

CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

323 Reform St. N.
NYA, MN. 55368

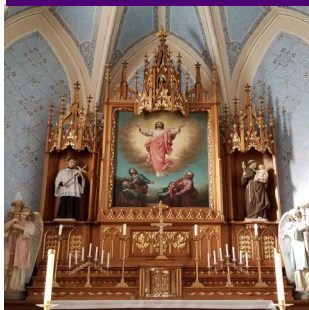
PASTOR

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—2pm

Office Phone: 952-466-2031

Business Administrator:

Virginia Hanson952-856-1051

busadmin@st-bernard-cologne.org

Safe Environment Coordinator:

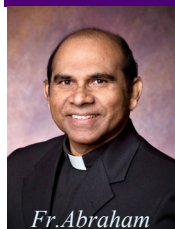
Sarah Smith...952-856-1052

bookkeeper@st-bernard-cologne.org



Palm Sunday Of The Passion Of The Lord – March 28 & March 29, 2026

Journeying with Our Lord



Fr. Abraham

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Today we celebrate **Palm Sunday**, the day that begins the most sacred week of the Church year, **Holy Week**. On this day we remember how Jesus entered Jerusalem and was welcomed by the crowds who waved palm branches and joyfully cried out, “Hosanna to the Son of David. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.”

The people welcomed Jesus as a king. They hoped he would bring political freedom, peace, and a new future for them. Yet only a few days later, shouts of “Hosanna” are replaced by “crucify him.” This dramatic change reminds us how easily human hearts can shift when expectations are not fulfilled.

Palm Sunday invites us to reflect on our own relationship with Jesus Christ. It is easy to follow Jesus when everything in life goes well. But when the path leads to sacrifice, difficulty, or the cross, we sometimes struggle to remain faithful.

The liturgy today also invites us to reflect on the Passion of the Lord. We walk with Jesus from the joyful entrance into Jerusalem to the suffering he will endure for our salvation. In this journey we see the depth of God’s love. Jesus freely accepts the cross out of love for each one of us.

As we enter Holy Week, the Church invites us to slow down and reflect more deeply on the mystery of Christ’s passion, death, and resurrection. These days give us a special opportunity to grow in faith through prayer, participation in the liturgies, acts of charity, and moments of quiet reflection. On **Holy Thursday**, Jesus shared the Last Supper with his apostles. Let us be with Jesus and the apostles for the institution of the First Holy Mass. After the Last Supper, Jesus went to Gethsemane where he suffered **the agony in the garden** and the betrayal of Judas. Jesus said to his apostle, “My soul is sorrowful even to death. Remain here and keep watch with me.” (Matthew 26:38). We try to keep watch with him in the garden.

Let us walk alongside our Lord, with Mary our Blessed Mother, on the road to Calvary so that we may also share in the joy of the resurrection at Easter. May this holy week renew our faith, strengthen our hope, and deepen our love for Christ who gave his life for us. May God bless you and your families as we journey together through these sacred days.

Yours in Christ,

Fr. Abraham Kochupurackal CMI

Pastor

Rosary Intention: “For the grace to proclaim Jesus as the King of our lives.”

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

<i>Monday</i>	Mar. 30		No Mass:
<i>Tuesday</i>	Mar. 31	ST. B. ASC. ASC. ASC.	Quilting Group 9:00am Adoration: 3pm-6pm Confession: 5:45-6:05pm Mass: 6:15pm
<i>Wednesday</i>	Apr. 1	ST. B. ST. B. ST. B.	Confession: 7:30am Mass: 8:00am Adoration: 2pm-6pm
<i>Thursday</i>	Apr. 2	ASC.	Holy Thursday Mass: 7:00pm
<i>Good Friday</i>	Apr. 3	ASC. ST. B.	Stations of the Cross: 3:00pm Good Friday Service: 7:00pm
<i>Saturday</i>	Apr. 4	ST. B.	Easter Vigil: 8:00pm
<i>Easter Sunday</i>	Apr. 5	ASC. ST. B.	Mass: 8:00am Mass: 10:00am

What is going on in our Parishes
and in the Community

Holy Week Schedule:

Holy Thursday– Ascension 7pm
 Good Friday Living Stations– Ascension 3pm
 Good Friday– St. Bernard 7pm
 Easter Vigil– St. Bernard 8pm

The Parish Offices will be open Good Friday from 10am-12pm at Ascension and 8:30am-12:30pm at St. Bernard. Both will be closed Easter Monday. We wish you a Blessed Triduum and Easter Season!

