

# CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

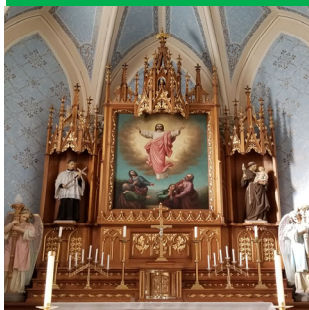
323 Reform St. N.  
NYA, MN. 55368

## PASTOR

Fr. Abraham Kochupurackal CMI  
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frabraham@st-bernard-cologne.org

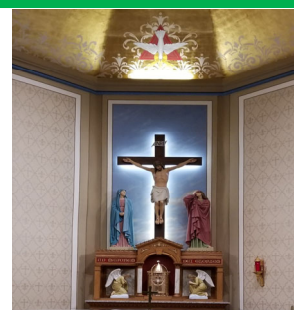
# ST. BERNARD CHURCH

212 Church Street E.  
Cologne, MN. 55322

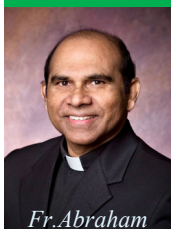


**Website:** AscensionNYA.org  
**Parish Office Hours:**  
Mon.—Wed & Fri. 9am—2pm  
**Office Phone:** 952-467-3351  
**Business Administrator:**  
Virginia Hanson ...952-777-0110  
busadmin@ascensionnya.org  
**Safe Environment Coordinator:**  
Sarah Smith...952-777-0111  
bookkeeper@ascensionnya.org

**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:**  
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## Eleventh Sunday In Ordinary Time – June 15 & 16, 2024



Fr. Abraham

### The Growth of the Kingdom of God

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

The readings for the 11<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the Ordinary Time are about the growth of the Kingdom of God and about the growth of the Church from very humble beginnings. Both growths are slow and mysterious, guided by the power of the Holy Spirit. Jesus compares the growth of the kingdom of God to the sprouting of a wheat seed and that of a tiny mustard seed (Mark 4:26-34). Both have very small beginnings.

The wheat seeds, by gradual but steady growth help the farmer to get a bumper crop. In the same way, the life principle in a tiny mustard seed enables it to grow into a large bush. The reign of God in human hearts and the growth of the Church in the world also have small beginnings. But the Source of all life, God the Holy Spirit, gives to both a steady and persistent growth.

With the coming of Christ, the kingdom of God was inaugurated. Jesus sows the seed of God's word in our hearts, that we may bear great fruit for his kingdom. The Kingdom of God is the growth of God's rule in human hearts. It occurs when man does the will of God and surrenders his life to God. The seed of faith lies dormant within each of us. When we say words of love and encouragement, deeds of charity, mercy and forgiveness, we will bear much fruits for his kingdom. When we permit the Holy Spirit to nurture it, it grows miraculously. As we learn God's will from his words and try to put these words into practice, we participate in the growth of God's kingdom on earth which will be completed in our heavenly life.

The Second Vatican Council described the Church as "the seed" of the kingdom (LG 5). The Church began tiny, insignificant, but she has certainly put out branches. No other institution has had such an impact on the world. Because the Church is the Body of Christ, who is its head (CCC 792), in whom all the individual members are united with each other (CCC 788), and which is joined to Christ as bride to bridegroom (CCC 796). The Church has suffered from persecutions, internal dogmatic fights and scandals. The Church grew and will grow to its fullness, despite all obstacles. God gives his Church growth. As St. Paul tells the Corinthians in today's second reading (2 Cor 5:6-10), "we walk by faith, not by sight." May we always stay united to the Church so God might work the miracle of His growth through us.

**Father's Day:** This weekend we celebrate and pray for the men who continue to reflect the divine qualities of fatherhood as they lovingly nourish and maintain a family. Fathers are a blessing, and we thank them for their dedication, endurance and love. On this Father's Day we pray for our dads, whether they are near or far away, living or deceased. It is not easy being a faithful and loving father. St. Joseph, earthly father of Jesus, is the model of fatherhood. His faith and obedience to God inspired his devotion for his family. The significance of St. Joseph's presence in Jesus' life reminds us how important fathers are in our lives. Let the earthly fathers draw strength from their Heavenly Father. On this Father's Day, let us also pray for our spiritual Fathers, men who are called to be Fathers through the Sacrament of Holy Orders. **Happy Father's Day.**

