

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

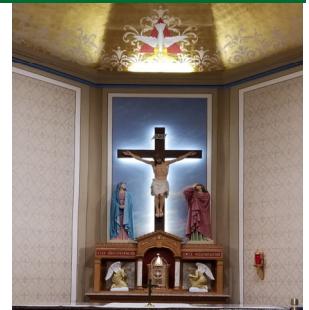
PASTOR

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

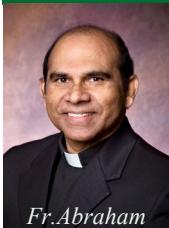
**ST. BERNARD
CHURCH**
212 Church Street E.
Cologne, MN. 55322



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

Thirty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time – November 4 & 5, 2023

Living the Life of Transparency and Honesty



Dear Brothers and Sisters,

In our first reading today (31st Sun), we see the prophet Malachi (2:1-10) cautioning the priests to be true to their calling. In the Gospel reading, Jesus criticizes the hypocrisy of the Pharisees and Scribes (Mt 23:1-12). They widen their phylacteries and lengthen their tassels. They love places of honor at banquets. They preach but do not practice. They are just putting on a show. They pretend to be holy. All their works are performed to be seen.

While it is important to note that this message is meant as it were for priest and all religious leaders, it is equally important to note that by virtue of our baptismal call, God is equally speaking to each one of us. The reason for this is quite simple, we are all expected to bear witness to the Lord and give glory to God. Therefore, it is a call to lead a life of holiness and to share the message of the Lord.

We are faced with some of the most challenging words in this Sunday scripture readings. We are reminded that we cannot be satisfied with the external observances of religion. We should practice what we believe. We cannot demand more from others than we demand from ourselves. I cannot demand that others fulfill their worship obligations if I do not fulfill mine. I cannot tell others to say prayers every day if I am not faithful to my daily prayers. You also cannot demand that others be kind and caring, if you are unkind to others. As a parent, you cannot demand that your children must go to confession regularly if you are not doing so. You cannot claim to be a good Catholics if you destroy people's reputations with gossip. If we live contrary to the faith we profess in Jesus Christ we are being Pharisees and preventing the good news of the Lord. Hypocrisy is the failure to practice what we preach. We have to fight against our own hypocrisy. God sees us as we are. Jesus condemns show-off-religion. Following Jesus is the serious task of living the life of transparency and honesty.

On November 1st, we celebrated the **Feast of All Saints**. Saints are the holy men and women who have loved God and loved neighbour fully in their lives. They bore witness to the compassion of the Lord and to the charity of the Church in their lives. November is also a special month to remember and pray for all the **faithful departed** who have gone to their eternal reward and need a process of purification before they can come face to face with God. The Catechism of the Catholic Church (CCC #1032) recommends prayer for the dead in conjunction with the offering of the Eucharistic Sacrifice. The CCC also encourages "almsgiving, indulgences, and works of penance undertaken on behalf of the dead." Let us not forget to pray for our dear departed, have Masses offered for them, visit their graves, and make daily sacrifices for them.

Rosary Intentions: "Eternal Rest for all the Faithful Departed"

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. 6	ASC. ST. B.	No Mass: No Mass:
Tuesday	Nov. 7	ST. B. ASC. ASC.	Quilting Group: 9am-12pm Adoration: 3pm-6pm Confessions: 5:45pm-6:05pm Mass: 6:15pm
Wednesday	Nov. 8	ST. B. ST. B. ST. B. ASC.	Confession: 7:30am-7:50am Mass: 8:00am Adoration: 2:00pm-7:00pm Faith Formation:
Thursday	Nov. 9	ST. B. ASC. ASC.	Mass: 8:00am Prayers for Our Children: 5:30pm-6:30pm SNYOD: 6:30pm
Friday	Nov. 10	ASC.	Mass: 8:00am
Saturday	Nov. 11	ASC. ASC.	Confession: 4:30pm-4:50pm Mass: 5:00pm
Sunday	Nov. 12	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:

Chastity Project Purified Event with Jason Evert:
 Wednesday, November 15th 6pm. St. Wenceslaus Catholic Church, New Prague. PURIFIED: A family-based event that invites parents as well as teens to learn about God's plan to love. It combines Jason Evert's presentation on chastity for the family, with a time of prayer, adoration, and the sacrament of reconciliation for everyone. We will also be distributing free resources to every attendee so that every member of the family can take items home to help them live out this lifestyle.

James: Pearls for Wise Living - Tuesdays, November 7-December 12, 7-9 p.m., Mary Mother of the Church, Burnsville.
 This Catechetical Institute six-week course on the letter of James, taught by Jeff Cavins, is for anyone who feels torn between the competing demands of this world and the faith. Through encouraging lectures and the small group experience, this Bible study combines practical wisdom for challenging times with faith-sharing based on the Word of God. Learn wisdom for tough times and how to meet trials with joy and perseverance! **Learn more at saintpaulseminary.org/james.**

*"Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord,
and let perpetual light shine upon them".
May they rest in peace
and may their souls,
and all the souls of the faithful departed,
through the mercy of God,
rest in peace.
Amen.*

Church of Ascension

Ascension Weekly Collection Report

Totals as of 10/22/2023	
Weekly Operating Budget:	\$ 2,986.79
Weekly Envelopes/Plate:	1,885.00
Weekly E-Giving:	1,545.00
Collections Budget YTD:	50,775.43
Actual Collection YTD:	49,067.65
Total Collected Over (Under) YTD:	(1,707.87)

Capital Improvement Offering:	150.00
Capital Improvement-E-Giving:	110.00
Capital Improvement YTD:	6,448.00
Sign up for electronic giving at ascensionnny.org Under Links -> E-giving. Or call the parish office for more information: 952-467-3351.	

