

CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

323 Reform St. N.
NYA, MN. 55368

PASTOR

Fr. Abraham Kochupurackal CMI
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ST. BERNARD CHURCH

212 Church Street E.
Cologne, MN. 55322

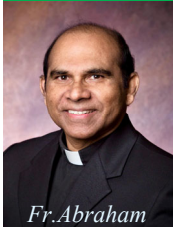


Website: AscensionNYA.org
Parish Office Hours:
Mon.—Wed & Fri. 9am—2pm
Office Phone: 952-467-3351
Business Administrator:
Virginia Hanson ...952-777-0110
busadmin@ascensionnya.org
Safe Environment Coordinator:
Sarah Smith...952-777-0111
bookkeeper@ascensionnya.org

Website: St-Bernard-Cologne.org
Paris Office Hours:
Tues 10am-2pm & Fri. 9am—12pm
Office Phone: 952-466-2031
Business Administrator:
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Fourteenth Sunday In Ordinary Time – July 06 & 07, 2024



Fr. Abraham

Be Ready to Face Rejection for Gospel Values

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Being rejected is a painful experience. Perhaps it hurts the most when we are rejected by those who have known us, especially our family and friends. Jesus encountered rejection when he returned to his home town, Nazareth. (Mark 6:1-6). Jesus has come home after doing some amazing things, healing, calming the storm, casting out demons, even raising a little girl to life. When he taught in the synagogue on a Sabbath his listeners were amazed at the wisdom with which he speaks. However, lack of faith prevents the people from believing Jesus as the Messiah. The people said to one another, “Is he not the carpenter, the son of Mary.” And yet Jesus demonstrated God’s strength in the very midst of denial and rejection unto Calvary.

If people rejected Jesus in his lifetime, we shouldn’t be surprised if people reject us, when we stand for his teachings and values, in our lifetime. Jesus said, “No disciple is greater than his teacher, no slave is greater than his master” (Mt 10:24). We shouldn’t be surprised if people reject us because we speak out in defense of human right and justice. We shouldn’t be surprised if people reject us because we oppose destroying innocent life through abortion. Furthermore, we shouldn’t even be surprised if some times our own families reject us. Jesus said this would happen (Lk.12: 53) if anyone loves Jesus and his values more than anything in this world. It is strange that messages urging truth, love, justice, freedom and peace met with such opposition, hostility, and violence.

When rejection occurs, it’s easy for the rejected one to lose heart. It is easy to stop loving. It is easy to grow angry. It is easy to become bitter and resentful. At the moments of weakness and rejection we must recall that the joy of life depends not so much on what we do or others do to us, but on what God does through us. He has in himself all power to protect us, all wisdom to direct us, all mercy to save us and all happiness to crown us.

In doing God’s work, we cannot escape insults and rejection. No matter how good we are, we must have enemies, criticsers and persecutors. It is something each of us needs to remember. Every one of us, simply because of our baptism, has been called to be a messenger. We have all been called to spread the message of the Gospel in our families, in our working places, among our friends and in our society. When we experience rejection, we can know that we have a Savior who knows what is like to be rejected.

Rosary Intention: “For the intentions and needs of our priests.”

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. BRARDS' PARISHES

<i>Monday</i>	July. 8		No Mass:
<i>Tuesday</i>	July. 9	ASC. ASC. ASC.	Adoration: 3pm-6pm Confession: 5:45-6:05pm Mass: 6:15pm
<i>Wednesday</i>	July. 10	ST. B. ST. B. ST. B.	Confession: 7:30-7:50am Mass: 8:00am Adoration: 2:00-6:00pm
<i>Thursday</i>	July. 11	ST. B. ASC.	Mass: 8:00am Prayers for Our Children: 5:00-6:00pm
<i>Friday</i>	July. 12	ASC.	Mass: 8:00am
<i>Saturday</i>	July. 13	ASC. ASC.	Confession: 4:30-4:50pm Mass: 5:00pm
<i>Sunday</i>	July. 14	ASC. ST. B.	Mass: 8:00am Mass: 10:00am

What is going on in our Parishes and in the Community

The Cologne Lions Club will be hosting a Pancake Breakfast in the St. Bernard School Cafeteria to benefit the Bountiful Basket Food Shelf and to celebrate their one-year anniversary in Cologne! Come out on Saturday July 13th, from 8:00am-12:00pm! Your donation of 5 non-perishable food items and/or cash donation supports filling the shelves with food for community.