**Rosary Intention:** 'For all Fathers, living and deceased'

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. BERARDS' PARISHES

<i>Monday</i>	June. 17		No Mass:
<i>Tuesday</i>	June. 18	ASC. ASC. ASC.	Adoration: 3pm-6pm Confession: 5:45-6:05pm Mass: 6:15pm
<i>Wednesday</i>	June. 19	ST. B. ST. B. ST. B.	Confession: 7:30-7:50am Mass: 8:00am Adoration: 2:00-6:00pm
<i>Thursday</i>	June. 20	ST. B. ASC.	Mass: 8:00am Prayers for Our Children: 5:00-6:00pm
<i>Friday</i>	June. 21	ASC.	Mass: 8:00am
<i>Saturday</i>	June. 22	ASC. ASC.	Confession: 4:30-4:50pm Mass: 5:00pm
<i>Sunday</i>	June. 23	ASC. ST. B.	Mass: 8:00am Mass: 10:00am

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

#### Blessing of Fathers

**God and Father of all creation,  
we come before you today with humble hearts.  
You are our model of a loving father.  
When we fail and fall short of your expectations,  
you are always there at the end of the day with open arms,  
ready to heal the cuts and scrapes of the day  
and to encourage us to try again and not to give up.  
We hold up these men in our midst who act in the world  
as fathers to their children or models of fathers for others.  
Bless them in their moments of doubt and frustration  
with their children.  
Give them warm and open hearts to forgive failures.  
Provide them with the words needed for encouragement  
and perseverance.  
We ask all this in the name of Jesus.  
Amen**

**We will be having a second collection June 29th and 30th for the Peter's Pence Collection to support the Universal church and the work of the Holy See, including helping Pope Francis to carry out his charitable works. These works benefit our brothers and sisters on the margins of society, including victims of war, oppression, and disasters.**

#### Rural Life Sunday Celebration-Sunday, June 23

Please join in this year's Archdiocesan Rural Life Sunday Celebration on June 23, hosted by Fr. Michael Miller on his farm – "Taste of Heaven" at 12890 70th Street West, New Prague. The celebration begins with Sunday Mass at 1:30 p.m. with Bishop Joseph Williams presiding. Following, there will be lunch, music, fun activities for children and families, and animals to see. Please join the parishioners from the Churches of St. Patrick and St. Catherine, along with others from throughout the Archdiocese to pray, remember, and celebrate all the good things God has given us in our rural way of life. For more details, including a map and directions, visit [archspm.org/events](http://archspm.org/events), or call 651-238-2074.

### Church of Ascension

#### Ascension Weekly Collection Report

Totals as of 6/02/2024

Weekly Operating Budget:	\$ 2,986.79
Weekly Envelopes/Plate:	694.00
Weekly E-Giving:	470.00
Collections Budget YTD:	149,339.50
Actual Collection YTD:	<b>155,548.15</b>
Total Collected Over ( <b>Under</b> ) YTD:	<b>6,208.65</b>
Capital Improvement Offering:	120.00
Capital Improvement-E-Giving:	55.00
Capital Improvement YTD:	<b>16,748.00</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.

#### Catholic Services Appeal Update:

Church of the Ascension has reached 71% of their Parish Goal! We are \$2,879 short of our goal.

**SW Carver County Food Shelf in NYA** (102 East Main Street) will be hosting an **Open House next Sunday, June 23 from 1:00-3:00**. All are welcome to see the recently remodeled facility. Stop by to see how our

### Church of St. Bernard

#### St. Bernard Stewardship of Treasure

Budget for week	2,913.47
<b>Contributions 05-29 through 06-04-2024</b>	<b>3,913.20</b>
Total Actual Collection YTD	198,117.23
<b>Total Actual Collection Over (<b>Under</b>) Budget</b>	<b>28,771.11</b>
<b>Forward in Faith</b>	
Envelope Income	191.00
Electronic Donations	171.00
<b>Forward in Faith Total</b>	<b>362.00</b>
<b>Forward in Faith YTD</b>	<b>22,107.52</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,

#### Catholic Services Appeal Update:

St. Bernard has reached 77% of their Parish Goal! We are \$2,505 short of our goal.

#### GLAD DAYS UPDATE-July 26, 27, & 28

We plan to have our ice cream booth during the festivities again this year. We will have our usual ice cream with toppings, garden produce, and baked/canned goods at the booth. On Friday night--during the hot dog meal--we will have a craft project for the kids. If you are a baker--consider donating, or contact Julie Kleindl if you can help in the booth. We have two hours shifts available on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday. This event is sponsored by the St Bernard Catholic United Financial group. Contact Julie @ [julie.kleindl@gamil.com](mailto:julie.kleindl@gamil.com) or 952-807-3522

