

CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

323 Reform St. N.
NYA, MN. 55368

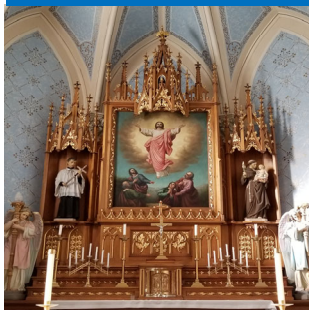
PASTOR

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

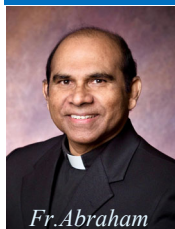
Safe Environment Coordinator:

Sarah Smith...952-856-1052

bookkeeper@st-bernard-cologne.org



Easter Sunday Of The Resurrection Of The Lord – April 4 & April 5, 2026



Fr. Abraham

Easter: A Season of New Life and Hope

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

With great joy, we celebrate Easter, the heart of our Christian faith. We celebrate Easter this year in a world that is deeply in need of hope. We see war and violence in many places, nations in conflict, and hearts filled with fear and uncertainty. Peace often seems distant, and many wonder where God is in the midst of it all. Yet, it is into such a world that the message of Easter speaks most powerfully.

The Resurrection of Jesus reminds us that darkness does not have the final word. On Good Friday, it seemed that violence and hatred had won. But on Easter morning, God revealed a different truth: love is stronger than hatred, life is stronger than death, and peace is stronger than fear. The risen Christ greets his disciples with the words, “Peace be with you.” These were not just comforting words, they were a gift and a mission. In a world wounded by division and conflict, we are called not only to receive that peace, but to share it with others.

Easter invites us to become people of hope and instruments of peace. We may not be able to end wars and conflicts on our own, but we can begin in our own hearts, our families, and our communities. Every act of forgiveness, every effort to understand rather than judge, every choice to love instead of hate brings the light of the Resurrection into our world. When fear surrounds us, Easter calls us to trust. When despair threatens to take hold, Easter reminds us to hope. When peace seems far away, Easter sends us to build it.

The empty tomb is not just a sign that Jesus is alive, it is a promise that God continues to bring new life even out of the most difficult situations. No suffering, no conflict, no darkness is beyond the reach of God’s transforming love. Like Mary Magdalene and the first disciples, we are sent to share the good news: “He is not here; he has been raised.” Let us carry this message into our homes, our workplaces, and our communities.

May the risen Lord fill our hearts and our troubled world with his peace. May he strengthen us to be witnesses of hope, courage, and love in our daily lives.

Christ is risen! Alleluia!

Happy Easter

Yours in Christ,
Fr. Abraham Kochupurackal CMI
Pastor

Rosary Intention: *That the Peace of the Risen Christ be with us always.*

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

What is going on in our Parishes and in the Community

The Parish Office will be closed Easter Monday. We wish you a Blessed 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!

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 and the Narthex of St. Bernard, or by the Faith Formation room! Information can be found in March 21st and 22nd weekend's insert and our website! Thank you for your continued support!

Church of Ascension

Ascension Weekly Collection Report

Totals as of 03/22/2026

Weekly Operating Budget:	\$ 3,182.70
Weekly Envelopes/Plate:	1,560.00
Weekly E-Giving:	1,350.00
Collections Budget YTD:	\$ 120,942.60
Actual Collection YTD:	\$ 120,497.40
Total Collected Over (Under) YTD:	\$ (445.50)
Capital Improvement Offering:	100.00
Capital Improvement-E-Giving:	250.00
Capital Improvement YTD:	\$ 7,625.00

Capital Campaign Total Raised So Far:\$242,700-110%



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!

Our Final Ascension KC Bingo will be Sunday April 19th at 1pm in the Social Hall! Come out for some fun, family time, and fellowship!

Church of St. Bernard

St. Bernard Stewardship of Treasure

Totals as of 03/22/2026

Weekly Operating Budget:	3,074.18
Weekly Envelopes/Plate	2,757.00
Weekly E-Giving	315.00
Collection Budget YTD:	143,926.58
Actual Collection YTD:	141,151.50
Total Collected Over (Under) YTD	(2,775.08)
Capital Improvement Offering:	100.00
Capital Improvement E-Giving	40.00
Capital Improvement YTD:	9,060.50
Global Solidarity Collection	532.00

Capital Campaign Total Raised So Far: \$232,712 -90%



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!

Catholic United Scholarships

Catholic United Financial Scholarship application period is open from March 1 — April 30 of each year. Any member (any age) studying for their first degree after high school can apply. Applicants must have been a member for at least 2 years by the application deadline and when the scholarship is awarded. **Awards of \$500 for attending a Catholic college or \$300 for an accredited non-Catholic school.** Applications are available at: www.catholicunitedfinancial.org

Word of Life—"Like us, Christ entered the world through the womb of a woman. He willingly experienced the fullness of human suffering. He breathed his last on the Cross at Calvary in order that He might save us. Therefore, 'God is the foundation of hope: not any god, but the God who has a human face and who has loved us to the end' (*Spe salvi* 31)."

