

CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

323 Reform St. N.
NYA, MN. 55368

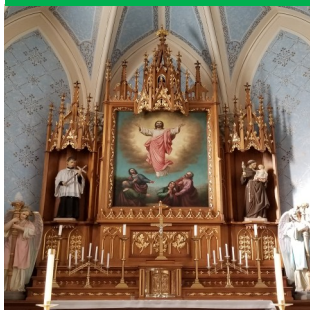
PASTOR

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

Tues 10am-2pm & Fri. 9am—3pm

Office Phone: 952-466-2031

Business Administrator:

Virginia Hanson952-856-1051

busadmin@st-bernard-cologne.org

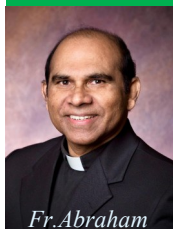
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Twenty-Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time – October 04 & 05, 2025



Fr. Abraham

The Sanctity of Human Life

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

Each October the Catholic Church in the United States celebrates Respect Life Month, and the first Sunday of October is observed as **Respect Life Sunday** since 1972. To respect life means to honor it, to refrain from interfering with life from conception to natural death. By this celebration of “Respect Life Sunday,” we are once again reminded of our responsibility to pray and work to eradicate all kinds of violence against human life and human dignity.

The Bible teaches that life is a gift of God and hence we have to respect it from womb to tomb. Each human life is sacred, because it is created in the image and likeness of God. The right to life is the first and most fundamental principle of human rights. The Respect Life Ministries focuses on issues, like abortion, euthanasia, bioethical issues, capital punishment, end of life, human trafficking, racism, unjust war, that violate the principle of Human Dignity.

This Sunday's first reading from the Book of Habakkuk 1: 2-3; 2:2-4 is the voice of the oppressed, crying for help to the Lord. It could be the cry of the baby torn from her mother's womb by abortion or the quiet groan of the old man or woman as he or she is given an extra shot of morphine to end his or her “inconvenient” life, by a beautiful term, Euthanasia. It could be the fearful gasp of the neglected and abused child, or a woman. It is the voice of a hungry dying person. It is the voice of the voiceless and the cry of the desperate. But the Lord hears the cry of the poor and the oppressed. Since we are the disciples of the Lord, we have to do everything in our power to save the one whose life has been thrown away or taken away. It is the Church's role now to be a prophet in our own country, in our world, reminding all, that all life from conception to natural death should be protected.

“Respect Life” is a broad concept. We cannot address all the issues related to life. But we have to ponder on human life and dignity in our own family and parish contexts. Parents have the special responsibility to protect and respect the life of their children as a gift of God, by providing food, health care, education, and all other things needed. Yet the gift of life cannot be respected fully by providing material things alone. Children must be fed with faith, the Word of God and moral values.

In today's gospel (Luke 17:5-10), the apostles asked Jesus to increase their faith. Faith is a gift of God. It comes to us through Baptism. We have the obligation to nourish this gift. If we neglect our faith, it will surely fade. If we engage in the practice of faith, however, it will grow and be a benefit to us and to all around us. Family prayers, Faith Formation programs, prayerful reading of the Bible, reception of the sacraments, regular participation in the Holy Eucharist, doing charity are the important means to grow in faith and to experience human dignity as children of God. May we hold fast to Christ our hope, from the beginning of life to its very end.

October is the month of devotion to Rosary. Let us pray the Rosary daily for the strength and fortitude to uphold the dignity of human life and of our faith. And, let us ask Our Lady to intercede for our families and parish. For our Parish, October is also **Month of Stewardship.**

Rosary Intention: *‘For a renewed consecration to Mary through our daily recitation of the Rosary’*

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	Oct. 06		No Mass:
Tuesday	Oct. 07	ASC. ASC. ASC.	Adoration: 3pm-6pm Confession: 5:45-6:05pm Mass: 6:15pm
Wednesday	Oct. 08	ST. B. ST. B. ST. B.	Confession: 7:30-7:50am Mass: 8:00am Adoration: 2:00pm-6:00pm
Thursday	Oct. 09	ST. B.	Mass: 8:00am
Friday	Oct. 10	ASC.	Mass: 8:00am
Saturday	Oct. 11	ASC. ASC. ASC.	Confession: 4:30pm-4:50pm Mass: 5:00pm Anointing of the Sick after Mass
Sunday	Oct. 12	ASC. ST. B. ST. B.	Mass: 8:00am Mass: 10:00am Anointing of the Sick after Mass

What is going on in our Parishes and in the Community

We will be having the **Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick** on Saturday Oct 11th after the 5 pm at Ascension and on Sunday Oct 12th after 10 am Mass at St. Bernard.

