

# CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

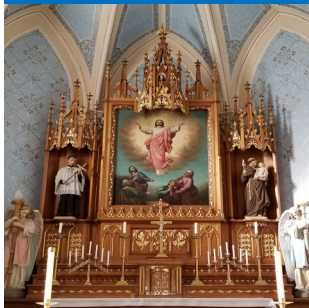
323 Reform St. N.  
NYA, MN. 55368

## PASTOR

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

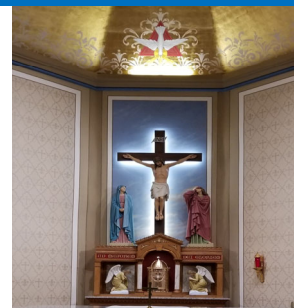
# ST. BERNARD CHURCH

212 Church Street E.  
Cologne, MN. 55322

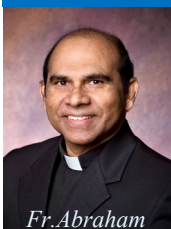


**Website:** AscensionNYA.org  
**Parish Office Hours:**  
Mon.—Wed & Fri. 9am—2pm  
**Office Phone:** 952-467-3351  
**Business Administrator:**  
Virginia Hanson ...952-777-0110  
busadmin@ascensionnya.org  
**Safe Environment Coordinator:**  
Sarah Smith...952-777-0111  
bookkeeper@ascensionnya.org

**Website:** St-Bernard-Cologne.org  
**Paris Office Hours:**  
Tues 10am-2pm & Fri. 9am—12pm  
**Office Phone:** 952-466-2031  
**Business Administrator:**  
Virginia Hanson .....952-856-1051  
busadmin@st-bernard-cologne.org  
**Safe Environment Coordinator:**  
Sarah Smith...952-856-1052  
bookkeeper@st-bernard-cologne.org



## Fourth Sunday of Easter – April 27 & 28, 2024



Fr. Abraham

### Eucharistic Adoration, in the words of Popes

Affirming our belief in the real presence of our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament, the **Vatican Council II** taught that the Holy Eucharist is “the source and summit of the Christian life” (*Lumen Gentium*, #11). While the Mass is the central act of worship for us Catholics, an act which participates in the eternal reality of our Lord’s passion, death, and resurrection, Vatican Council II upheld and encouraged the adoration of the Blessed Sacrament outside of Mass. Of course, such devotion derives from the sacrifice of the Mass and moves the faithful to both sacramental and spiritual communion with our Lord (*Eucharisticum Mysterium*, #50).

**Saint, Pope John Paul II** has repeatedly “highly recommended” public and private devotion of the Blessed Sacrament, including the 40 Hours Devotion (cf. *Dominicae Caeae*, #3, and *Inaestimabile Donum*, #20-22). In the words of **Pope Benedict XVI** in *Sacramentum Caritatis*, “In the Eucharist, the Son of God comes to meet us and desires to become one with us; Eucharistic adoration is simply the natural consequence of the Eucharistic celebration, which is itself the Church’s supreme act of adoration” (No. 66). He continues: “The personal relationship which the individual believer establishes with Jesus present in the Eucharist constantly points beyond itself to the whole communion of the Church and nourishes a fuller sense of membership in the Body of Christ. For this reason, besides encouraging individual believers to make time for personal prayer before the Sacrament of the Altar, I feel obliged to urge parishes and other church groups to set aside times for collective adoration” (No. 68).

**Pope Francis** echoed this same enduring truth of the Church on October 22, 2022, saying “It is good to adore in silence before the Most Blessed Sacrament, to be in the consoling presence of Jesus and there to draw the apostolic impetus to be instruments of goodness, tenderness and welcome in the community, the Church, and the world. ... Adore, immerse yourself in divine love and give it with full hands to those you meet on your path.”

### 40 HOURS DEVOTION

We, the Parish family of Ascension and St. Bernard, are hosting 40 Hours Devotion of our Lord in the Eucharist at **St. Bernard church**,

**Beginning with 8.00 pm Mass - Thursday, May 30, 2024**

**Ending with 5.00pm Mass- Saturday, June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024**

Be part of an age-old tradition which is finding new life during this Year of the Eucharistic Revival. Come and adore our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament!

**Sign up** sheets are located at St Bernard Church, Cologne and Church of the Ascension, Norwood Young America. You may also sign up by **scanning the QR code**.



Contact Doris Mielke with any questions or concerns: Mobile # (612) 910-2365.

