

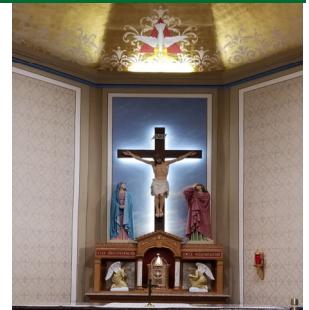
**CHURCH OF
THE ASCENSION**
323 Reform St. N.
NYA, MN. 55368

PASTOR

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



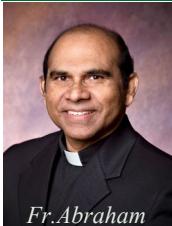
**ST. BERNARD
CHURCH**
212 Church Street E.
Cologne, MN. 55322



Website: AscensionNYA.org
Parish Office Hours:
Mon.—Wed & Fri. 9am—2pm
Office Phone: 952-467-3351
Business Administrator:
Virginia Hanson952-777-0110
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

Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time – September 9 & 10, 2023



Fr. Abraham

We are Accountable to Each Other

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

This Sunday's gospel and the first reading are about correcting a brother or a sister who commits wrong against another. Correcting others is always difficult, especially so because most of us are aware of our own weaknesses. There is a close relationship between the gospel and the first reading.

So, the first reading says, 'If you don't warn the wicked to renounce his ways, then he shall die for his sins, but I will hold you responsible for his death. However, you do warn your brother to turn away from his ways and repent, and he refuses to repent, then he shall die for his sin, but you shall save yourself.' (Ezekiel 33:7-9). We have responsibility to save our brothers and sisters in sin, but we are not ultimately responsible for his salvation. The last choice will always be with him. There is no need, after one has done one's best, to feel guilt over the evil behavior of another.'

We are reminded that to belong to the Church is to belong to a community of brothers and sisters in Christ. This means that being a Christian is not a private affair. We are encouraged to support each other along the path to holiness and help each other overcome our sinfulness. Correction is entirely different from criticism. Our intention of criticism could be good. But most probably the purpose may not be achieved by criticism. Criticism may produce opposite result. It may hurt the other. We are not to gossip or damage people's reputations, nor are we to simply allow them to remain in serious sin. As disciples of Jesus we are to bring people to the truth, but in a charitable and Christ-like manner.

Reconciliation is the purpose of correction: reconciliation with God with brothers and sisters and oneself. The whole thrust of the passage is that we should all work towards reconciliation rather than punishment. St. Paul tells us in today's second reading, "Love does no evil to the neighbor; hence, love is the fulfillment of the law." (Rom 13:10). That loving concern takes the form of correcting someone who is doing evil.

This Sunday liturgy reminds us of the good we can do together, and of how we can do it. Jesus makes it clear how important we are as the members of the body of Christ. One in Christ, our community can experience God's healing and life-giving love more effectively among his people. Finally, Jesus reminds us of the importance of community prayer, for Christ is present in the praying community. Jesus says, "Where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them." (Mt 18:20). That power of prayer helps us to be charitable in correcting our brothers and sisters; and makes us reconcile with God, with one another and oneself.

All are welcome to our Joint Parish Picnic.

Rosary Intention: "May our joint Parish Picnic build up community for our parishes and the Kingdom of God."

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

September 12th, 4:00pm—Ascension Finance Council Meeting—
Sat Sept. 16 after 5pm Mass “Linger Longer” at St. Bernard
Sun Sept. 17 after 10am Mass “Linger Longer” at St. Bernard

All are welcome to participate in a 6 week Bible Study at Ascension. The first meeting will be Sunday October 15th and the last session will be Sunday November 19th. Each meeting will follow the 8:00am Mass and be located in the church social hall. This years Bible Study is “*The Eucharist in Scripture*”. Call or Text Chris George at 763-898-9854 by September 27th if you wish to participate or would like additional information.

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.

All are welcome to join St. Joseph Catholic Community at 8:15am on Tuesday, September 19th for a celebration of Mass along with the Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick.