Thank you for your generous support in last week's Peter's Pence Collection! Our contributions will join those from our brothers and sisters worldwide to help Pope Francis in his ministry to the Universal Church, including relief to people in need and support for the Holy See. If you missed the collection, it is not too late to give. Visit www.usccb.org/peters-pence or use one of the envelopes in the pews. Thank you for your generous support

"The love of husband and wife is the force that welds society together." - St. John Chrysostom Grow deeper in that love! **A Marriage Encounter Weekend** allows a husband and wife to get away together and focus on each other. The next available Weekend is Aug 17-18, 2024 in Oakdale, MN. Early registration is highly recommended. For more information visit our website at: twincitieswwme.org or contact Brent & Tracy at applications@twincitieswwme.org <<mailto:wmandbethnickles@hotmail.com>> or 612-234-7440.

Your Prayers are requested for the repose of the soul of **Donna Meuleners**, who passed away on Tuesday, June 25th. Donna's funeral was on Wednesday, July 3rd. 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 peace and comfort for Donna's family.

Church of Ascension

Ascension Weekly Collection Report

Totals as of 6/23/2024

Weekly Operating Budget:	\$ 2,986.79
Weekly Envelopes/Plate:	2,015.00
Weekly E-Giving:	1,835.00
Collections Budget YTD:	158,299.87
Actual Collection YTD:	164,734.15
Total Collected Over (Under) YTD:	6,434.28
Capital Improvement Offering:	230.00
Capital Improvement-E-Giving:	110.00
Capital Improvement YTD:	17,618.00

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

Ascension is still in desperate need of Adoration openers and weekday Mass readers. Please prayerfully consider volunteering for one of these ministries. Please email the Parish Office at busadmin@ascensionnva.org if you are interested.

Church of St. Bernard

St. Bernard Stewardship of Treasure

Budget for week	2,913.47
Contributions 06-19 through 06-25-2024	3,093.20
Total Actual Collection YTD	206,287.48
Total Actual Collection Over (Under) Budget	28,200.95
Forward in Faith	
Envelope Income	150.00
Electronic Donations	100.00
Forward in Faith Total	250.00
Forward in Faith YTD	23,623.52

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,

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 or 952-807-3522

Please join us on **Wednesday, July 17, 2024 at 06:30 p.m.** at **Bountiful Basket in Cologne** for a planning meeting to make homemade cards for community members that use Bountiful Basket Food Shelf in Cologne. We are looking for members to help design, cut, make and package the greeting cards. All ages and abilities are welcome. The first meeting will be a planning meeting but there will be cards to put together as an example. Not able to attend, please email Paula at stephenspmt@gmail.com or call 952-797-4116. Donations will be accepted in the future such as card stock, adhesive, envelopes, baggies, cash to purchase items or stamps.

Mass Ministry Schedule—July 13–14

Mass Ministry	Ascension Sat. 5:00 pm	Ascension Sun. 8:00 am	St. Bernard Sun. 10:00 am
Sacristan	Rita Fahey	Brian Willems	Doris Mielke
Servers	Volunteers	Gabriel Michels & Jayden Michels	Lily Starkey & Cohen Starkey
Reader	Colleen Donnay	Cheryl Coyle	Patricia Quinn
Eucharistic Ministers	Cathleen Williams (H); Jim Mulville (C) Pat Johnson (C)	Kathy Kloempken (H); Steve Coyle (C) Lisa Whitaker	Meghan Stusynski
Ushers	Dave Donnay & Steve Schrupp	Don Whitaker & Curt Wilson	Tom Dahl & Vern Elke
Greeters	Jeremy & Julie Gesinger	Volunteer	Monica Kooiman
Homebound Ministers	N/A	Rich & Sue Tellers	