**"Be perfect as your heavenly Father is perfect.  
Mt 5:48**

## Mass Ministry Schedule—June 22–23

Mass Ministry	Ascension Sat. 5:00 pm	Ascension Sun. 8:00 am	St. Bernard Sun. 10:00 am
<b>Sacristan</b>	Cheryl Coyle	Kathy Kloempken	Doris Mielke
<b>Servers</b>	Alex Urness & Bryce Urness	Nathan Duenow & Brianna Duenow	Buckley Jones & Logan Pellegrino
<b>Reader</b>	Cathleen Williams	Brian Willems	Brenda Jones
<b>Eucharistic Ministers</b>	Steve Coyle	Lisa Whitaker	Helen Nicklaus
<b>Ushers</b>	Tom Lano & Jim Mulville	Tim George & Don Whitaker	Tom Dahl & Leo Willems
<b>Greeters</b>	Grace Cook	Sue Schultz	Casey Jones
<b>Homebound Ministers</b>	N/A	Steve Lemmer & Curt Wilson	

### Mass Times Intentions

Monday	June 17		No Mass
<b>Tuesday</b>	June 18 <b>6:15 pm</b>	Ascension	Moe Mahan †
<b>Wednesday</b>	June 19 <b>8:00 am</b>	St. Bernard	Edward J. Tellers Family †
<b>Thursday</b>	June 20 <b>8:00 am</b>	St. Bernard	Margaret Eiden † & All Living & Deceased members of the Eiden Family
<b>Friday</b>	June 21 <b>8:00 am</b>	Ascension	Paul Simons †
<b>Saturday</b>	June 22 <b>5:00 pm</b>	Ascension	Rose Flaig †
<b>Sunday</b>	June 23 <b>8:00 am</b>	Ascension	Living & Deceased Family of the Braunwarth-Dupont Family
<b>Sunday</b>	June 23 <b>10:00 am</b>	St. Bernard	John & Jeff Slimmer †† & 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

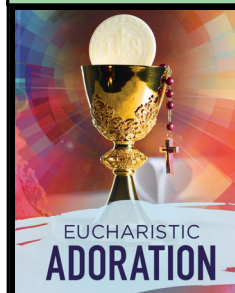
St. Bernard - Barb Knorr.....952-484-9628

#### Anointing of the Sick

Call the parish office at any time.

**Readings for the week of June 16, 2024**  
**Sunday:** Ez 17:22-24/Ps 92:2-3, 13-14, 15-16 (see 2a)/2 Cor 5:6-10/Mk 4:26-34 **Monday:** 1 Kgs 21:1-16/Ps 5:2-3ab, 4b-6a, 6b-7/Mt 5:38-42 **Tuesday:** 1 Kgs 21:17-29/Ps 51:3-4, 5-6ab, 11 and 16/Mt 5:43-48 **Wednesday:** 2 Kgs 2:1, 6-14/Ps 31:20, 21, 24/Mt 6:1-6, 16-18 **Thursday:** Sir 48:1-14/Ps 97:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7/Mt 6:7-15 **Friday:** 2 Kgs 11:1-4, 9-18, 20/Ps 132:11, 12, 13-14, 17-18/Mt 6:19-23 **Saturday:** 2 Chr 24:17-25/Ps 89:4-5, 29-30, 31-32, 33-34/Mt 6:24-34 **Next Sunday:** Jb 38:1, 8-11/Ps 107:23-24, 25-26, 28-29, 30-31 (1b)/2 Cor 5:14-17/Mk 4:35-41

**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 brought to the Parish office at St. Bernard or Ascension.  
**These are due Thursday of the weekend needed.**



### Eucharistic Adoration Ascension

Every Tuesday  
3:00 pm until 6:00 pm

### St. Bernard

Every Wednesday  
2:00 until 6:00 pm

### June 16, 2024

#### 11<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time



My mother and father fell in love with each other rather quickly. It was only a span of two months between their first meeting and quiet betrothal. They waited for a significant period of time before going public with the happy news. It simply wasn't time. Love's strength and speed can sprout scandal in public. Until the big reveal, they gave the outside world only little hints, gestures, and riddles.

Something like this — but even more wonderful — is at play when Mark says of Jesus, “**he did not speak to them without a parable, but to his disciples in private he explained everything.**” Jesus is the long-awaited messiah-king, but his identity as the Lord and Son of God is so new, surprising, and scandalous to human ears that the big reveal would have to wait. Thus, his parables are riddles, meant to conceal more than reveal. Even the disciples — who hear things explained directly — barely grasp what he is up to. It's only at the cross that Jesus' love for Israel and the world is explicitly revealed. Until then, much stays hidden and comes in riddles.

So it goes with us, too. I wonder at times why doesn't the Lord just speak to us directly in prayer about what we should do, or how to fix our problems. Or why doesn't he reveal himself directly to powerful leaders who are slow to act? Why does he allow life so often to be confounding, contradictory, and crazy? Because it simply isn't time yet. One glorious day, it will be. Until then, he teaches us in riddles, and only sometimes explains them. — *Father John Muir* ©LPi