

CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

323 Reform St. N.
NYA, MN. 55368

PASTOR

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ST. BERNARD CHURCH

212 Church Street E.
Cologne, MN. 55322

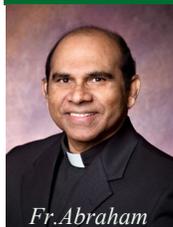


Website: AscensionNYA.org
Parish Office Hours:
Mon.—Wed & Fri. 9am—2pm
Office Phone: 952-467-3351
Business Administrator:
Virginia Hanson ...952-777-0110
busadmin@ascensionnya.org
Safe Environment Coordinator:
Sarah Smith...952-777-0111
bookkeeper@ascensionnya.org

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
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Safe Environment Coordinator:
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Thirty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time – November 18 & 19, 2023



Fr. Abraham

Make the Best Use of Our Talents

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

The Parable of the Talents in Matthew's gospel (25:14-30) focuses on the idea of stewardship and responsible use of resources. Jesus challenges us to be prudent and productive with our talents. The concept of talent here is about value and responsibility, not just skills and resources. Most importantly, Jesus urges us to live in anticipation of his return. We must not wait for this return in idleness. Rather, we must be active and industrious with the talents we have received. It encourages us to make the most of what we have, rather than hoarding or hiding it. The servants who doubled their talents were rewarded, whereas the one who buried his was rebuked.

God, who risked everything in the person of Jesus Christ for the sake of our salvation, expects us to do more than simply cling to safety. Fear holds back the third servant, and he fails to do anything productive. His approach is caution to the point of inaction, and he is criticized for it. The parable suggests that doing nothing with our resources or abilities is not an option; it is a failure to meet a basic responsibility. Hence, Jesus is encouraging us not to be afraid, but trusting in him, and to take chances in using our talents and blessings for the glory of God and for the salvation of others and of ourselves.

We are stewards of God, and are responsible to God for the way we use the abilities and blessing he has given us. How we use our talents to enrich others is our fulfillment of Christ's command to love others as we love ourselves. God gives each one of us with unique talents, abilities, skills and aptitudes. No one will ever be exactly like another. These differences belong to God's plan. And those endowed with particular talents share with those who need them. These differences encourage and often oblige persons to practice generosity and kindness.

The Catechism of Catholic Church says, "On coming into the world, man is not equipped with everything he needs for developing his bodily and spiritual life. He needs others. Differences appear tied to age, physical abilities...., and the distribution of wealth. The "talents" are not distributed equally." (CCC 1936). The Catechism acknowledges that every single human being is "needy", the first solution to this need is "others" and not "things." The most effective way that every human being will satisfy his or her needs in this life is, by God's plan, through the other members of the community. True wealth and gifts are found first of all in other human beings, not in the material things or monetary wealth they can bring us.

We need to trust God enough to make use of the gifts and abilities we have been given. Whatever God has given us, thank him and ask his help to invest it as best we can. Make use of it for others. In addition to our homes and families, the best place to make use of our talents is in our parish. This means that we should be always be willing to share our abilities, treasure and time in active worship in the church and in various ministries in our parish.

The Parable of the Talents challenges us to make the best use of the talents and gifts God has given us for the Glory of God and the goodness of our brothers and sisters, thus to help build up the kingdom of God on earth. So that at the hour of our judgement our Lord would say: "Well done, my good and faithful servant. Come, share your master's joy." Those who actively use their 'talents' in agreement with God's purposes experience joy and further blessings.

"Happy Thanksgiving Day"

Rosary Intention: "In thanksgiving to God for all our Blessings, Gifts and Graces."

