

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

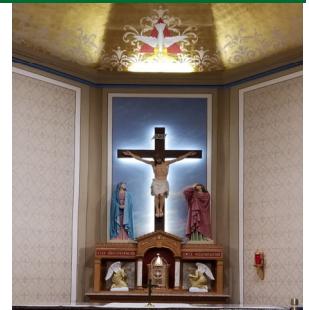
PASTOR

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



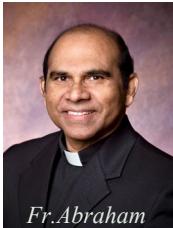
Website: AscensionNYA.org
Parish Office Hours:
Mon.—Wed & Fri. 9am—2pm
Office Phone: 952-467-3351
Business Administrator:
Virginia Hanson ...952-777-0110
busadmin@ascensionnya.org
Safe Environment Coordinator:
Sarah Smith...952-777-0111
bookkeeper@ascensionnya.org

**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:
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Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time – September 30 & October 1, 2023



Fr. Abraham

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

Jesus presents a parable of two sons to work in a vineyard. (Mt. 21:28-32). This parable is one of three parables Jesus spoke in his last days. They are known as the Parables of Rejection. This Sunday Gospel was the first and shortest of the three. The father asks the first son to go to his vineyard and work there. He refuses but later changes his mind and goes. The second one is also asked to work. He agrees to do so, but in the end he does not. The first son who refuses first but repents later stands for the tax collectors, public sinner and gentiles. The second son stands for the chief priests and elders of the Jews who maintain the outward appearance of piety but without any real commitment to do the will of God. When the Son of God came in the person of Christ, they rejected him. ‘Not everyone who says to me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only the who does the will of my Father in heaven.’(Mt.7:21)

It is a parable about obedience and disobedience. It is about changing one’s mind in a positive way and in a negative way. It is fundamentally about the choices we make in life. Neither of the parable’s sons is satisfactory. Both hurt their father. The first son was late in doing his father’s will, but not too late. That son had a real counterpart in St. Augustine, whose early life was a blunt refusal to follow the gospel. In his “Confession” he admits his sin. In time, when he was thirty-three, his refusal turned into a committed ‘yes’. He wrote, “Late have I loved Thee, O Beauty so ancient and so new, late have I loved Thee.” Jesus always invites us to repent about our sins and to do the will of the Father. The parable of the two sons highlights the theme of obedience and response to God’s call. The contrast between the two sons’ initial reactions illustrates the importance of genuine actions over empty promises.

Jesus is the perfect example of doing the will of the Father. He came into the world to save it from sin. He said an unconditional ‘yes’ to God the Father. He not only said, ‘yes’ like the second son, but unlike him, he did what he promised. Today’s second reading is the greatest and the most moving passage that St. Paul had ever written about Christ. “Though Jesus was in the form of God, he did not regard equality with God. He emptied himself taking the form of a servant and was born in human likeness. Since Jesus humbled himself, God had exalted him and gave a name, which is above every name.” (Philippians 2: 6-9)

How do we know the will of the Father in our daily life? The Holy Scripture, Holy Eucharist, confession, prayer etc. are some of the important means to know the will of the Father. In order to know the will of the Father Jesus always prayed to him. And the Father strengthened him to do so. Whenever you have difficulty knowing the will of God, go to the Eucharistic adoration and to ask Jesus. He is always present in the Blessed Sacrament, calling out to us. He wants to be with us always. It is in the Blessed Sacrament that our lives merge with Jesus’ life. He will reveal God’s plan for us and he will strengthen us to fulfill the will of the Father.

October is the month of devotion to Rosary. We pray Rosary twenty-five minutes before every weekend Mass with special intentions. You are welcome to join us.

Rosary Intention: *“For a greater awareness of Mary’s presence in our lives as she leads us to Jesus.”*

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

Sun. Oct. 1st. 8-11AM Pancake Breakfast @ Ascension
Thurs., Oct. 5th 6:30pm Set Leadership training @ St. Bernard
Sat. Oct. 7th 3:00—7:00 PM “Soup Social” @ St. Bernard
Sat. Oct. 14th After the 5pm Mass-Anointing of the Sick @ Asc
Sun Oct. 15th After the 10am Mass-Anointing of the Sick @ St. B

Join the KC's after the 8:00am Mass for a special breakfast to celebrate 25 years of their chapter! Congratulations KC's!

Reminder that Ascension Cemetery plot pricing will be increasing \$100, November 1st. If you would like to purchase a plot at the current price, stop in to the parish office Monday-Thursday.

