

CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

323 Reform St. N.
NYA, MN. 55368

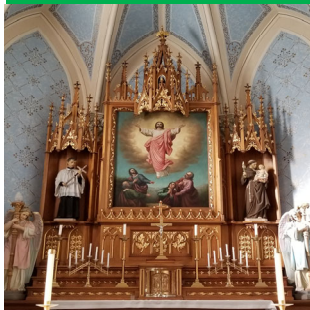
PASTOR

Fr. Abraham Kochupurackal CMI

OFFICE952-856-1050
frabraham@st-bernard-cologne.org

ST. BERNARD CHURCH

212 Church Street E.
Cologne, MN. 55322



Website: www.ascensionstbernardparishes.org

Parish Office Hours:

Mon., Wed., & Fri. 10am-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

Parish Office Hours:

Tues 10am-2pm & Fri. 8:30am-2pm

Office Phone: 952-466-2031

Business Administrator:

Virginia Hanson952-856-1051

busadmin@st-bernard-cologne.org

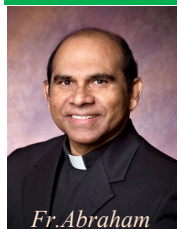
Safe Environment Coordinator:

Sarah Smith...952-856-1052

bookkeeper@st-bernard-cologne.org



Eighteenth Sunday In Ordinary Time – August 02 & 03, 2025



Spiritual Bankruptcy and Material Richness

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

The Book of Ecclesiastes (1:2; 2:21-23) gives the great saying of Biblical wisdom, “*Vanity of vanities! All things are vanity!*” The passage reminds us that both the greedy accumulation of goods and the selfish hoarding of them are useless because when the hoarder dies he goes to eternity empty-handed.

By saying the Parable of the Rich man (Lk 12:13-21), Jesus warns us against all types of greed, because greed diverts our life away from God and away from others. Greed directs all our energy and attention to fulfilling the self, making our wealth the basis of our security. The rich man reasoned that one day he would finally have everything stored up and under control, and at that point he would be able to relax and enjoy himself.

Why does Jesus call the Rich Man a “Fool”? *The rich man trusted in wealth instead of God.* He assumed material abundance would guarantee him life. Jesus warns us against the temptation to place our dependence upon material things, for “one’s life does not consist of possessions.” ***He failed to realize that he was a steward not the owner.*** He neglected to acknowledge that his success was a divine gift. Instead, he treated his possessions as solely the fruit of his own labor. ***He lived in selfish isolation.*** He never saw beyond himself. He thinks only of himself - eating, drinking and having a good time. Instead of thanking God and sharing with the hungry, he keeps everything for himself. The meaning of life cannot be found in hoarding wealth and possessions, but in sharing these with the needy and the poor. ***He presumed a future he did not own.*** He never saw beyond this world. He never thought of the reality that we do not have permanent home in this world.

Thus, while planning to build new barns and warehouses to store his wealth, he heard the words all human beings will hear one day from their Creator: “This night your life will be demanded of you; and the things you have prepared, to whom they will belong?” He was spiritually bankrupt, though materially rich. His heart was empty of eternal investment. He stored treasures for himself but failed to become “rich toward God”

Through this parable, Jesus tells us that what counts when we die is not the wealth we acquired during life but the person we become in the process of living. In other words, how do we make use of the material wealth in order to achieve eternal life? True richness is not measured in barns or bank accounts, but in a heart aligned with God’s purposes: thankful, generous, and aware of eternity. We are stewards, our possessions are merely gift of God and that we are accountable for their use. We must be generous in sharing our time, our treasure, and our talents. True meaning comes not from endless toil or accumulation, but from honoring God, enjoying life’s simple gifts, and living with purpose beyond this world.

Rosary Intention: For all the sick, suffering, dying, home bound and their caregivers

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	Aug. 4		No Mass:
Tuesday	Aug. 5	ASC.	Adoration: 3pm-6pm
		ASC.	Confession: 5:45-6:05pm
		ASC.	Mass: 6:15pm
Wednesday	Aug. 6	ST. B.	Confession: 7:30-7:50am
		ST. B.	Mass: 8:00am
		ST. B.	Adoration: 2:00am-6:00pm
Thursday	Aug. 7	ST. B.	Mass: 8:00am
Friday	Aug. 8	ASC.	Mass: 8:00am
Saturday	Aug. 9	ASC.	Confession: 4:30pm-4:50pm
		ASC.	Mass: 5:00pm
Sunday	Aug. 10	ASC.	Mass: 8:00am
		ST. B.	Mass: 10:00am

What is going on in our Parishes
and in the Community

Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary A Holy Day of Obligation.