Mass Times Intentions

Day	Date	Location	Intention
Monday	July 8		No Mass
Tuesday	July 9 6:15 pm	Ascension	Gladys Donnay †
Wednesday	July 10 8:00 am	St. Bernard	Elvira Winkler †
Thursday	July 11 8:00 am	St. Bernard	Allan Bongard †
Friday	July 12 8:00 am	Ascension	For Pope Francis
Saturday	July 13 5:00 pm	Ascension	Al & Rosella Vanderlinde ††
Sunday	July 14 8:00 am	Ascension	Elroy and Myrtle Buesgens ††
Sunday	July 14 10:00 am	St. Bernard	Dale Schmitz †

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.

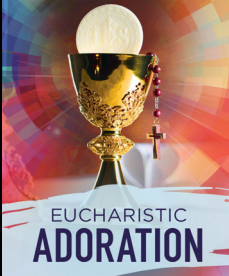
Sacrament of Reconciliation
Ascension: Tues. 5:45pm - 6:05pm
St. Bernard: Wed: 7:30am-7:50am
Saturday: 4:30pm—4:50pm
at parish hosting the Mass
By appointment with Father- Call 952-856-1050

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 July 7, 2024
Sunday: Ez 2:2-5/Ps 123:1-2, 2, 3-4 (2cd)/2 Cor 12:7-10/Mk 6:1-6a Monday: Hos 2:16, 17c-18, 21-22/Ps 145:2-3, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9/Mt 9:18-26 Tuesday: Hos 8:4-7, 11-13/Ps 115:3-4, 5-6, 7ab-8, 9-10/Mt 9:32-38 Wednesday: Hos 10:1-3, 7-8, 12/Ps 105:2-3, 4-5, 6-7/Mt 10:1-7 Thursday: Hos 11:1-4, 8e-9/Ps 80:2ac and 3b, 15-16/Mt 10:7-15 Friday: Hos 14:2-10/Ps 51:3-4, 8-9, 12-13, 14 and 17/Mt 10:16-23 Saturday: Is 6:1-8/Ps 93:1ab, 1cd-2, 5/Mt 10:24-33 Next Sunday: Am 7:12-15/Ps 85:9-10, 11-12, 13-14 (8)/Eph 1:3-14 or 1:3-10/Mk 6:7-13

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 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



July 7, 2024 14th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Recently I watched a bunch of YouTube videos on how to optimize willpower in the face of weakness. The message was: do not accept your weakness. Crush it. Dominate it. In one video, however, at the end of a rant by a willpower coach, the muscular stoic admitted, “You’ll never actually get what you want, no matter how hard you try.” Amazingly, he admitted that willpower alone is not sufficient for us weak-willed humans.

What does God want us to do with our weaknesses, if crushing them with willpower won’t work? For example, what should I do with my tendency to arrogance and self-isolation? Or my procrastination? Or my intellectual and physical limitations? Or my selfishness?

The counter-intuitive answer is clear in this week’s words from St Paul, “**I will rather boast most gladly of my weaknesses in order that the power of Christ may dwell in me** (2 Cor. 12:9).” Boast of our weaknesses? Paul isn’t promoting weak-mindedness or laziness. Rather, he perceives that Jesus loves us not despite our weaknesses but because of them. Boasting of our weakness means claiming human will is not all we have. It means turning to God whenever we feel weak, which—let’s face it—is almost all the time. When we do, we learn to love our weaknesses, because it’s there that we meet the strength of Christ. This week, I challenge us to find ways to boast not in willpower but in weakness.

— Father John Muir

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