

CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

323 Reform St. N.
NYA, MN. 55368

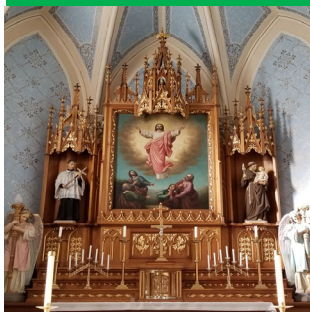
PASTOR

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

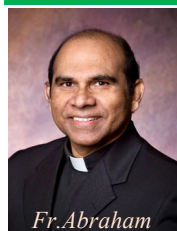
Safe Environment Coordinator:

Sarah Smith...952-856-1052

bookkeeper@st-bernard-cologne.org



Fourteenth Sunday In Ordinary Time – July 05 & 06, 2025



Our Homes: the First and the Most Essential Mission Fields

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

Jesus sent out seventy-two disciples “to every town and place he intended to visit,” (Luke 10:1–9). The mission of these disciples was to let the local communities know that Jesus and the Apostles were on their way. Jesus gave them some radical instructions: to “carry no money bag, no sack, and no sandals.”

These instructions highlight a profound spiritual principle that discipleship requires complete trust in divine providence and detachment from material security. Their detachment from material goods would enable them to uphold the absolute priority of preaching the Good News and trusting on the providence of God. Carrying excess baggage in our lives hinders us from doing the work of the disciples and trusting in the care of the heavenly Father.

Just as Jesus set out the seventy-two missionaries, he also gives each one of us a mission to carry out. There were just a handful of followers in Jesus’ day to preach the good news, but today there are over 2.7 billion Christians who accept Jesus as “Lord” and “Savior” in a world of 8.2 billion people. Announcing the Good News of the Kingdom of God is a task for all Christians. St. Paul, in his letter to the Galatians (6:14–18), reminds us that baptism transforms us into a “new creation.” This transformation is not merely symbolic but calls for a life of ongoing conversion and self-giving service. Through our everyday actions, we are to reflect the love, mercy, and truth of Christ. This is the essence of missionary discipleship: bearing witness not just through words but through a lifestyle that reveals the values of the Kingdom of God.

We may not be missionaries sent to foreign towns, but each of us is called to be a missionary disciple in the places we live. Our homes are the first and the most essential mission fields. It is in the context of family that Christian values can take deep root. Spouses are called to love and respect one another, modeling Christ’s sacrificial love. Children are to be raised in faith, learning the importance of prayer, obedience, and service. Christian families should be sanctuaries of forgiveness, simplicity, generosity, and peace. When we live the Gospel authentically at home, it radiates outward into the wider community.

To be effective missionary disciples, we must continually let go of the “excess baggage” in our lives like self-reliance, anxiety, pride, and unforgiveness. In their place, we are invited to carry with us the spiritual gifts of faith, love, humility, service, and peace. These are the tools of our mission and the signs that the Kingdom of God is truly among us.

In conclusion, Jesus’ sending of the seventy-two disciples is a timeless reminder that the work of evangelization is not optional for Christians, it is essential. Each of us has a mission field, and each of us is called to proclaim the Good News through our lives. By living with radical trust in God and embodying Christ’s love in our daily relationships, we help build the Kingdom of God on earth.

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. BERNARDS' PARISHES

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

What is going on in our Parishes
and in the Community

Mission Appeal- July 12 & 13—Fr. Duncan Mwangangi of the Diocese of Kitui, Kenya, will be celebrating Masses at Ascension and St. Bernard parishes the weekend of July 12/13, in support of the Kitui Partnership. The Kitui Partnership is a global solidarity partnership between our Archdiocese and the Diocese of Kitui, Kenya, begun in 2004 in recognition of our shared faith in the Eucharist. The Diocese of Kitui covers an arid and semi-arid rural region that often battles drought and famine, and we are hoping to raise \$20,000 to help fund increased access to clean water, sanitation improvement, and education on best hygiene practices. Funds raised in excess of this amount will go to support the general and administrative work of the partnership. Please cordially welcome Fr. Duncan to our parishes, generously support the Kitui Partnership. Thank you in advance for your generosity.