The Faith Formation and Ascension COFFEE fundraiser, in conjunction with Elephant Joe's coffee truck, Is almost here! Orders for whole beans or ground coffee will be taken from Oct. 4 - Oct. 18. Elephant Joe's coffee truck will be on site Sunday, Oct. 29 from 8 a.m. - 11a.m. Thanks for your help in raising money for Ascension parish and our Faith Formation program. Ascension's CUF Council. See the insert for more details!

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 of 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.

Cor Jesu | National Eucharistic Revival -Friday, October 6, 8 p.m., Cathedral of Saint Paul, St. Paul.

Join Catholics from around the Twin Cities and Christ Himself for an evening of adoration, worship, music and confession. Venerate first-class relics of St. Thérèse and her parents, Saints Louis and Zelie Martin. St. Thérèse is referred to as “the greatest saint of modern times,” as her autobiography, Story of a Soul and her “little way” of trust and love has inspired millions. Her parents were canonized just in 2015, making them the first non-martyred spouses in the history of the Church. Go to archspm.org/cor-jesu for more information.

Annual White Mass for Healthcare Workers, 5:15pm Saturday, October 21st Cathedral of Saint Paul. Healthcare workers, along with their spouses and families, are invited to this special Mass in honor of our patron Saint Luke. Reception immediately following in Hayden Hall (lower level of Cathedral). Sponsored by the Saint Paul and Minneapolis Guild of the Catholic Medical Association and Curatio: An Apostolate of Catholic Healthcare Professionals in cooperation with the Archdiocesan Office for Marriage, Family and Youth. RSVP to Sonya Flomo at 651291.4488 or flosmos@archspm.org by October 16th.

Word of Life -“Radical solidarity compels us to come alongside vulnerable mothers in profound friendship, compassion, and support for both them and their preborn children. It requires us to address the fundamental challenges that lead an expectant mother to believe she is unable to welcome the child God has entrusted to her. We must do all we can to provide mothers, children, and families with the support they need to flourish. This cannot be accomplished by laws or policy alone, but requires the continual transformation of our own hearts.” USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities Respect Life Reflection: “Radical Solidarity” (respectlife.org/radical-solidarity-reflection)

Church of St. Bernard

Cologne, MN

St. Bernard's “Soup Social” (formerly Chili Feed) and Cash Raffle is scheduled for this coming Saturday, Oct. 7th from 3 - 8pm. Dine-in or take out available. Extra Raffle tickets for cash prizes and quilt chances can be picked up at the table in the narthex. There is a box on the table to return your sold Raffle tickets, Quilt chances and money. Sign up sheets to help at the “Soup Social” are also on a table in the narthex. Come one and all and let's make the “SOUP SOCIAL” a huge success. Mass on the 7th will be at 5:00pm.

It's Respect Life Month!

Join Catholics nationwide in celebrating Respect Life Month. Visit respectlife.org/celebrate.

Widows of Joy – October 7, 2023 @ 8:30am

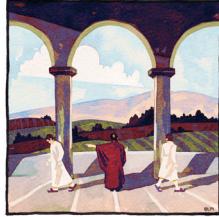
Are you looking for a place to meet other widows who have lost their beloved husbands? St. John Paul II Area Faith Community invites all recent and long-time widows to attend Widows of Joy on Saturday, October 7, 2023, at The Church of the Holy Trinity in Winsted, MN. The gathering will begin with Mass at 8:30am, followed by fellowship, continental breakfast, a reflection talk on "Lessons on Grief", discussion, and fun! Registration is requested for meal planning. To register: 1) Call HT Parish @ 320-485-5651 2) Sign-up online @ <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/904084FACA72BA6F85-widows1>. Register by Thursday, October 5, 2023. Questions? Contact Roxanne Felder @ 612-396-0727. Invite a widowed friend to join our next gathering!

LIVE THE LITURGY - INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK

“God invites each of us to work in His vineyard, but it’s our choice whether we “clock in” or stay home. Let’s never fail to show up. It’s the most important job we will ever have.” ©LPI

(PRACTICING) CATHOLIC - RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS By Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

The Vineyard



The second son never showed up to the vineyard. Did he get lost? Did he get tired? Did he not know where to begin?

When it comes right down to it, good intentions amount to very little. We all know this, don’t we? “Show me, don’t tell me.” “I’ll believe it when I see it.” It’s as true in the workplace and in relationships as it is in the life of the Christian disciple.

It doesn’t matter if we *intend* to work in the vineyard. It doesn’t matter if we promise to, if we think about it a lot, or if we make grand plans for what we will accomplish there. None of that matters if we don’t show up. Before we show up, we have to find the way.

Showing up is the whole point. The work is the point, not the intention.

But all this begs the question: what does *the work* mean for us as baptized Catholics in the modern world? Spending our Saturdays in soup kitchens and homeless shelters? Standing on a street corner shouting out the words of the Gospel?