*All are welcome to join us for 40 hours of Adoration.*

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**

<i>Monday</i>	<b>Apr.29</b>		No Mass
<i>Tuesday</i>	<b>Apr.30</b>	<b>ASC.</b> <b>ASC.</b> <b>ASC.</b>	<b>Adoration:</b> 3pm-6pm <b>Confession:</b> 5:45-6:05pm <b>Mass:</b> 6:15pm
<i>Wednesday</i>	<b>May. 1</b>	<b>ST. B.</b> <b>ST. B.</b> <b>ST. B.</b>	<b>Confession:</b> 7:30-7:50am <b>Mass:</b> 8:00am <b>Adoration:</b> 2:00-6:00pm
<i>Thursday</i>	<b>May. 2</b>	<b>ST. B.</b> <b>ASC.</b>	<b>Mass:</b> 8:00am <b>Prayers for Our Children:</b> 5:00:-6:00pm
<i>Friday</i>	<b>May. 3</b>	<b>ASC.</b>	<b>Mass:</b> 8:00am
<i>Saturday</i>	<b>May. 4</b>	<b>ST. B.</b> <b>ST. B.</b>	<b>Confession:</b> 4:30-4:50pm <b>Mass:</b> 5:00pm
<i>Sunday</i>	<b>May. 5</b>	<b>ASC.</b> <b>ST. B.</b>	<b>Mass:</b> 8:00am <b>Mass:</b> 10:00am

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

**ROSARY INTENTION:** For all the children celebrating the Sacrament of 1st Holy Communion.

**Church of Ascension and  
St. Bernard Church Quilter's update:**

Quilts that have been knotted this year, will be blessed on Tues. May 7th after the 6:15pm Mass. The quilts will remain on the pews through the weekend. Church of Ascension and St Bernard 2024 Graduating High School Seniors have been invited to receive a quilt. Quilts will be available for purchase after the weekend Masses on May 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup>.

**Quilt prices are: Single \$50 Full Size \$75 Queen/King \$90 Baby Quilts or Wheel Chair \$20-\$25.**

Thank you for your continued support. Contact Irene Yaeck with any questions at 612-716-7063.

"Love one another as I have loved you." John 13:34 - Attend a **Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend** and experience the love of your spouse like you never have before. The next available Weekends are May 3-5, 2024 in Buffalo, MN and Aug 17-18, 2024 in Oakdale, MN. Early registration is highly recommended. For more information visit our website at: [twincitieswwme.org](http://twincitieswwme.org) or contact Brent & Tracy at [applications@twincitieswwme.org](mailto:applications@twincitieswwme.org) <<mailto:wmandbethnickles@hotmail.com>> or 612-234-7440.

**Catholic United Scholarships**

Catholic United Financial Scholarship application period is open from March 1 — April 30 of each year. Any member (any age) studying for their first degree after high school can apply. Applicants must have been a member for at least 2 years by the application deadline and when the scholarship is awarded. **Awards of \$500 for attending a Catholic college or \$300 for an accredited non-Catholic school.**

Applications are available at: [www.catholicunitedfinancial.org](http://www.catholicunitedfinancial.org)

**Church of Ascension**

**Ascension Weekly Collection Report**

**Totals as of 4/14/2024**

<b>Weekly Operating Budget:</b>	\$ 2,986.79
<b>Weekly Envelopes/Plate:</b>	2,791.00
<b>Weekly E-Giving:</b>	270.00
<b>Collections Budget YTD:</b>	128,431.97
<b>Actual Collection YTD:</b>	<b>135,530.15</b>
<b>Total Collected Over (Under) YTD:</b>	<b>7,098.18</b>
<b>Capital Improvement Offering:</b>	240.00
<b>Capital Improvement-E-Giving:</b>	20.00
<b>Capital Improvement YTD:</b>	<b>14,938.00</b>

**Sign up** for electronic giving at [ascensionnva.org](http://ascensionnva.org)  
Under Links -> E-giving. Or call the parish office for more Information: 952-467-3351.

**Prayer of Fruitfulness**

God in Heaven,

Your grace surrounds us every day as we seek to live and move and grow in You. Prune the spaces in our lives that distract us from You! Plant Your word more deeply within us!  
©LPi

**Congratulations to:** Joshua Gallus & Kylie Letourneau who were married last Saturday at Ascension.

**Church of St. Bernard**

**St. Bernard Stewardship of Treasure**

Budget for week	3,265.00
<b>Contributions 04-10 through 04-16-2024</b>	<b>3,516.00</b>
Total Actual Collection YTD	177,110.54
<b>Total Actual Collection Over (Under) Budget</b>	<b>29,835.57</b>
<b>Forward in Faith</b>	
Envelope Income	50.00
Electronic Donations	681.00
<b>Forward in Faith Total</b>	<b>731.00</b>
<b>Forward in Faith YTD</b>	<b>19,602.52</b>

**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,

**If you had your picture taken for the new joint Parish Directory and have not received your new directory, please contact the parish office at 952-467-3351 or stop by during office hours to receive one!**

**Prayers are requested** for the repost of the soul of *Judith "Judy" Rademacher*, who passed away on Saturday, April 13th. Judy's funeral was on Wednesday, April 24th. She is the sister of Tom Willems and Janet Fahey. May she rest in peace and may her soul and all the souls of the faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in peace. Please also pray for Judy's family.