1st Annual Sporting Clay Tournament Wednesday, September 20, 1:30-7 p.m., Minnesota Horse and Hunt Club, Prior Lake. Represent your parish and enjoy a good competition, at a premier facility, all for a great cause: Raising funds for the St. Joseph Business Guild! Register as a parish team of four or sign up individually (and be assigned to a team): \$700 per team, \$175 per individual! Sign-up includes 12-gauge shells, beer, and a catered supper! Multiple teams from a parish may sign up and to the victors will go a traveling trophy! **Register by September 14 at sjbusinessguild.com.**

Come out and celebrate the **Waconia Council 2506 Knights of Columbus** ‘s 100 years! **September 24th from 4:00pm-8:00pm at Sovereign’s Estates.** The festivities include mass with Archbishop Hebda, social, dinner, and program. Tickets are \$35 each. See their website for more details.
<https://waconiaknights2506.org/100th Year Celebration.php>

Call Me: A Catholic Young Adult’s Guide to Dating, Discernment, and I Do. Monday, September 18 and 25, October 2, 9, and 16, 7 p.m., Our Lady of Grace, Edina, \$30. Hosted by Ashley Cermak and Kory LaCroix, Call Me will feature Ryan O’Hara and Pat and Kenna Millea of the Martin Center. Discover practical tips and advice on navigating the dating scene while staying true to your Catholic values. We’ll explore topics like building healthy relationships, discerning God’s call for your life, and preparing for the sacrament of marriage. Go to olgparish.org for more information and registration.

“A society without mothers would be a dehumanized society, for moths are always, even in the worst moments, witnesses of tenderness, dedication, and moral strength.”

-Pope Francis
From his book “On the Family”

Church of St. Bernard

Cologne, MN

Your Prayers are requested for the repose of the soul of **Thomas Hoppe** who passed away on Sunday, August 27. His funeral was on Friday, September 8th. May he rest in peace and may his soul and all the souls of the faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in peace. Please also pray for peace and comfort for Thomas’ family.

Word of Life—“By our baptism, we are members of Christ’s body and sharers in his mission. Imitating Christ, we must care for all members of our communities, honoring each person as unique, sacred, and created in the image of God.”

USCCB, “Open Wide Our Hearts” Bulletin Insert

IS THE HONEYMOON OVER? It doesn’t have to be! A Marriage Encounter weekend can rekindle the excitement and romance in your relationship. This is a private weekend away from life’s distractions that allows a husband and wife to focus on each other. The next Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekends are Oct 6-8, 2023 in Buffalo, MN and Feb 9 -11, 2024 in Buffalo, MN. Early registration is highly recommended. For more information visit our website at: twincitieswwme.org or contact Brent & Tracy at applications@twincitieswwme.org or 612-234-7440.

Prayer for a Synodal Church

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.



September 10, 2023
23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

What are you supposed to do about the bad behavior of the people around you? You know who I’m talking about. That family member, friend, coworker, or acquaintance who is quite immoral. On this front there are two lively options in our culture: bash the person to others (probably online) or pretend everything’s fine. The former damages the person. The latter ignores reality. What to do?

Jesus’ strategy in the Gospel of Matthew is as wise as it is difficult: go directly to the person, and then gradually expand the circle of intervention. Simple, often effective, and hard. But what we often miss is the context of the Lord’s strategy, “If your brother sins against you...” Notice the italicized words. Is the person in a Christian familial bond with you? And was the action in question against you? If so, proceed with the plan. Fine. But how often we fret over the sins of those who either aren’t our spiritual siblings or have done nothing directly to us. This is not an invitation to ignore injustice in the world. Rather, we should build bonds of fraternal love, and carefully discern when and how others’ sins are indeed our concern. Sometimes they are. Other times — frequently, perhaps — they simply are not.