Our baptismal call is to the vineyard. Where is our vineyard? How do we show up? *We are ready, Lord*, we say. *We intend to work. But where do we go?*

My vineyard is not your vineyard, and so it’s not my place to tell you how to get there. I am glad you want to go, but you’ll have to find your own way, just like I will. But I can tell you this: only one voice will lead you there. If you listen to it, you will find your vineyard.

“Good and upright is the LORD; thus he shows sinners the way.” — Psalm 25:8 ©LPI

Mass Ministry Schedule—October 7 & 8

Mass Ministry	St. Bernard Sat. 5:00 pm	Ascension Sun. 8:00 am	St. Bernard Sun. 10:00 am
Sacristan	Doris Mielke	Tamara Lemmer	Patricia Quinn
Servers	Marshall Panning & Gabby Remer	Nathan Duenow & Brianna Duenow	Buckley Jones & Logan Pellegrino
Reader	Julie Kleindl	Colleen Donnay	Brenda Jones
Eucharistic Ministers	Mary Meuwissen	Jean Schmitz	Sarah Foley
Ushers	Andy Kleindl & Ralph Laumann	Josh Gallus & Tim George	Kieran Allison & Bob Symanitz
Greeters	Roger Storms	Pat Johnson	Casey Jones
Homebound Ministers	N/A	Grp A: Theresa Hartmann & Pat Johnson	N/A

Mass Times Intentions

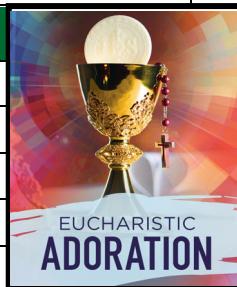
Monday	Oct. 2		No Mass
Tuesday	Oct. 3	6:15 pm	Ascension Myrtle Buesgens †
Wednesday	Oct. 4	8:00 am	St. Bernard Dennis Mielke †
Thursday	Oct. 5	8:00 am	St. Bernard Hilbert & Euella Knauer ††
Friday	Oct. 6	8:00 am	Ascension Mass of Reparation
Saturday	Oct. 7	5:00 pm	St. Bernard Dennis & Bernice Wickenhauser ††
Sunday	Oct. 8	8:00 am	Ascension Bill and Cathy Kloba
Sunday	Oct. 8	10:00am	St. Bernard Andrew Schwartz †

Readings for the week of October 1, 2023
Sunday: Ez 18:25-28/Ps 25:4-5, 6-7, 8-9, (6a)/Phil 2:1-11 or 2:1-5/Mt 21:28-32 **Monday:** Zec 8:1-8/Ps 102:16-18, 19-21, 29 and 22-23/Mt 18:1-5, 10
Tuesday: Zec 8:20-23/Ps 87:1b-3, 4-5, 6-7/Lk 9:51-56 **Wednesday:** Neh 2:1-8/Ps 137:1-2, 3, 4-5, 6/Lk 9:57-62 **Thursday:** Neh 8:1-4a, 5-6, 7b-12/Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 11/Lk 10:1-12 **Friday:** Bar 1:15-22/Ps 79:1b-2, 3-5, 8, 9/Lk 10:13-16 **Saturday:** Bar 4:5-12, 27-29/Ps 69:33-35, 36-37/Lk 10:17-24
Next Sunday: Is 5:1-7/Ps 80:9, 12, 13-14, 15-16, 19-20 (Isaiah 5:7a)/Phil 4:6-9/Mt 21:33-43

Feast Days

- Oct. 2 — The Holy Guardian Angels
- Oct. 4—St. Francis of Assisi
- Oct. 5—St. Faustina Kowalski and Blessed Francis Xavier Seelos
- Oct. 6—St. Bruno and Blessed Marie Rose Durocher
- Oct. 6—Our Lady of the Rosary

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

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.

St. Bernard Stewardship of Treasure

Budget for week	3,393.37
Contributions 09-13-2023 through 9-19-2023	6,339.00
Total Actual Collection YTD	42,335.68
Total Actual Collection Over (Under) Budget	5,075.30
Forward in Faith	
Envelope Income	275.00
Electronic Donations	100.00
Forward in Faith Total	375.00
Forward in Faith YTD	4,695.84

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 9/10/2023

Weekly Operating Budget:	\$ 2,986.79
Weekly Envelopes/Plate:	1,558.00
Weekly E-Giving:	280.00
Collections Budget YTD:	35,841.48
Actual Collection YTD:	31,630.65
Total Collected Over (Under) YTD:	(4,210.83)

Capital Improvement Offering:	200.00
Capital Improvement-E-Giving:	35.00
Capital Improvement YTD:	3,163.00
Sign up for electronic giving at ascensionnya.org	
Under Links -> E-giving. Or call the parish office for more Information: 952-467-3351.	