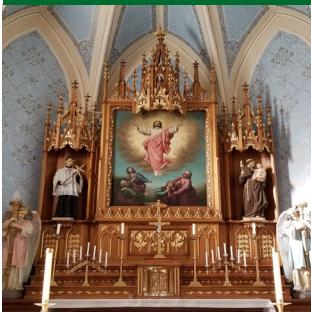


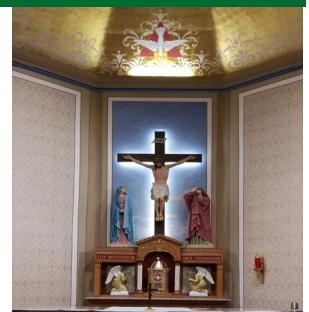
**CHURCH OF
THE ASCENSION**
323 Reform St. N.
NYA, MN. 55368

PASTOR

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



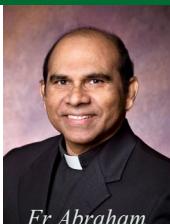
**ST. BERNARD
CHURCH**
212 Church Street E.
Cologne, MN. 55322



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

Twenty-Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time – October 21 & 22, 2023



Fr. Abraham

Render to God Fitting Worship and Service

Dear Brothers and sisters,

Jesus tells us, “Repay to Caesar what belongs to Caesar and to God what belongs to God.” (Mt. 22:21). Jesus’ answer forms the guiding principle in solving the problems that arise from our dual citizenship, belonging to God and to our country. As Christians, we are to obey the government. A loyal Christian is always a loyal citizen. Failure in good citizenship is also failure in Christian duty. Hence, we fulfill our duties to our country by obeying the just laws of the State, by paying all lawful taxes, and by contributing our share, whenever called on, toward the common good. Another way of giving to Caesar what is Caesar’s is to participate actively in the running of the government, electing the most suitable candidates and influencing them through frequent contacts.

Similarly, we fulfill our duties to God by being faithful, loyal and active members of the spiritual kingdom, the Church, which Christ established on earth. Thus, a real Christian is, at one and the same time, a good citizen of his country and a good citizen of the Kingdom of Heaven, but his priority is his allegiance to God. As the famous martyr, St Thomas More, said of himself: “The King’s good servant, but God’s first.” We must “obey God rather than men.” (Acts 5:29)

What does belong to God? The answer is everything! God created this world. God gave us life. Every person, everything belongs to God. As the coin that bears the image of Caesar, belongs to him and must be given back to him, so the human persons created in the image of God belongs to God completely. Since everything is God’s, we must give ourselves to him hundred percent. We should be generous in fulfilling our Sunday obligations and find time every day for prayer and worship in the family, for the reading of the Bible and the proper training of our children in faith and morals. St. Augustine teaches that when we truly succeed in “giving to God what is God’s, we are, “doing justice to God.” This requires that we return to God, what belongs to God, remembering that we are mere stewards of God’s gifts.

We have been reflecting on our role as stewards of the Lord and our stewardship commitment in the month of October. Our stewardship renewal is a time for each family to re-assess its role in our parish and make new commitments. It’s a time to renew your dedication or get involved for the first time. Our contribution to the parish community should be an expression of our gratitude to God, giving back to God all that he has given us. Our offerings signify our commitment to the ministries of the Gospel, and the activities of the Church. Every pledge enables and empowers ministry. Every pledge, touches a human life and brings it closer to God. Active participation in the various ministries of the parish by offering our time and talents is yet another way of giving to God his due, our whole self. Today the Lord is inviting us to give Him our whole hearts. Making our commitments of time, talent, and treasure, is simply an expression of that love.

You will soon receive the Stewardship Intension Card in the mail. Please prayerfully consider sharing generously your time, talent and treasure for our parish family.

Thank you for your generosity and willingness to share God’s blessings to you with our parish family. I am also grateful to the members of the Stewardship Committee for their dedicated service.

Rosary Intention: “*May all priests depend upon Mary, Mother of priests, to help them shepherd the flock entrusted to them.*”

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

CALENDAR FOR ASCENSION AND ST. BERNARD'S PARISHES

Sat. Oct. 21st 5:00 pm "Linger Longer after Mass @ St. Bernard
Sun Oct. 22nd 10:00am "Linger Longer after Mass @ St/ Bernard
Thurs., Oct.26th 6:30pm Set Leadership training @ St. Bernard

Elephant Joe's coffee truck will be in the Ascension parking next Sunday, Oct. 29, 8:00 - 11 a.m. * Stop by for one of their many delicious drink choices. \$1.00 from each drink will go back to Ascension CUF/Faith Formation. * The CUF Council will also provide one free holiday cookie with each purchase from Elephant Joe's on Sunday, Oct. 29

THANK YOU!