Mass Ministry Schedule—April 11th & 12th

Mass Ministry	Ascension Sat. 5:00 pm	Ascension Sun. 8:00 am	St. Bernard Sun. 10:00 am
Sacristan	Rita Fahey	Brian Willems	Patricia Quinn
Servers	Jonah Gesinger & Alex Urness	Kendra Michels & Jayden Michels	Isaac Schrupp & Cohen Starkey
Reader	Jean Schmitz	Amber Michels	Helen Nicklaus
EMHC	Pat Johnson (H); Cathleen Williams (C); & Volunteer	Colleen Donnay (H); Steve Lemmer (C); & Kathy Kloempken (C)	Monica Kooiman
Ushers	Steve Schrupp & Rick Ulrich	Tim George & Tom Lano	Tom Dahl & Bob Symanitz
Greeters	Jeremy & Julie Gesinger	Dave & Colleen Donnay	Julie Kleindl
Homebound Ministers	N/A	Grp A: Steve Lemmer & Curt Wilson Grp B: Rich & Sue Tellers	N/A

Mass Times Intentions

Day	Date	Time	Intention
Monday	Apr. 6		No Mass
Tuesday	Apr. 7	6:15 pm	ASC. For All Parishioners
Wednesday	Apr. 8	8:00 am	ST. B. The Family of Merlyn & Margaret Eiden ††
Thursday	Apr. 9	8:00 am	ST. B. Jason Quinn †
Friday	Apr. 10	8:00 am	ASC. Father Abraham's Intention
Saturday	Apr. 11	5:00 pm	ASC. Allan Schmitt †
Sunday	Apr. 12	8:00 am	ASC. Ben Vanderlinde †
Sunday	Apr. 12	10:00 am	ST. B. Robert G. Fritz † & All Parishioners

Readings for the week of Apr. 5, 2026
Sunday: Acts 10:34a, 37-43/Ps 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23/Col 3:1-4/Mt 28:1-10 **Monday:** Acts 2:14, 22-33/Ps 16:1-2a and 5, 7-8, 9-10, 11/Mt 28:8-15 **Tuesday:** Acts 2:36-41/Ps 33:4-5, 18-19, 20 and 22/Jn 20:11-18 **Wednesday:** Acts 3:1-10/Ps 105:1-2, 3-4, 6-7, 8-9/Lk 24:13-35 **Thursday:** Acts 3:11-26/Ps 8:2ab and 5, 6-7, 8-9/Lk 24:35-48 **Friday:** Acts 4:1-12/Ps 118:1-2 and 4, 22-24, 25-27a/Jn 21:1-14 **Saturday:** Acts 4:13-21/Ps 118:1 and 14-15ab, 16-18, 19-21/Mk 16:9-15 **Next Sunday:** Acts 2:42-47/Ps 118:2-4, 13-15, 22-24/1 Pt 1:3-9/Jn 20:19-31

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

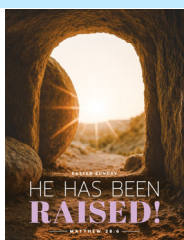
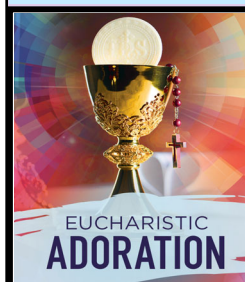
Every Tuesday

3:00 pm until 6:00 pm

St. Bernard

Every Wednesday

2:00 until 6:00 pm



**April 5, 2026
Easter Sunday**

Zander Price was the fastest kid at my grade school. He won every race on Field Day. To me, his swiftness meant he was the greatest. Zander was the best.

It's the same with the speediest Apostle on Easter morning. John tells us he “**ran faster than Peter and arrived at the tomb first.**” (John 20:4) But only *after* Peter entered did John go in, see the burial cloths, and believe. Here is a symbol of two dimensions of the Church. John, the beloved disciple, represents the contemplative, mystical life: affection, prayer, intimacy. Peter, the rock, represents the Church's institutional life: steady, authoritative, structured...but slower.

Of course, John runs faster! Love is the heartbeat of Christian faith, so love will always arrive first. Peter's role is, in a sense, secondary. He arrives later, but is still very much needed. John waits for him. The Church must be built, balanced, protected, and led. Love without structure can vanish; structure without love becomes lifeless.

This dynamic is not just historical — it is personal. In you, there is a John who longs to run to the tomb in love. Let him run! Pray, sing, love Jesus. There is also a Peter, who eventually gets to the tomb and takes charge. The Risen Christ wants both. Remember: if you want to get to the mystery of Jesus' resurrection *fast*...love him, for love is best.

— *Father John Muir* ©LPi