**Faith Formation Update:**

**Congratulations to all our 2nd Graders who made their First Holy Communion this weekend! May God Bless you today and always.**

**Thank you to everyone who donated and helped with our Faith Formation Service Night on April 17th! Our students made 200 Blessing Bags for Sharing and Caring Hands and 1000 sandwiches for the homeless.**

## Mass Ministry Schedule—May 4 –5

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	Luca Hoen & Marshall Panning	Brianna Duenow & Nathan Duenow	Daniel Worm & Kieran Allison
Reader	Roger Storms	Colleen Donnay	Sarah Foley
Eucharistic Ministers	Margaret Wickenhauser	Kathy Kloempken	Andy Kleindl
Ushers	Ralph Laumann & Leo Willems	Dave Donnay & Paul Lano	Dick Arnst & Leonard Hoen Jr.
Greeters	Monica Kooiman	Pat Johnson	Volunteer
Homebound Ministers	N/A	Theresa Hartmann & Pat Johnson	

### Mass Times Intentions

Day	Date	Location	Intention
Monday	Apr. 29		No Mass
Tuesday	Apr. 30 6:15 pm	Ascension	For the Unborn
Wednesday	May 1 8:00 am	St. Bernard	Edward Tellers Family †
Thursday	May 2 8:00 am	St. Bernard	Elvira Winkler †
Friday	May 3 8:00 am	Ascension	Mass of Reparation
Saturday	May 4 5:00 pm	St. Bernard	Harriet & Luke Meuleners ††
Sunday	May 5 8:00 am	Ascension	Living & Deceased Members of the Braunwarth-Paul Family
Sunday	May 5 10:00 am	St. Bernard	Living & Deceased members of Catholic United Financial

**Readings for the week of April 28, 2024**  
**Sunday:** Acts 9:26-31/Ps 22:26-27, 28, 30, 31-32 (26a)/1 Jn 3:18-24/Jn 15:1-8 **Monday:** Acts 14:5-18/Ps 115:1-2, 3-4, 15-16/Jn 14:21-26 **Tuesday:** Acts 14:19-28/Ps 145:10-11, 12-13ab, 21/Jn 14:27-31a **Wednesday:** Acts 15:1-6/Ps 122: 1-2, 3-4ab, 4cd-5/Jn 15:1-8 **Thursday:** Acts 15:7-21/Ps 96:1-2a, 2b-3, 10/Jn 15:9-11 **Friday:** 1 Cor 15:1-8/Ps 19:2-3, 4-5/Jn 14:6-14 **Saturday:** Acts 16:1-10/Ps 100:1b-2, 3, 5/Jn 15:18-21 **Next Sunday:** Acts 10:25-26, 34-35, 44-48/Ps 98:1, 2-3, 3-4 (see 2b)/1 Jn 4:7-10/Jn 15:9-17

**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@ascensionya.org.  
**All inserts and weekend Mass announcements** can be emailed or brought to the Parish office at St. Bernard or Ascension. **These are due Thursday of the weekend needed.**

### 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.



**Eucharistic Adoration**  
**Ascension**  
 Every Tuesday  
 3:00 pm until 6:00 pm

**St. Bernard**  
 Every Wednesday  
 2:00 until 6:00 pm



### April 28, 2024 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter

My friend and fellow pastor, Father Paul, noticed unsightly, overgrown trees near his parish church. He asked the maintenance crew to cut back the growth, which they happily did, telling him the trees would be much healthier and even fuller after a good pruning. A few days later, Father Paul received a letter from an irate man in the neighborhood who wrote, “Jesus would never prune trees like that. He loves trees, unlike you.”

I suspect that the neighbor was not familiar with this week’s Gospel in which Jesus says of his Father, **“He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit”** (John 15:2) I don’t mean to pick too much on that fellow. He was perhaps ignorant of arboriculture. But I’d wager his main confusion was the pruning and removing quality of God’s love. That confusion afflicts us all to some degree, doesn’t it? It is just so darn easy to react negatively when God cuts something out of our lives and assume it’s not his work at all. In the moment, all we see is the loss, and not the loving desire for future flourishing.

The cross is the great pruning of Christ’s body. Jesus’ rising is the brand-new growth. It is God’s promise to us that all the painful pruning in life is leading us somewhere beautiful. What has been cut back or out in your life? A friend, an opportunity, a sense of certainty, a job, health, a relationship? This week, offer those dry branches to the one who lovingly prunes us in order to make our lives burst with verdant growth.

— *Father John Muir*

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