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

Monday	Nov. 20	ASC. ST. B.	No Mass: No Mass:
Tuesday	Nov. 21	ST. B. ASC. ASC.	Quilting Group: 9am-12pm Adoration: 3pm-6pm Confessions: 5:45pm-6:05pm Mass: 6:15pm
Wednesday	Nov. 22	ST. B. ST. B. ST. B.	Confession: 7:30am-7:50am Mass: 8:00am Adoration: 2:00pm-7:00pm
Thursday <i>Thanks-Giving</i>	Nov. 23	ST. B. ASC.	No Mass: Thanksgiving Mass: 9am Office Closed
Friday	Nov. 24	ASC.	No Mass Office Closed
Saturday	Nov. 25	ASC. ASC.	Confession: 4:30pm-4:50pm Mass: 5:00pm
Sunday	Nov. 26	ASC. ASC. ST. B.	Mass: 8:00am Bible Study: 9:00am Mass: 10:00am

What is going on in our Parishes and in the Community:

"Stewardship Renewal" – You should have received a Stewardship Ministry Catalog along with a Time & Talent Commitment Form and a Treasure Commitment Form in the mail. Please prayerfully consider what gifts you have received from God and how you could use those gifts to give back to your parish community. If you have not done so yet, please send or drop off your completed forms to the Parish Office by this Wednesday, November 22nd. Please take special note of the 'Urgent Needs'. *"As each one has received a gift, use it to serve one another as good stewards of God's varied grace."* – *1 Peter 4:10.*



Our Parish Office will be closed Thursday November 23rd and Friday November 24th for Thanksgiving.
We wish you a Happy Thanksgiving and may God bless you abundantly.

Help for Struggling Couples

Date: December 1 – December 3

Location: Best Western Hotel, Eagan

More Information: Learn more and register
Thinking about Separation or Divorce? Hurting? Angry? Feel helpless? **Retrouvaille** is a lifeline for troubled marriages. Since 1977, over 40,000 marriages saved worldwide. Couples learn the tools to rediscover each other and heal their marriage. 100% confidential.
For more information, visit helpourmarriage.org.

Church of Ascension

Ascension Weekly Collection Report

Totals as of 11/05/2023

Weekly Operating Budget:	\$ 2,986.79
Weekly Envelopes/Plate:	1,567.00
Weekly E-Giving:	280.00
Collections Budget YTD:	56,749.01
Actual Collection YTD:	53,836.65
Total Collected Over (Under) YTD:	(2,912.36)
Capital Improvement Offering:	65.00
Capital Improvement-E-Giving:	35.00
Capital Improvement YTD:	6,903.00

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

Support of the **SW Carver County Food Shelf** is always appreciated, especially at this time of year. Non-perishable foods are always welcome as well as personal care items and monetary donations. Please leave items in the church entry or deliver directly to the local food shelf. Thank you.

"Just as our bodies need food,
our souls need nourishment, too."

-Lisa Brenninkmeyer

Walking with Purpose

Church of St. Bernard

St. Bernard Stewardship of Treasure

Budget for week	3,133.49
Contributions 11-01-2023 through 11-07-2023	2,581.50
Total Actual Collection YTD	63,577.03
Total Actual Collection Over (Under) Budget	5,271.39
Forward in Faith	
Envelope Income	215.00
Electronic Donations	168.00
Forward in Faith Total	383.00
Forward in Faith YTD	8,283.68

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,

Welcome Riley Elizabeth Schmitt:

We wish to extend a warm welcome to the newest member of St Bernard Church who was baptized on November 5th, 2023. Riley is the daughter of Courtney (Jacques) and John Schmitt. Many blessings to Riley and her family.

Faith Formation Update:

Thanks to everyone that supported our Elephant Joe's coffee fundraiser.

We received a total of \$521.38! Faith Formation students sold 80 bags of coffee for a \$400. profit and another \$121.38 was earned through drinks at the coffee truck and additional sales of bagged coffee (on a chilly morning).

Your support is greatly appreciated.
Ascension's CUF Council and Faith Formation

Mass Ministry Schedule—November 25 & 26

Mass Ministry	Ascension Thurs. 9:00 am	Ascension Sat 5:00 am	Ascension Sun. 8:00 am	St. Bernard Sun. 10:00 am
Sacristan	Ann Dettmann	Rita Fahey	Cheryl Coyle	Doris Mielke
Servers	Jacob Johnson & Lucan Johnson	Alex Umess & Bryce Umess	Nathan Duenow & Brianna Duenow	Luca Hoen & Marshall Panning
Reader	Cathleen Williams	Jean Schmitz	Brian Willems	Rob Wickenhauser
EMHC	Pat Johnson	Irene Yaeck	Kathy Kloempken	Sarah Foley
Ushers	Paul Lano & Rick Ulrich	Eugene Dvorak & Jeremy Friendshuh	Josh Gallus & don Whitaker	Tom Dahl & Vern Elke
Greeters	Leo Pouliot	Jeremy & Julie Gesinger	Grace Cook	Brian Vos
Homebound Ministers	N/A	N/A	Grp A-Tim George & Curt Wilson	N/A

