hall from the parish office) from Aug. 1 - Sept. 10. Mon. - Thurs. (9:00 - 4:00), Friday (10:00 - 2:00) OR in the designated trailer that will be in the church parking lot Sept. 11- Sept. 24. More information to follow. Thank you. Ascension's Catholic United Financial Council

Save the date!

Our joint Parish Picnic will be Saturday, September 9th. Ascension will be hosting this year and the Picnic will follow 4pm Mass. More details to come!

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

Upcoming Pro-Life Events with SouthWest Options for Women

Sunday, Aug 13th – Respect Life Picnic in the Park Event: The Knights of Columbus and SouthWest Options (SWOW) have partnered to bring you a fun afternoon in the park with food, games and pro-life speaker and lobbyist Maggee Hange and SWOW Executive Director Kim Bennecke. 12:00 – 3:00pm, KC Park - 9055 Klein Dr, Waconia, MN.

Saturday, Aug 26th - Concert in the Park, 7:00pm, Excelsior Bandshell (135 Lake Street, Excelsior, MN) sponsored by South-West Options for Women.

Saturday, Oct 14th - Annual Gala at Golden Valley Country Club benefitting SouthWest Options for Women

Go to swoptionsforwomen.org or call us at 952-938-4496 for more information!

"We were made by God to be like God and to be with God. The Ten Commandments were God's first great expression of what being like God looks like for us."

Tom Hoopes-What Pope Francis Really Said

Come to a place where you can hear the voice of the Lord in the quiet and peaceful setting of Lake DeMontreville. **Join us for a three-day men's silent retreat at the DeMontreville Jesuit Retreat House in Lake Elmo, Minnesota.** The retreat begins Thursday evening September 14, 2023 and ends Sunday evening September 17, 2023. Free-will donations are accepted. Other retreat dates are also available. For more information call our office at 651-777-1311 or see our website www.demontrevilleretreat.com

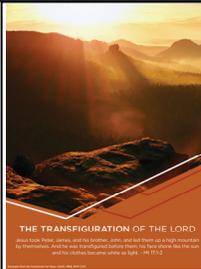
Word of Life—"We thank you, heroic mothers, for your invincible love! We thank you for your intrepid trust in God and in his love. We thank you for the sacrifice of your life" (EV 86).

Pope Saint John Paul II, *Evangelium vitae* © 1995, Libreria Editrice Vaticana. Used with permission. All rights reserved.

St. Victoria Parish Rummage Sale: Thurs. Aug. 10 7am—7pm. Fri. Aug. 11— Bag Day 7am –2pm. 8228 Victoria Drive, Victoria, Mn. Sponsored by Catholic United Financial. Matching grant fundraiser for St. Victoria parish education.

RESPECT LIFE PICNIC

The Waconia Knights of Columbus are hosting a Respect Life Picnic on Sunday, August 13 from 12:00 – 3:00 pm at Klein Drive Park! All are invited to this family friendly event where there will be hamburgers and hots dogs with games for all ages. There will also be two guest speakers presenting on Pro-Life topics, including how new MN laws affect the unborn and what we can do to help educate others. Please go online to the St. Joseph Website at: <https://stjosephwaconia.org/respect-life-picnic/>, or the Knight of Columbus website at: <https://www.waconiaknights2506.org/Events.php> to learn more!



THE TRANSFIGURATION OF THE LORD
© 2012, Catholic News Service, Inc. All rights reserved. Photo by [unreadable]

**August 6, 2023
The Transfiguration of the Lord**

What is Christianity finally about? These days if you ask almost anyone who doesn't know the Bible you'll probably hear an answer like this: "Being a good person" or "following the golden rule." No offense to the golden rule, but our faith is simply much stranger than that. This week's feast of the Transfiguration of the Lord is a luminous example of this. Jesus becomes radiantly and overwhelmingly beautiful. The glory of God literally shines forth from his body and even his clothes. Here we see that Christianity is not mainly a moral system, but a relationship with God in Christ, one that finally makes human beings gloriously beautiful.

Now we can see our good and bad deeds in a new and de-centered way. Our morality isn't about a heaven or hell scorecard. It's about lives open (or closed) to transfiguration, lives capable of revealing the glory of God in Christ to the world. Spouses, children, friends, co-workers, priests, consecrated women and men, and so on — we are all called to let the beauty of Jesus make our lives beautiful, little by little. His beauty in us is the center of our faith.