Ascension's Catholic United Financial's recent clothing drive was a HUGE success. We collected 5,500lbs of clothes, shoes, ect., and raised \$1,099.75 for use with our Faith formation program and other parish needs. A BIG thank you to everyone who donated items, transferred items from the church to the trailer, helped load the Epilepsy Foundation truck, and those of you who prayed for a successful fundraiser. It all worked!

We'll share the results of the Elephant Joe's coffee fundraiser once that has been completed at the end of October.



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

The Tax of Caesar

Too often, I confuse this world with the next. Every day has its set of problems that need dealing with. Some are very easily discernible as problems of this world: I am tired, and I need a nap and a latte. Some are very obviously problems of eternity: I need to ask for forgiveness, but I'm not ready to admit it.

Most problems are a subtle, maddening mix of the two: my body feels tired, obscuring how tired my soul also feels, while making me very cranky, which is keeping me from asking for the forgiveness I need.

It's not that the nap and the latte *aren't* solutions. Heaven forfend! I would never propose such a thing. Sleep and coffee, I am confident, can fix almost any problem in this world. *This* world.

Too often, I slap a one-size-fits-all earthly band-aid on all my problems and rush on to the next thing. But if the problem is an issue of my soul, I may as well pay for a parking ticket in Monopoly money.

I render unto Caesar, and I forget about what is owed to God. I apply solutions meant for the here and now to problems that have eternal consequences. The spiritual problems are dismissed, shoved to the back of my mind. *For when I have time*, I tell myself. *For when I am ready*.

But the only time we have is now. God is no king of this earth, and he does not ask for a tax offering. He asks for our heart. He doesn't want us for minions but for children.

"I have called you by your name, giving you a title, though you knew me not." — Isaiah 45:4
©LPi

Church of St. Bernard

THANK YOU AGAIN FOR A SUCCESSFUL "SOUP SOCIAL" RAFFLE, FARMERS MARKET & BAKE SALE—to all who assisted, planned and lead the Soup Social, Farmers Market, Bake Sale, Ground Beef Sale, Silent Auction, Cash Raffle and Quilt Raffle. Thank you to Vern Elke and his brother and brother-in-law for providing the music for the Mass. **Also Thank you to all** who attended the Soup Social. To all, your help and attendance was greatly appreciated. With a few outstanding bills yet to be paid . The "Soup Social" brought in almost \$10,000.00. **WHOW!**

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL OUR WINNERS:

Quilt—Daniel Hoen

Cash Raffle Winners: \$500.00 - Julie Clemenson

\$100.00 - John Hoen, Ralph Laumann, Wayne Gestach.

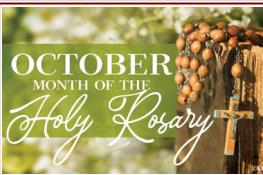
\$50.00: Richard Walter, Duane Kunkel, Roger Schmitz, Shelly Machacek, Keith Kooiman, Jim Hoen, Dennis & Jan Konerza, Neil Schneider, Julie Lenggenhager, Averi Hoen, Jami Schrupp, Carol Dahl, Carol Laumann, Anna Wickenhauser, Jordan Wildung, Kennedi Tester, Tom Walter, Len Hoen Jr., Sandra Siegle Ralph Laumann, Krista Storms, Belinda Storms, Diane Worm, Amanda Nicklaus, Bill LaRue, Jeff Clemenson, Kelli Forar, Donna Tellers, Leon Wickenhauser, Judy Storms, Judy Storms, Robert Symanitz, Denita Walley, Judy Jenkins, Tracy Spaude, Tim Worm,

The Quilting Group has started up again! All are welcome to join every Tuesday from 9-12 in the basement of the Narthex of the Church at St. Bernard's.

It's Respect Life Month!

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

Word of Life—I would now like to say a special word to women who have had an abortion. The Church is aware of the many factors which may have influenced your decision, and she does not doubt that in many cases it was a painful and even shattering decision. The wound in your heart may not yet have healed. ... But do not give in to discouragement and do not lose hope. ... The Father of mercies is ready to give you his forgiveness and his peace in the Sacrament of Reconciliation.” Pope Saint John Paul II, *Evangelium vitae*, no. 99. © 1995, Libreria Editrice Vaticana. Used with permission. All rights reserved.



Please join us 25 minutes prior to each Mass at both parishes to **pray the Rosary**. Mary offers many blessing for those individuals and communities who pray the rosary. The Rosary Intention is listed on the front page at the bottom of Father Abraham's column.

Archdiocesan Council of Catholic Women Morning of Reflection Saturday, November 4, 8:15 a.m.-12:15 p.m., Our Lady of the Lake Catholic Church, Mound. Join other Catholic women from across our Archdiocese with our Morning of Reflection. Speakers include Father Daniel Haugen: How to be a worker BEE in a busy BEE world and Bishop Michael Izen: Welcoming Jesus into our house and life as we prepare for Advent. Morning refreshments, vendors to shop from and Mass. Learn more and register at accwarchspm.org/morning-of-reflection.