We are looking for volunteers to take Fr. Duncan to dinner on Friday July 11th and after Mass at Ascension on Saturday July 12th. We are also looking for a volunteer to drive him to St. Bernard after the 8am Mass on Sunday July 13th, and back to Ascension after the 10am Mass. Please contact the Parish Office if you would like to volunteer. Thank you!

Applications are being accepted for the **Catechetical Institute's two-year Pillars Programs** beginning this fall. There will be a live-stream at Our Lady of the Prairie in Belle Plaine, Monday evenings from 7-9pm. See saintpaulseminary.org/CI for more information or scan the QR code on the flyer in the back of church at Ascension and on the Kiosk at St. Bernard.

His Name Hallowed Outdoor Summer Concert
Thursday, July 10, 5-10 p.m., Holy Family High School, Victoria. Join for a night of praise and hope, celebrating faith, friends, and families. Featuring Catholic artists Seph Schlueter and Aly Aleigha. This night is for all ages! Get tickets at eventbrite.com/e/his-name-hallowed-tickets.

Church of Ascension

Ascension Weekly Collection Report Totals as of 06/22/2025

Weekly Operating Budget:	\$ 3,101.92
Weekly Envelopes/Plate:	807.00
Weekly E-Giving:	1,570.00
Collections Budget YTD:	158,197.92
Actual Collection YTD:	\$ 166,102.10
Total Collected Over (Under) YTD:	7,904.18
Capital Improvement Offering:	180.00
Capital Improvement-E-Giving:	250.00
Capital Improvement YTD:	\$ 12,605.00



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!

CATHOLIC TRIVIA – JUST FOR FUN ©LPi

Question: Which Old Testament prophet foretold the Virgin Mary and her conception of Jesus?

Answer: The Prophet Isaiah.

Church of St. Bernard

St. Bernard Stewardship of Treasure

Budget for week	3,121.10
Contributions 06-18 through 6-24-2025	3,134.00
Total Actual Collection YTD	187,826.50
Total Actual Collection Over (Under) Budget	12,575.87
Forward in Faith	
Envelope Income	104.00
Electronic Donations	51.00
Forward in Faith Total	155.00
Forward in Faith YTD	38,950.96



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!

GLAD DAYS--

We will have the St Bernard Booth from Friday--Sunday, Dates July 25, 26, & 27. The Ice Cream Sundae and Bake Sale/Garden Produce will be back! We have three ways to offer your support--donate your tastiest baked goods, work a two hour shift, or come and support our booth.

Our location will be on the west side of the building (asphalt in front of the mural) that has the bathrooms. This event is sponsored by the St Bernard Catholic United group. The booth benefits our faith formation program. Contact: Julie Kleindl 952-807-3522

Word of Life --“O God our Creator... we ask you to bless us in our vigilance for the gift of religious liberty. Give us the strength of mind and heart to readily defend our freedoms when they are threatened; give us courage in making our voices heard on behalf of the rights of your Church and the freedom of conscience of all people of faith.”

USCCB, [“Prayer for the Protection of Religious Liberty”](#)

Mass Ministry Schedule—July 12 & 13

Mass Ministry	Ascension Sat. 5:00 pm	Ascension Sun. 8:00 am	St. Bernard Sun. 10:00 am
Sacristan	Rita Fahey	Kathy Kloempken	Pam Kunkel
Servers	Jack Lano	Jayden Michels & Kendra Michels	Lily Starkey & Cohen Starkey
Reader	Julie Gesinger	Brian Willems	Helen Nicklaus
EMHC	Curt Wilson (H); Cathleen Williams (C) Jean Schmitz (C)	Lisa Whitaker (H); Pat Johnson (C); Steve Helget (C)	Meghan Stusynski
Ushers	Steve Schrupp & Rick Ulrich	Tom Lano & Volunteer	Dick Amst & Bob Symanitz
Greeters	Sue Schultz	Volunteer	Casey Jones
Homebound Ministers	N/A	Grp A: Dave & Ann Dettmann Grp B: Dave & Colleen Donnay	N/A