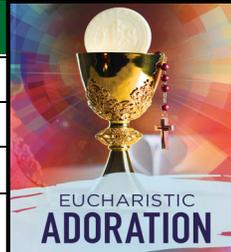
— Father John Muir ©LPi

Mass Ministry Schedule—August 12-13

Mass Ministry	Ascension Sat. 5:00pm	Ascension Sun. 8:00am	St. Bernard Sun. 10:00am
Sacristan	Ann Dettmann	Rita Fahey	Doris Mielke
Servers	Volunteers (2)	Nathan Duenow & Brianna Duenow	Buckley Jones & Volunteer
Reader	Cathleen Williams	Brian Willems	Julie Kleindl
EMHC	Jim Mulville (H) Steve Lemmer (C) Pat Johnson (C)	Brenda Seifert (H) Kathy Kloempken (C) Sue Tellers (C)	Andy Kleindl
Ushers	Tom Lano & Steve Schrupp	Rich Tellers & Don Whitaker	Vern Elke & Brian Vos
Greeters	Volunteer	Sue Schultz	Casey Jones
Homebound Ministers	N/A	Grp A – Rich & Sue Tellers	N/A

Mass Times Intentions

Day	Date	Intention	Service
Monday	Aug. 7		No Mass
Tuesday	Aug. 8 6:15 pm	Ascension	Communion Service
Wednesday	Aug. 9 8:00 am	St. Bernard	Communion Service
Thursday	Aug. 10 8:00 am	St. Bernard	Communion Service
Friday	Aug. 11 8:00 am	Ascension	No Mass
Saturday	Aug. 12 5:00 pm	Ascension	Alice Enright †
Sunday	Aug. 13 8:00 am	Ascension	Vernon Raether †
Sunday	Aug. 13 10:00am	St. Bernard	Dennis & Bernice Wickenhauser †† And All Parishioners



Eucharistic Adoration Ascension

Every Tuesday
3:00 pm until 6:00 pm

St. Bernard

Every Wednesday
2:00 until 7:00 pm

Prayers For Our Children Prayer Group

Every Thursday 5:30pm-6:30pm – **Ascension**
All are welcome from neighboring Parishes

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 August 6, 2023
Sunday: Dn 7:9-10, 13-14/Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 9/2 Pt 1:16-19/Mt 17:1-9 **Monday:** Nm 11:4b-15/Ps 81:12-13, 14-15, 16-17/Mt 14:13-21 **Tuesday:** Nm 12:1-13/Ps 51:3-4, 5-6ab, 6cd-7, 12-13/Mt 14:22-36 or 15:1-2, 10-14 **Wednesday:** Nm 13:1-2, 25—14:1, 26-29a, 34-35/Ps 106:6-7ab, 13-14, 21-22, 23/Mt 15:21-28 **Thursday:** 2 Cor 9:6-10/Ps 112:1-2, 5-6, 7-8, 9/ Jn 12:24-26 **Friday:** Dt 4:32-40/Ps 77:12-13, 14-15, 16 and 21/Mt 16:24-28 **Saturday:** Dt 6:4-13/Ps 18:2-3a, 3bc-4, 47 and 51/Mt 17:14-20 **Next Sunday:** 1 Kgs 19:9a, 11-13a/Ps 85:9, 10, 11-12, 13-14 (8)/Rom 9:1-5/Mt 14:22-33

Feast Days
 Aug. 7—St. Sixtus II
 Aug. 8—St. Dominic
 Aug 9—St. Teresa Benedicta of the Cross
 Aug. 10—St. Lawrence
 Aug. 11—St Clare
 Aug. 12 St. Jane Frances de Chantel, 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 pqinn55322@hotmail.com
Ascension copy must be emailed to:
 busadmin@ascensionny.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	2,744.75
Contributions 07-19—2023 through 7-25-2023	3,474.00
Total Actual Collection YTD	10,763.75
Total Actual Collection Over (Under) Budget	(215.25)
Forward in Faith	
Envelope Income	20.00
Electronic Donations	100.00
Forward in Faith Total	120.00
Forward in Faith YTD	1,758.92

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 7/23/2023

Weekly Operating Budget:	\$ 2,986.79
Weekly Envelopes/Plate:	1,859.38
Weekly E-Giving:	1,545.00
Collections Budget YTD:	11,947.16
Actual Collection YTD:	11,751.38
Total Collected Over (Under) YTD:	(195.78)
Capital Improvement Offering:	292.00
Capital Improvement-E-Giving:	95.00
Capital Improvement YTD:	992.00

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