Mass Times Intentions

Day	Time	Intention	Notes
Monday	Nov. 20	No Mass	
Tuesday	Nov. 21 6:15 pm	Ascension	For an increase in religious life
Wednesday	Nov. 22 8:00 am	St. Bernard	Elvira Winkler †
Thursday	Nov. 23 9:00 am	Ascension	For All Parishioners
Friday	Nov. 24 8:00 am	Ascension	No Mass
Saturday	Nov. 25 5:00 pm	Ascension	Fr. Francis Pouliot †
Sunday	Nov. 26 8:00 am	Ascension	Karl Monroe †
Sunday	Nov. 26 10:00am	St. Bernard	Marcy Wickenhauser † & All Parishioners

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.....952-466-2447

Anointing of the Sick

Call the parish office at any time.

Feast Days: Nov. 21-The Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mar; Nov. 22-St. Cecilia; Nov. 23- Thanksgiving ; St. Clement & St. Columban; Blessed Miguel Agusin Pro; Nov. 24 St. Andrew Dung-Lac; Nov. 25 St. Catherine of Alexandria, BVM

St. Gertrude Prayer for the Souls in Purgatory

Eternal Father I offer you the most Precious Blood of Your Divine Son Jesus, in union with the Masses said throughout the world today, for all the Holy Souls in Purgatory, for all sinners everywhere, for sinners in the universal Church, Those in my own home and within my family. Amen.

Readings for the week of November 19, 2023

Sunday: Prv 31:10-13, 19-20, 30-31/Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5 (see 1a)/1 Thes 5:1-6/ Mt 25:14-30 or 25:14-15, 19-21 **Monday:** 1 Mc 1:10-15, 41-43, 54-57, 62-63/Ps 119:53, 61, 134, 150, 155, 158/Lk 18:35-43 **Tuesday:** 2 Mc 6:18-31/Ps 3:2-3, 4-5, 6-7/Lk 19:1-10 **Wednesday:** 2 Mc 7:1, 20-31/Ps 17:1bcd, 5-6, 8b and 15/Lk 19:11-28 **Thursday:** 1 Mc 2:15-29/Ps 50:1b-2, 5-6, 14-15/Lk 19:41-44 **Friday:** 1 Mc 4:36-37, 52-59/1 Chr 29:10bcd, 11abc, 11d-12a, 12bcd/Lk 19:45-48 **Saturday:** 1 Mc 6:1-13/Ps 9:2-3, 4 and 6, 16 and 19/Lk 20:27-40 **Next Sunday:** Ez 34:11-12, 15-17/Ps 23:1-2, 2-3, 5-6 (1)/1 Cor 15:20-26, 28/Mt 25:31-46

**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@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.**

WHY DO WE DO THAT? - CATHOLIC LIFE EXPLAINED ©LPi

Anointing of the Sick

Question:

If it isn't only for people who are dying, when should someone receive the Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick?

Answer:

One of the unfortunate realities in the Church today is that so few people understand the meaning and value of the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick, largely because so many people still mistakenly think of this sacrament as "Last Rites" or "Extreme Unction."

In his life and ministry, Jesus healed the sick. In this sacrament, the Church continues the healing mission of Jesus and, in hope, prays that God will grant healing to the person who is suffering. But even if there is no physical healing, the sacrament offers spiritual healing through the Holy Spirit's gifts of peace and courage. And so, anyone who is living with serious illness (including emotional or psychological illness) and the elderly are encouraged to celebrate this sacrament when it is needed.

The ritual for Anointing of the Sick does also include special prayers and blessings for those who are facing death, including viaticum (communion given to the dying, trusting that the Lord Jesus will be their companion along the way, as they make their final journey).