August 14—Anticipated Mass 6:15pm at St. Bernard

August 15—8:00am Mass at Ascension

Archdiocesan Passport Adventure

We are 175 years strong

Catholics around the world are marking 2025 as a Year of Jubilee, while at the same time we as an Archdiocese celebrate 175 years since our founding on July 19, 1850.

Archbishop Hebda invites you to become an Archdiocesan Jubilee Pilgrim:

- This summer through October 12, visit seven or more parishes.
- Include our Jubilee co-cathedrals: the Cathedral of Saint Paul and the Basilica of Saint Mary, and look for the Jubilee Cross in each of them.
- Visit one of our oldest, newest and/or newly renovated churches.
- Participate in a Mass that expands your liturgical experience.
- Share your adventures with us on social media: #175passport and tag us @ArchdioceseSPM
- Join us October 12 for Mass + Ice Cream Social on the Cathedral of Saint Paul Lawn. Download or print your passport here and visit archspm.org/passport for information!

Holy Trinity School- Winsted

Expanded Preschool options for fall. Accepting ages 33 months to 5 years old. Full Day options: 2,3 or 5 days a week. Programming that builds confidence, friendships and love of God and one another. Kindergarten readiness on a shared and safe PK-12 campus. Affordable early education. **Limited spots for this fall!** Call for a tour 320-485-2182 or find out more online www.winstedholyltrinity.org/preschool.

Church of Ascension

Ascension Weekly Collection Report

Totals as of 07/20/2025

Weekly Operating Budget:	\$ 3,182.70
Weekly Envelopes/Plate:	1,703.00
Weekly E-Giving:	1,745.00
Collections Budget YTD:	9,548.10
Actual Collection YTD:	\$ 13,137.00
Total Collected Over (Under) YTD:	3,588.90
Capital Improvement Offering:	50.00
Capital Improvement-E-Giving:	250.00
Capital Improvement YTD:	\$ 605.00



Interested in signing up for E-Giving or want to make a one time donation? Scan here to donate to the Church of the Ascension. Thank you for your generosity!

Save the Date! Our Annual Joint Parish Picnic is September 13 at Legion Pool Park in Norwood. We are looking for a few more parishioners to assist with planning and staffing the event. Please see Cheryl Coyle or contact the office if you are able to help!

Church of St. Bernard

St. Bernard Stewardship of Treasure

Budget for week	3,095.25
Contributions 07-16 through 07-22-2025	3,556.00
Total Actual Collection YTD	8,849.00
Total Actual Collection Over (Under) Budget	(436.75)
Forward in Faith	
Envelope Income	559.00
Electronic Donations	151.00
Forward in Faith Total	710.00
Forward in Faith YTD	1,078.00



Interested in signing up for E-Giving or want to make a one time donation? Scan here to donate to the Church of St. Bernard. Thank you for your generosity!

A HUGE THANK YOU to Al Steinhagen Enterprises, Al and his crew moved the piano from the basement of the narthex to the Choir loft. And the keyboard to the narthex basement at NO CHARGE. Remember Al and crew with a prayer and a THANK YOU when you see them.

Your Prayers are requested for the repose of the soul of **Marilyn Borka**, mother of Cheryl Rademacher, who passed away on Monday, July 21st. Her funeral was on Monday, July 28th. May her soul and all the souls of the faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in peace. Also pray for peace and comfort for her family.

Faith Formation Update:

Registration for the 2025-26 Faith Formation Year is open! You can register by scanning the QR Code! We look forward to welcoming everyone back in September!