Catechetical Institute: Three Ages of the Interior Life -Tuesdays, Oct. 14-Nov. 11, 7-9 p.m., Our Lady of Grace, Edina

Expand your Knowledge of the Spiritual Life and Contemplative Prayer! Examine the powerful prayer methods of St. John of the Cross and St. Teresa of Avila in this five-session course, from The Saint Paul Seminary Catechetical Institute. Taught by Deacon Dan Gannon, Taught by Deacon Dan Gannon, director for Ongoing Clergy Formation, Three Ages of the Interior Life will help you understand the essential dispositions needed to progress in holiness and teach you practical ways to enter into the life of grace. Learn more and register at cistudent.com/course-information-carmelite

Every October, the Church in the U.S. celebrates **Respect Life Month**. We reflect on the gift of every human life and how to build a culture that protects life from conception to natural death.

Faith Formation Update:

Thank you to everyone who supported our Faith Formation program and students by participating in the Ascension CUF and Faith Formation Coffee Fundraiser! **Mark your Calendar!** The Elephant Joe's Truck will be at the Ascension parking lot on Sunday Oct. 19th from 7:30-10:30am. 10% of all sales will go back be donated back to Ascension CUF and our Faith Formation program.

Church of Ascension

Ascension Weekly Collection Report Totals as of 09/21/2025

Weekly Operating Budget:	\$ 3,182.70
Weekly Envelopes/Plate:	1,423.00
Weekly E-Giving:	1,700.00
Collections Budget YTD:	38,192.40
Actual Collection YTD:	\$ 37,761.00
Total Collected Over (Under) YTD:	\$ (431.40)
Capital Improvement Offering:	50.00
Capital Improvement-E-Giving:	250.00
Capital Improvement YTD:	\$ 2,430.00



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!

Ascension is in great need of more Alter Servers! All kids 4th Grade and up who are interested in serving at Ascension are welcome to attend New Alter Server training on Wednesday, October 29th, starting at 6:30pm. If that date does not work for you, but you are still interested in serving, contact the Parish Office and we will set up a time for you to come in and learn.

Church of St. Bernard

St. Bernard Stewardship of Treasure

Budget for week	3,080.27
Contributions 09-17 through 09-13-2025	3,053.00
Total Actual Collection YTD	40,992.00
Total Actual Collection Over (Under) Budget	2,933.40
Forward in Faith	
Envelope Income	59.00
Electronic Donations	100.00
Forward in Faith Total	159.00
Forward in Faith YTD	2,554.00



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!

Please join in celebrating the baptism of **Patrick Kristian Francis and Augustine James Francis** after the 10am Mass Today. All are welcome.

Word of Life- "We are called to be signs of hope to all people, especially those whose goodness, value, and dignity are undermined. As members of the Body of Christ, we carry this hope with us as we continue Jesus' mission on earth... We have been entrusted with a message of hope for the woman who finds herself unexpectedly pregnant or for the man diagnosed with a terminal illness. At these challenging moments, we must bring God's presence, witnessing to His love, and inspiring a renewal of hope in those whose hearts are burdened."

USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities

Respect Life Reflection: "Life: Our Sign of Hope"

PUSH—Pray until something happens.