— Father John Muir ©LPI

Mass Ministry Schedule—September 16-17

Mass Ministry	St. Bernard Sat. 5:00 pm	Ascension Sun. 8:00 am	St. Bernard Sun. 10:00 am
Sacristan	Doris Mielke	Cheryl Coyle	Patricia Quinn
Servers	Lily Starkey & Marshall Panning	Gabriel Michels & Caleb Michels	Buckley Jones & Logan Pellegrino
Reader	Judy Glander	Brian Willems	Brenda Jones
Eucharistic Ministers	Bernie Shambour (H), Andy Kleindl (C), Pam Kunkel(C)	Steve Coyle (H),	Helen Nicklaus (H) Julie Clemensen(C) Meghan Stusynski (C)
Ushers	Bob Symanitz & Volunteer	Paul Lano & Steve Schrupp	Tom Dahl & Leo Willems
Greeters	Julie Kleindl	Leo Pouliot	Casey Jones
Homebound Ministers	N/A	Grp A: Rich & Sue Tellers	N/A

Mass Times Intentions

Monday	Sept. 11		No Mass
Tuesday	Sept. 12	6:15 pm	Ascension Myrtle Buesgens †
Wednesday	Sept. 13	8:00 am	St. Bernard John † & Sarah Shamla
Thursday	Sept. 14	8:00 am	St. Bernard Mary Beckrich †
Friday	Sept. 15	8:00 am	Ascension Bill and Cathy Klobe
Saturday	Sept. 16	5:00 pm	St. Bernard Helen Hilgers †
Sunday	Sept. 17	8:00 am	Ascension All Parishioners
Sunday	Sept. 17	10:00am	St. Bernard Gerald Mohrbacher † & All Parishioners

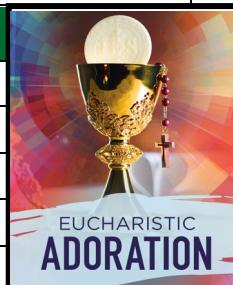
Readings for the week of September 10, 2023

Sunday: Ez 33:7-9/Ps 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9 (8)/Rom 13:8-10/Mt 18:15-20 **Monday:** Col 1:24—2:3/Ps 62:6-7, 9/Lk 6:6-11 **Tuesday:** Col 2:6-15/Ps 145:1b-2, 8-9, 10-11/Lk 6:12-19 **Wednesday:** Col 3:1-11/Ps 145:2-3, 10-11, 12-13ab/Lk 6:20-26 **Thursday:** Nm 21:4b-9/Ps 78:1bc-2, 34-35, 36-37, 38/Phil 2:6-11/Jn 3:13-17 **Friday:** 1 Tm 1:1-2, 12-14/Ps 16:1b-2a and 5, 7-8, 11/Jn 19:25-27 or Lk 2:33-35 **Saturday:** 1 Tm 1:15-17/Ps 113:1b-2, 3-4, 5a and 6-7/Lk 6:43-49 **Next Sunday:** Sir 27:30—28:7/Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 9-10, 11-12 (8)/Rom 14:7-9/Mt 18:21-35

Feast Days

- Sept. 12—The Most Holy Name of Mary Sept. 13—St. John Chrysostom
- Sept. 14—The Exaltation of the Holy Cross Sept. 15—Our Lady of Sorrows
- Sept. 16—Sts Cornelius & Cyprian

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	3,339.13
Contributions 08-23-2023 through 8-29-2023	1,509.00
Total Actual Collection YTD	26,539.50
Total Actual Collection Over (Under) Budget	(540.77)
Forward in Faith	
Envelope Income	150.00
Electronic Donations	0.00
Forward in Faith Total	150.00
Forward in Faith YTD	3,667.84

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 8/27/2023

Weekly Operating Budget:	\$ 2,986.79
Weekly Envelopes/Plate:	1,665.00
Weekly E-Giving:	1,545.00
Collections Budget YTD:	26,881.11
Actual Collection YTD:	23,582.65
Total Collected Over (Under) YTD:	(3,298.46)

Capital Improvement Offering:	90.00
Capital Improvement-E-Giving:	110.00
Capital Improvement YTD:	2,408.00
Sign up for electronic giving at ascensionnya.org Under Links -> E-giving. Or call the parish office for more Information: 952-467-3351.	