Mass Times Intentions

Monday	July 7		No Mass
Tuesday	July 8 6:15 pm	Ascension	Elroy Buesgens †
Wednesday	July 9 8:00 am	St. Bernard	Living & Deceased members of the Donna Meuleners Family
Thursday	July 10 8:00 am	St. Bernard	Merlyn & Margaret Eiden & Living & Deceased members of the Eiden Family
Friday	July 11 8:00 am	Ascension	Mass of Reparation
Saturday	July 12 5:00pm	Ascension	Living & Deceased members of the Donna Meuleners Family
Sunday	July 13 8:00 am	Ascension	Jeanne C. Kreger †
Sunday	July 13 10:00 am	St. Bernard	Adrian Wickenhauser † And 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.....952-484-96281

Anointing of the Sick

Call the parish office at any time.

Readings for the week of July 06, 2025

Sunday: Is 66:10-14c/Ps 66:1-3, 4-5, 6-7, 16, 20 (1)/ Gal 6:14-18/Lk 10:1-9 **Monday:** Gn 28:10-22a/Ps 91:1-2, 3-4, 14-15ab/Mt 9:18-26 **Tuesday:** Gn 32:23-33/Ps 17:1b, 2-3, 6-7ab, 8b and 15/Mt 9:32-38 **Wednesday:** Gn 41:55-57; 42:5-7a, 17-24a/Ps 33:2-3, 10-11, 18-19/Mt 10:1-7 **Thursday:** Gn 44:18-21, 23b-29; 45:1-5/Ps 105:16-17, 18-19, 20-21/Mt 10:7-15 **Friday:** Gn 46:1-7, 28-30/Ps 37:3-4, 18-19, 27-28, 39-40/Mt 10:16-23 **Saturday:** Gn 49:29-32; 50:15-26a/Ps 105:1-2, 3-4, 6-7/Mt 10:24-33 **Next Sunday:** Dt 30:10-14/Ps 69:14, 17, 30-31, 33-34, 36, 37 (see 33)/Col 1:15-20/Lk 10:25-37

Bulletin copy is due by
Thursdays @ NOON

for the bulletin
two weekends out;

St. Bernard copy must be emailed to:

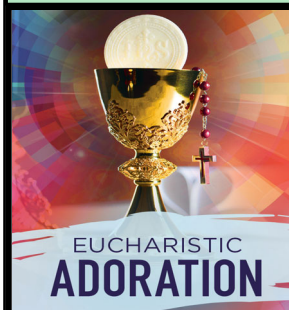
bulletin@st-bernard-cologne.org and

pquinn55322@hotmail.com

Ascension copy must be emailed to:

busadmin@ascensionnyny.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.



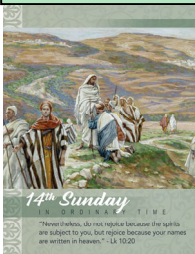
Eucharistic Adoration

Ascension

Every Tuesday
3:00 pm until 6:00 pm

St. Bernard

Every Wednesday
2:00 until 6:00 pm



July 6, 2025 14th Sunday in Ordinary Time

In the days after the awful 2020 killing of George Floyd, a Catholic friend remarked, “Racism is today’s great evil. We should put all our energy into fighting it.” I admired her intuition that the church must stand firmly against evil. Amen, I thought. At the same time, something felt wrong. As months went by, I saw her steadily slide into bitterness and anger. Soon, despondency. She spoke of giving up the fight. Don’t we too wonder how to fight evil without losing our joy or energy?

Jesus’ words this week help. He says, “**Rejoice not that you have power over demons, but that your names are written in heaven**” (Luke 10:20). Notice the asymmetry in where he wants our focus: on the latter, not the former. Should we confidently embrace our God-given power to overcome evil? Absolutely. But even more so, we should emphasize the positive element of our relationship to God. It is tempting but dangerous to define ourselves by what we oppose. It is better to define ourselves by—to rejoice in—what we celebrate: in Jesus, God has written our names in heaven. This sustains our battles.

This week, our marching orders are: fight evil. But more deeply, rejoice that God knows and loves us personally, individually. We allow this joyful knowledge to undergird our fight against the darkness of our day. Then we enjoy long-term stability to be cheerful warriors, who never forget the reason for the contests we are called to fight and win: love.

— Father John Muir ©LPi