Mass Ministry Schedule October 11 & 12

Mass Ministry	Ascension Sat. 5:00 pm	Ascension Sun. 8:00 am	St. Bernard Sun. 10:00 am
Sacristan	Rita Fahey	Cheryl Coyle	Doris Mielke
Servers	Volunteers	Jessica Duenow & Nathan Duenow	Evelynn McInnis & Elijah Mc Innis
Reader	Cathleen Williams	Cheryl Coyle	Rob Wickenhauser
EMHC	Jean Schmitz (H); Irene Yaeck (C); Pat Johnson (C)	Steve Lemmer (H); Kathy Kloempken (C); Steve Helget (C)	Victoria Arnst
Ushers	Tom Lano & Steve Schrupp	Steve Coyle & Richard Tellers	Dick Arnst & Bob Symanitz.
Greeters	Janet Fahey	Sue Schultz	Monica Kooiman
Homebound Ministers	N/A	Grp A: Steve Lemmer & Curt Wilson Grp B: Tim George & Steve Helget	N/A

Mass Times Intentions

Monday	Oct. 06		No Mass
Tuesday	Oct. 07 6:15 pm	ASC.	Jeanne C. Kreger †
Wednesday	Oct. 08 8:00 am	ST. B.	Souls in Purgatory
Thursday	Oct. 09 8:00 am	ST. B.	Glen, Lorraine, Terry, Jake, & Joe Wickenhauser †††††
Friday	Oct. 10 8:00am	ASC.	For All souls in Purgatory
Saturday	Oct. 11 5:00 pm	ASC.	Ann Nielson †
Sunday	Oct. 12 8:00 am	ASC.	LeRoy E. Brown †
Sunday	Oct. 12 10:00 am	ST. B.	Janette Buesgens † & All Parishioners

Readings for the week of Oct. 5, 2025
Sunday: Hb 1:2-3; 2:2-4/Ps 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9 (8)/2 Tm 1:6-8, 13-14/Lk 17:5-10 **Monday:** Jon 1:1-2:2, 11/Jon 2:3, 4, 5, 8/Lk 10:25-37 **Tuesday:** Jon 3:1-10/Ps 130:1b-2, 3-4ab, 7-8/Lk 10:38-42 **Wednesday:** Jon 4:1-11/Ps 86:3-4, 5-6, 9-10/Lk 11:1-4 **Thursday:** Mal 3:13-20b/Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6/Lk 11:5-13 **Friday:** Jl 1:13-15; 2:1-2/Ps 9:2-3, 6 and 16, 8-9/Lk 11:15-26 **Saturday:** Jl 4:12-21/Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12/Lk 11:27-28 **Next Sunday:** 2 Kgs 5:14-17/Ps 98:1, 2-3, 3-4 (see 2b)/2 Tm 2:8-13/Lk 17:11-19

**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@ascensionnyc.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.

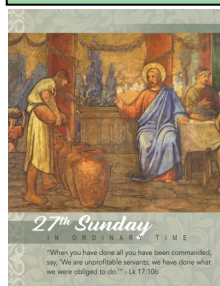
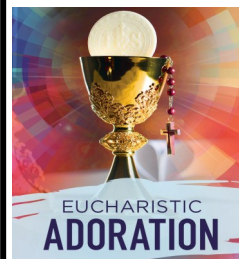
Eucharistic Adoration

Ascension

Every Tuesday
3:00 pm until 6:00 pm

St. Bernard

Every Wednesday
2:00pm until 6:00 pm



October 5, 2025 Twenty-Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

A priest friend of mine received a call from a family whose elderly mother was dying. Within thirty minutes, he was at her bedside, offering the consolation of the sacraments, anointing her with the oil of the sick, and commending her soul to God. She passed not long after, and for months, her family spoke of their deep gratitude for his presence. When I phoned him to commend his faithful ministry, he simply said, “I was just doing my job.”

His words brought to mind Jesus’ teaching this week in Luke 17:10: **“So you also, when you have done everything you were told to do, should say, ‘We are unworthy servants; we have only done our duty.’”** In a

world that often seeks recognition and applause, the Lord invites us into a different mindset — one of humble service. The priest did not see his response as extraordinary; he saw it as a grace to fulfill his vocation.

How tempting it is to seek affirmation for doing what I ought to do! Yet Jesus reminds us that true discipleship is not about grandstanding but about quiet faithfulness. It is enough to have served. It is enough to have loved. It is enough to be grateful that we were given the chance to do our duty in the first place. Whether in priesthood, parenthood, or any vocation, what peace-soaked freedom there is in simply doing what is asked of us. No more, no less. Jesus, that is how you quietly love us.

— Father John Muir

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