

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:

Virginia Hanson ...952-777-0110

busadmin@ascensionnya.org

Tues 10am-2pm & Fri. 9am—2pm

Office Phone: 952-466-2031

Business Administrator:

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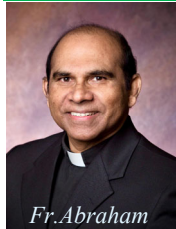
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Twelfth Sunday In Ordinary Time – June 20 & 21, 2026



Fr. Abraham

Do not Be Afraid: Trusting in the Father's Care

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

As we celebrate Father's Day this weekend, the Gospel (Matthew 10:26-33) offers a timely reminder of the loving care of our Heavenly Father. Jesus tells his disciples, "Do not be afraid." He repeats these words three times, knowing that fear can easily take hold of our hearts when we face uncertainty, hardship, or opposition. Yet Jesus reminds us that God's care for us is intimate and personal. Not even a sparrow falls to the ground without the Father's knowledge, and even all the hairs of your head are counted. These beautiful images remind us that we are never forgotten or overlooked. We belong to a Father who knows us intimately and watches over us with constant care.

Fear often tempts us to remain silent about our faith, to avoid difficult conversations, or to blend in with the crowd. Jesus calls us instead to trust in God's providence and to bear witness to him through our words and actions. This witness is not limited to grand gestures. It is found in everyday acts of kindness, honesty, forgiveness, and compassion that reveal Christ's presence in our lives. The Gospel invites us to examine where fear may be holding us back. What would it look like to trust God more fully? How might we speak or act differently if we truly believed that we are precious in his sight?

Father's Day gives us an opportunity to thank God for the fathers, grandfathers, godfathers, and father figures who have reflected something of that divine love in our lives. Through their sacrifices, guidance, protection, and encouragement, they help us glimpse the faithful care of our Heavenly Father. While no earthly father is perfect, many strive each day to love their families with generosity and devotion. At the same time, this day can be difficult for those who have lost a father, experienced a strained relationship, or long for the presence of a father who is no longer here. The Gospel speaks to them as well. Jesus reminds us that God's fatherly love never fails. His care remains constant through every joy and sorrow.

In a world often marked by anxiety and uncertainty, Christ invites us to place our trust in the Father who knows us by name and values us beyond measure. Confident in that love, we can live our faith courageously, witnessing to Christ in our homes, workplaces, and communities.

As we honor fathers this weekend, may we also give thanks for the greatest gift of all: our Heavenly Father, who watches over us with unfailing love and continually says to each of us, "Do not be afraid." **Happy Father's Day.**

Yours in Christ,

Fr. Abraham Kochupurackal CMI

Pastor

Rosary Intention: "For all Fathers, living and deceased."

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	June. 22		No Mass:
Tuesday	June. 23	ASC.	Adoration: 3pm-6pm
		ASC.	Confession: 5:45-6:05pm
		ASC.	Mass: 6:15pm
Wednesday	June. 24	ST. B.	Confession: 7:30am
		ST. B.	Mass: 8:00am
		ST. B.	Adoration: 2pm-6pm
Thursday	June. 25	ST. B.	Mass: 8:00am
Friday	June. 26	ASC.	Mass: 8:00am
Saturday	June. 27	ASC.	Adoration: 4:30pm-5:00pm
		ASC.	Confession: 4:30pm-4:50pm
		ASC.	Mass: 5:00pm
Sunday	June. 28	ASC.	Adoration: 7:30am-8:00am
		ASC.	Mass: 8:00am
		ST. B.	Mass: 10:00am

What is going on in our Parishes and in the Community

We are looking for a Faith Formation Director: Ascension/St. Bernard are currently looking for someone to take over the Faith Formation Program! If anyone is interested in learning more about the position please contact Virginia at 952-467-3351 or email busadmin@ascensionnya.org.

Next weekend we will take up the **Peter's Pence Collection** to support the Universal Church and the work of the Holy See, including the charitable works of Pope Leo XIV. These works benefit our brothers and sisters on the margins of society, including victims of war, oppression, and disasters. Be a sign of hope with your generosity, For more information, visit www.obolodisanpietro.va/en.html.

Seminary Information Night

Wednesday, Aug. 12, 5-8 p.m., Saint John Vianney College Seminary, St. Paul -Catholic junior and senior high school men and their parents are invited to learn more about Saint John Vianney College Seminary. The event, sponsored by the Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis Office of Vocations, will begin with 5 p.m. Mass, followed by dinner, informational program and tour. Find more information at 10000vocations.org/seminary-information-night.

His Name Hallowed- An Outdoor Night of Music & Community This year's event features KTIS hit artist Seph Schlueter, whose song "Counting My Blessings" reached #1 on Christian radio. Seph's original band, Damascus Worship will open the night, and Catholic speaker Jeff Cavins will share an inspiring message. The evening ends with a sunset Adoration time on the football field! Tickets and details at info@hisnamehallowed.org

Church of Ascension

Ascension Weekly Collection Report Totals as of 06/07/2026

Weekly Operating Budget:	\$ 3,182.70
Weekly Envelopes/Plate:	861.00
Weekly E-Giving:	936.00
Collections Budget YTD:	\$ 155,952.30
Actual Collection YTD:	\$ 152,110.00
Total Collected Over (Under) YTD:	\$ (3,842.30)
Capital Improvement Offering:	00.00
Capital Improvement-E-Giving:	51.00
Capital Improvement YTD:	\$ 11,092.00

Capital Campaign Total Raised So Far:\$399,920-182% Goal \$220,000.00.



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!