Catechetical Institute: School of Discipleship
Tuesdays, April 7, 14, 21 and May 5, 7-8:30 p.m., St. Bartholomew, Wayzata- Led by Jeff Cavins, CI instructor and former director, this course is not mere teaching but an experience where Jeff will help you create the life you've been longing for as a modern day disciple. If you've ever wondered what it was like to be a disciple 2,000 years ago, walking daily with Jesus, this course is for you! You can experience that life yourself! Find more information and registration at cistudent.com/the-experience.

Capital Campaign Update:

Thank you to everyone who has donated so far to the campaign. As we move forward with this exciting campaign we ask for:

- † **Your continued prayers**
- † **Your response:** In the coming weeks you may hear from a parish leader inviting you to an event or personal visit-please welcome their outreach with an open heart.
- † **Your patience:** Before making a gift, we kindly ask that you wait until you've received your personalized packet or spoken with a volunteer. If you would like to connect sooner, our campaign team would love to hear from you! Just contact the parish office!

Church of Ascension

Ascension Weekly Collection Report

Totals as of 03/15/2026

Weekly Operating Budget:	\$ 3,182.70
Weekly Envelopes/Plate:	2,258.00
Weekly E-Giving:	1,130.00
Collections Budget YTD:	\$ 117,759.90
Actual Collection YTD:	\$ 117,587.40
Total Collected Over (Under) YTD:	\$ (172.50)
Capital Improvement Offering:	305.00
Capital Improvement-E-Giving:	50.00
Capital Improvement YTD:	\$ 7,275.00

Capital Campaign Total Raised So Far: \$207,200-94%



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!

Please prayer for the repose of the soul of **Wallace (Mike) Williams** whose funeral was this Saturday. Please keep his family in your prayers during this time.

Church of St. Bernard

St. Bernard Stewardship of Treasure

Totals as of 03/15/2026

Weekly Operating Budget:	3,074.18
Weekly Envelopes/Plate	740.00
Weekly E-Giving	360.00
Collection Budget YTD:	140,852.40
Actual Collection YTD:	138,079.50
Total Collected Over (Under) YTD	(2,772.90)
Capital Improvement Offering:	60.00
Capital Improvement E-Giving	154.00
Capital Improvement YTD:	8,920.50

Capital Campaign Total Raised So Far: \$184,713 -71%



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!

Thank you so everyone who supported the St. Bernard benefit night at the Waconia KC Fish Fry! A very special thank you to everyone who gave of their time to volunteer at the event!

Word of Life—With great openness and courage, we need to question how widespread is the culture of life today among individual Christians, families, groups and communities in our Dioceses. With equal clarity and determination we must identify the steps we are called to take in order to serve life in all its truth” (*The Gospel of Life* 95).

Faith Formation Update:

Bags for the upcoming Ascension CUF and Faith Formation Epilepsy Foundation clothing drive can be picked up in the back of Ascension Church or the Narthex of St. Bernard or by the Faith Formation room Information can be found in last weekend's bulletin and the website.. Thank you for your continued support!

Mass Ministry Schedule—April 2nd, 3rd, 4th & 5th

Mass Ministry	Ascension Holy Thurs. 7pm	St. Bernard Good Friday 7:00pm	St. Bernard Sat. 8:00pm	Ascension Sun. 8:00am	St. Bernard Sun. 10:00am
Sacristan	Sherry Witte	Doris Mielke	Monica Kooiman	Cheryl Coyle	Doris Mielke
Servers	Florian Schindler, Nathan Duenow & Brianna Duenow	Daniel Worm; Luke Allison; Lexy Allison	Dan Worm; Emma Panning; Chloe Storms	Charlie Friendshuh & Jessie Friendshuh	Daniel Worm & Isaac Schrupp
Reader	Janet Fahey & Brian Willems	Julie Kleindl & Volunteer	Joyce Schwartz & Mary Sue Thaemert	Cheryl Coyle	Rob Wickenhauser
EMHC	Pat Johnson (H); Irene Yaeck (C); Curt Wilson (C)	Carol Hoen (H); Monica Kooiman (C); Mary Meuwissen-	Margaret Wickenhauser	Steve Coyle	Sarah Foley & Helen Nicklaus
Ushers	Richard Tellers & Rick Ulrich	Andy Kleindl & Bob Symanitz	Andy Kleindl & Ralph Laumann	Eugene Dvorak & Paul Lano	Tom Dahl & Bob Symanitz
Greeters	Cathleen Williams	Brian Vos	Roger Storms	Steve Coyle	Brian Vos
Homebound Ministers	N/A	N/A	N/A	Steve Coyle & Tim George Rich & Sue Tellers	N/A