“O Jesus, come back into our society, our family life, our souls and reign there as our peaceful sovereign.”

-from the prayer of Pope St. John XXIII

Mass Ministry Schedule—October 28—November 1st

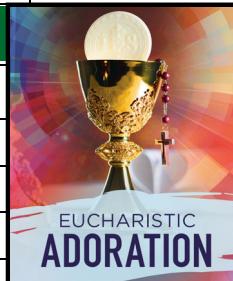
Mass Ministry	Ascension Sat. 5:00pm	Ascension Sun. 8:00 am	St. Bernard Sun 10:00am	St. Bernard Wednesday 8:00am	Ascension Wednesday 6:30am
Sacristan	Sherry Witte	Brian Willems	Patricia Quinn	Doris Mielke	Rita Fahey
Servers	Florian Schindler	Caleb Michels & Gabriel Michels	Luca Hoen & Gabby Remer	Cohen Starkey & Volunteer	Hailey Stender & Payton Stender
Reader	Julie Gesinger	Cheryl Coyle	Rob Wickenhauser	Joyce Schwartz	Jean Schmitz
EMHC	Curt Wilson	Irene Yaeck	Julie Clemensen	Bernie Shambour	Cathleen Williams
Ushers	Jim Mulville & Rick Ulrich	Steve Coyle & Don Whitaker	Kieran Allison & Vern Elke	Ralph Laumann & Bob Symonitz	Eugene Dvorak & Jeremy Friendshuh
Greeters	Grace Cook	Sue Schultz	Sarah Foley	Volunteer	Pat Johnson
Homebound Ministers	N/A	Steve Coyle & Tim George	N/A	N/A	N/A

Mass Times Intentions

Monday	Oct. 23		No Mass
Tuesday	Oct. 24 6:15 pm	Ascension	For Pope Francis
Wednesday	Oct. 25 8:00 am	St. Bernard	Rebecca Shamla †
Thursday	Oct. 26 8:00 am	St. Bernard	Robert Nicklaus †
Friday	Oct. 27 8:00 am	Ascension	Paul Simons †
Saturday	Oct. 28 5:00 pm	Ascension	Bill and Cathy Klobe
Sunday	Oct. 29 8:00 am	Ascension	All Parishioners
Sunday	Oct. 29 10:00am	St. Bernard	Clarence & Muriel Wickenhauser ††

Readings for the week of October 22, 2023
Sunday: Is 45:1, 4-6/Ps 96:1, 3, 4-5, 7-8, 9-10 (7b)/1 Thes 1:1-5b/Mt 22:15-21 **Monday:** Rom 4:20-25/Lk 1:69-70, 71-72, 73-75/Lk 12:13-21 **Tuesday:** Rom 5:12, 15b, 17-19, 20b-21/Ps 40:7-8a, 8b-9, 10, 17/Lk 12:35-38 **Wednesday:** Rom 6:12-18/Ps 124:1b-3, 4-6, 7-8/Lk 12:39-48 **Thursday:** Rom 6:19-23/Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6/Lk 12:49-53 **Friday:** Rom 7:18-25a/Ps 119:66, 68, 76, 77, 93, 94/Lk 12:54-59 **Saturday:** Eph 2:19 22/Ps 19:2-3, 4-5/Lk 6:12-16 **Next Sunday:** Ex 22:20-26/Ps 18:2-3, 3-4, 47, 51 (2/1) Thes 1:5-10/Mt 22:34-40 **Feast Days**
 Oct. 23 — St. John of Capistrano
 Oct. 24 — St. Anthony Mary Claret
 Oct. 27 — Sts. Simon & Jude, Apostles

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

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 952-856-1

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	2,903.68
Contributions 10-04-2023 through 10-10-2023	2,691.00
Total Actual Collection YTD	52,386.98
Total Actual Collection Over (Under) Budget	5,925.87
Forward in Faith	
Envelope Income	360.00
Electronic Donations	0.00
Forward in Faith Total	360.00
Forward in Faith YTD	6,404.76

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 10/08/2023

Weekly Operating Budget:	\$ 2,986.79
Weekly Envelopes/Plate:	869.00
Weekly E-Giving:	650.00
Collections Budget YTD:	44,801.85
Actual Collection YTD:	38,855.65
Total Collected Over (Under) YTD:	(5,946.20)

Capital Improvement Offering:	1,460.00
Capital Improvement-E-Giving:	185.00
Capital Improvement YTD:	6,133.00
Sign up for electronic giving at ascensionnya.org	
Under Links -> E-giving. Or call the parish office for more Information: 952-467-3351.	