Homebound Ministry is looking for additional volunteers to take communion to our Ascension Community who are home bound. If you are interested in joining this special ministry please contact Sue Tellers or the Parish Office.

Church of St. Bernard

St. Bernard Stewardship of Treasure Totals as of 06/07/2026

Weekly Operating Budget:	3,408.33
Weekly Envelopes/Plate:	2,102.00
Weekly E-Giving:	900.00
Collection Budget YTD:	182,275.00
Actual Collection YTD:	184,466.00
Total Collected Over (Under) YTD	2,191.00
Capital Improvement Offering:	104.00
Capital Improvement E-Giving:	254.00
Capital Improvement YTD:	11,606.00

Capital Campaign Total Raised So Far:\$402,972 -155% Goal of \$260,000.00.



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!

Prayers to the Sacred Heart of Jesus

“Sacred Heart of Jesus, may your merciful Heart be always close to us.”

“Most Sacred Heart of Jesus have mercy on us and on the whole world.”

Word of Life: - “Through our prayers and through the intercession of St. Joseph, patron of fathers, may fathers come to know the *irreplaceable* role they hold in the lives of their children, and the responsibility they share in welcoming God’s gift of new life!”

Most Reverend Shelton J. Fabre, Bishop of Houma-Thibodaux
[“Fathers’ Irreplaceable Role in Welcoming Life”](#)

Mass Ministry Schedule—June 27th, & 28th

Mass Ministry	Ascension Sat. 5:00 pm	Ascension Sun. 8:00 am	St. Bernard Sun. 10:00 am
Sacristan	Brian Willems	Cheryl Coyle	Pam Kunkel
Servers	Jeremy Gesinger & Jonah Gesinger	Kendra Michels & Jayden Michels	Buckley Jones & Isaac Schrupp
Reader	Julie Gesinger	Amber Michels	Brenda Jones
EMHC	Cathleen Williams	Steve Lemmer	Victoria Amst
Ushers	Tom Lano & Steve Schrupp	Steve Coyle & Volunteer	Tom Dahl & Bob Symanitz
Greeters	Grace Cook	Volunteer	Casey Jones
Homebound Ministers	N/A	Grp A: Steve Lemmer & Curt Wilson Grp B: Steve Helget & Volunteer	

Mass Times Intentions

Monday	June 22		No Mass
Tuesday	June 23 6:15 pm	ASC.	Pope Leo XIV
Wednesday	June 24 8:00 am	ST. B.	Elvira Winkler † & Mildred Paul †
Thursday	June 25 8:00 am	ST. B.	Martin J. Quinn †
Friday	June 26 8:00 am	ASC.	Paul Simons †
Saturday	June 27 5:00 pm	ASC.	Dennis & Bernice Wickenhauser ††
Sunday	June 28 8:00 am	ASC.	The Dupont-Braunwarth Family
Sunday	June 28 10:00 am	ST. B.	Clarissa Wickenhauser † & 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.

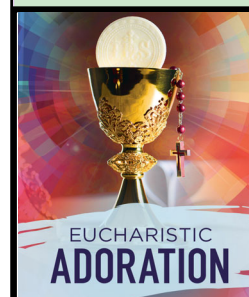
Readings for the week of June 21, 2026

Sunday: Jer 20:10-13/Ps 69:8-10, 14 and 17, 33-35/Rom 5:12-15/Mt 10:26-33
Monday: 2 Kgs 17:5-8, 13-15a, 18/Ps 60:3, 4-5, 12-13/Mt 7:1-5
Tuesday: 2 Kgs 19:9b-11, 14-21, 31-35a, 36/ Ps 48:2-3ab, 3cd-4, 10-11/Mt 7:6, 12-14
Wednesday: Is 49:1-6/Ps 139:1b-3, 13-14ab, 14c-15/Acts 13:22-26/Lk 1:57-66, 80
Thursday: 2 Kgs 24:8-17/ Ps 79:1b-2, 3-5, 8, 9/Mt 7:21-29
Friday: 2 Kgs 25:1-12/ Ps 137:1-2, 3, 4-5, 6/Mt 8:1-4
Saturday: Lam 2:2, 10-14, 18-19/ Ps 74:1b-2, 3-5, 6-7, 20-21/Mt 8:5-17
Next Sunday: 2 Kgs 4:8-11, 14-16a/Ps 89:2-3, 16-17, 18-19/Rom 6:3-4, 8-11/Mt 10:37-42)

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 21, 2026 12th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Jean Améry, a Holocaust survivor tortured by the Nazis, later wrote about the abyss of human evil. He described his reaction as an “indignant despair.” Haven’t we all, to some degree, felt that abyss opened beneath us? A sudden loss, a violent headline, a moment of loneliness or panic, when the world feels fragile and meaning seems to collapse?

It is to this fear that Jesus speaks in today’s Gospel: **“Do not be afraid of those who can kill the body.”** (Matthew 10:28) He does not deny evil or pretend we will never suffer. Instead, He reframes the abyss: do not fear those who can kill the body but cannot kill the soul. Your life is seen, known, and counted by the Father. Even the hairs of your head, even the sparrow’s fall.

This is no superficial comfort. Jesus himself has entered the abyss: suffering, death, even our sense of forsakenness, and he has come through it. That is why his words, “Do not be afraid,” hold such weight. They do not erase the abyss but build a bridge across it.

Faith is not pretending everything is fine. It is staring into the abyss and still choosing trust. And in that trust, we discover we are never alone. Christ stands with us, and the Father’s care surrounds us. That is the only comfort deep enough for our (often fearful) hearts. — *Father John Muir* ©LPi