Mass Times Intentions

Day	Date	Time	Intention
Monday	Mar. 30		No Mass
Tuesday	Mar. 31	6:15 pm	ASC. Maximo Villegas & Segundo Garcia ††
Wednesday	Apr. 1	8:00 am	ST. B. John & Jeff Slimmer ††
Thursday	Apr. 2	7:00 pm	ASC. Mass of Reparation
Friday	Apr. 3	7:00pm	ST. B. Good Friday Liturgy
Saturday	Apr. 4	8:00 pm	ST. B. All Parishioners
Sunday	Apr. 5	8:00 am	ASC. Dar Mondor †
Sunday	Apr. 5	10:00 am	ST. B. Living & deceased members of the Myron Dack Family

Readings for the week of Mar. 29, 2026

Sunday: Mt 21:1-11 (37)/Ps 22:8-9, 17-18, 19-20, 23-24/Is 50:4-7/Phil 2:6-11/Mt 27:11-54 **Monday:** Is 42:1-7/Ps 27:1, 2, 3, 13-14/Jn 12:1-11 **Tuesday:** Is 49:1-6/Ps 71:1-2, 3-4a, 5ab-6ab, 15 and 17/Jn 13:21-33, 36-38 **Wednesday:** Is 50:4-9a/Ps 69:8-10, 21-22, 31 and 33-34/Mt 26:14-25 **Thursday:** Ex 12:1-8, 11-14/Ps 116:12-13, 15-16, 17-18/1 Cor 11:23-26/Jn 13:1-15 **Friday:** Is 52:13-53:12/Ps 31:2 and 6, 12-13, 15-16, 17 and 25/Heb 4:14-16; 5:7-9/Jn 18:1-19:42 **Next Sunday:** Acts 10:34a, 37-43/Ps 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23 (24)/Col 3:1-4/Jn 20:1-9

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@ascensionny.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

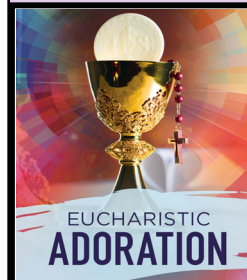
Every Tuesday

3:00 pm until 6:00 pm

St. Bernard

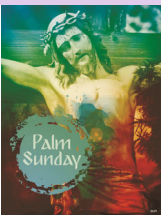
Every Wednesday

2:00 until 6:00 pm



March 29, 2026

Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord



Just prior to this week's Passion narrative in St. Matthew's Gospel, there is a small, striking story describing a woman's scandalous action toward Jesus: **"A woman came up to him with an alabaster jar of costly perfumed oil, and poured it on his head"** (Matthew 26:7). The ointment was pure nard, worth more than 300 denarii. A year's wages. Maybe a dowry, maybe a family inheritance. In any case, she breaks it. She does not measure or ration. She pours it all out, irreversibly, over Jesus. Why does this image begin Holy Week?

Because what she does with the jar, Jesus will soon do with his life. The jar must be broken so the fragrance can be released. Jesus' body will be broken so his priceless divine and human love can be poured out. She gives everything, just as he is about to give everything. And He sees it: **"She has done a good thing for me"** (Matthew 26:10). Her act is lavish, impractical, scandalous in its apparent wastefulness. And he loves it. It is what Holy Week is all about.

What jar are you still holding onto? Your time? Your comfort? Your plan for how life should go? Don't just wave palms today. Let yourself be broken open so your love, too, can be poured out.

Lenten Challenge: Offer something costly to Jesus this Holy Week — not out of guilt, but love. Your attention. Your forgiveness. Your time. Break the jar. Trust that nothing poured out for him is ever wasted. — *Father John Muir* ©LPi