Thank you to all who donated to the Ascension CUF and Faith Formation Coffee Fundraiser! Look for an update in next weeks bulletin!

Church of St. Bernard

St. Bernard Stewardship of Treasure

Budget for week	2,903.68
Contributions 10-18-2023 through 10-24-2023	2,617.05
Total Actual Collection YTD	58,482.03
Total Actual Collection Over (Under) Budget	6,213.56
Forward in Faith	
Envelope Income	240.00
Electronic Donations	0.00
Forward in Faith Total	240.00
Forward in Faith YTD	7,355.68

World Mission Sunday **542.00**
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,

Word of Life "Death is a decisive moment in the human person's encounter with God the Savior. Helping the Christian to experience this moment with spiritual assistance is a supreme act of charity. It encompasses the patient with the solid support of human relationships to accompany them and open them to hope. Palliative care and hospice are precious and crucial instruments in the care of patients with serious and complex chronic or terminal illnesses, and they help provide comfort to both the patients and their families." USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities "The Witness of the Good Samaritan: Palliative Care and Hospice"

You've celebrated a few anniversaries... maybe MANY. You've been through some ups and downs and you have learned a lot about each other. But what if there's more to your marriage than you've ever realized?

Experience a **Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend** and discover the beauty of your relationship. The next Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekends are Feb 9-11, 2024 in Buffalo, MN and May 3-5, 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 wmandbethnickles@hotmail.com or 612-234-7440.

Mass Ministry Schedule—November 11 & 12

Mass Ministry	Ascension Sat. 5:00 pm	Ascension Sun. 8:00 am	St. Bernard Sun. 10:00 am
Sacristan	Ann Dettmann	Cheryl Coyle	Doris Mielke
Servers	Alex Umess & Bryce Umess	Jayden Michels & Caleb Michels	Luke Allison & Lex Allison
Reader	Cathleen Williams	Brian Willems	Patricia Quinn
Eucharistic Ministers	Pat Johnson (H), Jean Schmitz (C) Jim Mulville (C)	Steve Lemmer (H), Steve Coyle (C) Kathy Kloempken (C)	Helen Nicklaus
Ushers	Tom Lano & Steve Schrupp	Richard Tellers & Curt Wilson	Kieran Allison & Vem Elke
Greeters	Grace Cook	Sue Schultz	Brian Vos
Homebound Ministers	N/A	Grp A: Steve Lemmer & Curt Wilson	N/A

Mass Times Intentions

Monday	Nov. 6		No Mass
Tuesday	Nov. 7 6:15 pm	Ascension	Charlie O Jean †
Wednesday	Nov. 8 8:00 am	St. Bernard	Dennis & Bernice Wickenhauser ††
Thursday	Nov. 9 6:15 pm	St. Bernard	R M Family
Friday	Nov. 10 8:00 am	Ascension	Myrtle Buesgens †
Saturday	Nov. 11 5:00 pm	Ascension	Alice Enright †
Sunday	Nov. 12 8:00 am	Ascension	Tom & Marion Hoppe ††
Sunday	Nov. 12 10:00am	St. Bernard	Gerald Mohrbacher †

Readings for the week of November 5, 2023

Sunday: Mal 1:14b—2:2b, 8-10/Ps 131:1, 2, 3/1 Thes 2:7b-9, 13/Mt 23:1-12
Monday: Rom 11:29-36/Ps 69:30-31, 33-34, 36/Lk 14:12-14 **Tuesday:** Rom 12:5-16b/Ps 131:1bcde, 2, 3/Lk 14:15-24
Wednesday: Rom 13:8-10/Ps 112:1b-2, 4-5, 9/Lk 14:25-33 **Thursday:** Ez 47:1-2, 8-9, 12/Ps 46:2-3, 5-6, 8-9/1 Cor 3:9c-11, 16-17/Jn 2:13-22 **Friday:** Rom 15:14-21/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4/Lk 16:1-8 **Saturday:** Rom 16:3-9, 16, 22-27/Ps 145:2-3, 4-5, 10-11/Lk 16:9-15 **Next Sunday:** Wis 6:12-16/Ps 63:2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8 (2b)/1 Thes 4:13-18 or 4:13-14/Mt 25:1-13

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.

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. 9 — The Dedication of the Lateran Basilica; Nov. 10— St. Leo the Great; Nov. 11 St. Martin of Tours

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.

WHY DO WE DO THAT? - CATHOLIC LIFE EXPLAINED

Sin on the Soul

Question:

Why do some sacraments leave a character or mark on the soul? Don't all sacraments affect the soul?

Answer:

All sacraments mediate grace and connect us to Christ and to the Church. Some sustain us in our faith journey, while others help us heal from the effects of sin. Each one offers a share in God's life, giving us what we need to be faithful followers of Jesus. But some sacraments change us in ways that are irreversible. The three sacraments that leave a character are Baptism, Confirmation, and Holy Orders. We are literally different people because of the effect of the grace of those sacraments. We are changed at the core of our being in such a fundamental way that we can not go back to what we once were.

In Baptism, we are freed from original sin, initiated into the Body of Christ as adopted sons and daughters. In Confirmation, we are given the fullness of God's Spirit, sealed in his grace and gifted with what we need to live a Christian life. In Holy Orders, a priest is marked as an 'alter Christus,' another Christ, and is once and forever a priest who offers sacrifice, forgives sin, and acts in the person of Christ. In these three sacraments, we are conformed more closely to Christ, reflecting his love and truth.