Mass Ministry Schedule—August 09, 10, 14& 15

Mass Ministry	Ascension Sat. 5:00pm	Ascension Sun. 8:00 am.	St. Bernard Sun. 10:00am	St. Bernard Thurs. 6:15pm	Ascension Fri. 8:00am
Sacristan	Ann Dettmann	Kathy Kloempken	Pam Kunkel	Patricia Quinn	Sherry Witte
Servers	Volunteers	Volunteers	Marshall Panning & Isaac Schrupp	Evelynn McInnis & Elijah McInnis	Volunteers
Reader	Cheryl Coyle	Colleen Donnay	Rob Wickenhauser	Julie Kleindl	Julie Gesinger
EMHC	Pat Johnson (H); Cathleen Williams (C) Jean Schmitz (C)	Steve Lemmer (H); Steve Helget (C); Irene Yaeck (C)	Monica Kooiman	Mary Meuwissen	Jean Schmitz
Ushers	Tim George & Rick Ulrich	Eugene Dvorak & Steve Schrupp	Leonard Hoen Jr. & Bob Symanitz	Tom Dahl & Andy Kleindl	Eugene Dvorak & Volunteer
Greeters	Steve Coyle	Janet Fahey	Judy Glander	Volunteer	Volunteer
Homebound Ministers	N/A	G A Dave & Colleen Donnay G B Steve Helget & Steve Lemmer	N/A	N/A	N/A

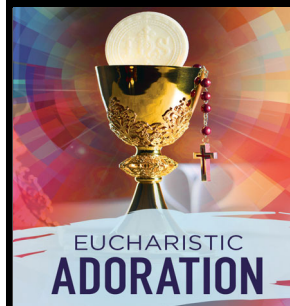
Mass Times Intentions

Monday	Aug. 04		No Mass
Tuesday	Aug. 05 6:15 pm	Ascension	Carol Pawelk †
Wednesday	Aug. 06 8:00 am	St. Bernard	Merlyn & Margaret Eiden †† & Living & Deceased members of the Eiden Family
Thursday	Aug. 07 8:00 am	St. Bernard	Living & Deceased members of the Donna Meuleners Family
Friday	Aug. 08 8:00 am	Ascension	Pope Leo XIV
Saturday	Aug. 09 5:00pm	St. Bernard	Melissa and Mark Hortman ††
Sunday	Aug. 10 8:00 am	Ascension	George and Eleanore Effertz ††
Sunday	Aug. 10 10:00 am	St. Bernard	Melvin Renne † & All Palrshioners

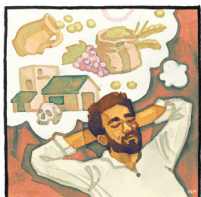
Readings for the week of Aug. 03, 2025 Sunday: Eccl 1:2; 2:21-23/Ps 90:3-4, 5-6, 12-13, 14, 17 (1)/Col 3:1-5, 9-11/Lk 12:13-21 **Monday:** Nm 11:4b-15/Ps 81:12-13, 14-15, 16-17/Mt 14:13-21 **Tuesday:** Nm 12:1-13/Ps 51:3-4, 5-6ab, 6cd-7, 12-13/Mt 14:22-36 or Mt 15:1-2, 10-14 **Wednesday:** Dn 7:9-10, 13-14/Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 9/2 Pt 1:16-19/Lk 9:28b-36 **Thursday:** Nm 20:1-13/Ps 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9/Mt 16:13-23 **Friday:** Dt 4:32-40/Ps 77:12-13, 14-15, 16 and 21/Mt 16:24-28 **Saturday:** Dt 6:4-13/Ps 18:2-3a, 3bc-4, 47 and 51/Mt 17:14-20 **Next Sunday:** Wis 18:6-9/Ps 33:1, 12, 18-19, 20-22 (12b)/Heb 11:1-2, 8-19/Lk 12:32-48

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@ascensionnva.org.
All inserts and weekend Mass announce-
ments 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.....952-484-96281
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



August 3, 2025 18th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Recent studies suggest that millennials will be the first generation in America to be worse off than their parents in terms of financial earnings and job status. Many lament this. I propose that this week's Gospel provides a hopeful way to see the trend as good news.

The Lord Jesus says, **“Take care to guard against greed, for though one may be rich, one's life does not consist in possessions” (Luke 12:15).** Greed damages us with the deception that we are what we possess. But to Jesus, this is simply not true. What makes us happy is who we are, who we become.

Does not the expectation that every generation should do better than their parents subtly mask the poison of greed? A similar attitude is mirrored in the man who demands that Jesus justly arrange his share of the family inheritance. Despite the injustice, Jesus will not play that game. In fact, he seems to prefer that the man have less than his parents. What good would having more be to this man if he becomes enslaved and miserable by greed? What good would it be for us to have more if it means we become much less?

In allowing the man to have less, Jesus opens a space for him to become more: a man free to love. In that much more meaningful sense, perhaps he was better off than his parents. Maybe the millennials will be, too. — *Father John Muir* ©LPi