

# CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

323 Reform St. N.  
NYA, MN. 55368

## PASTOR

Fr. Abraham Kochupurackal CMI  
OFFICE ... ..952-856-1050  
frabraham@st-bernard-cologne.org

# ST. BERNARD CHURCH

212 Church Street E.  
Cologne, MN. 55322



Website: [www.ascensionstbernardparishes.org](http://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](mailto:busadmin@ascensionnya.org)

### Safe Environment Coordinator:

Virginia Hanson ...952-777-0110

[busadmin@ascensionnya.org](mailto:busadmin@ascensionnya.org)

Tues 10am-2pm & Fri. 9am—2pm

Office Phone: 952-466-2031

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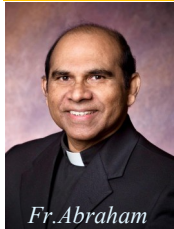
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## The Most Holy Trinity Sunday – May 30 & May 31, 2026



Fr. Abraham

### The Holy Trinity: Source of Love and Unity

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

The mystery of the Holy Trinity is one of the central teachings of the Christian faith. It teaches that there is one God in three distinct Persons: The Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, all sharing the same divine nature. Christians believe this mystery because Jesus revealed it through his life and teachings. The evangelists recorded it, the Church Fathers explained it, and the Councils of Nicaea and Constantinople confirmed it as a doctrine of faith. Although Jesus never used the word “Trinity,” he spoke clearly about the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. He taught his disciples to pray, saying, “Our Father.” At his baptism, the Father called him the beloved Son, and after the resurrection, Jesus gave the Holy Spirit to his disciples. Rather than explaining the Trinity in abstract terms, Jesus showed how the Trinity works in our lives.

The doctrine of the Trinity is about God’s closeness to humanity. Jesus taught us to pray for daily bread, forgiveness, and strength against temptation, showing God’s care for our everyday needs. As the Son of God, Jesus expressed his love through service and sacrifice, giving his body and blood for others. The Holy Spirit came upon the disciples to strengthen and guide them in continuing Christ’s mission.

At Pentecost, the Holy Spirit filled the disciples with courage to spread the Gospel. This reminds us that God continues to guide and support the Church today. St. Paul beautifully summarizes the life of the Trinity in his blessing: “The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with all of you” (2 Corinthians 13:13). Every prayer and sacrament in the Church is celebrated in the name of the Holy Trinity. The Trinity reveals that God’s nature is love, unity, and communion. Trinity Sunday reminds us that the God we worship is always with us, blessing us with love, grace, and fellowship forever.

**“Food For The Poor”:** Dear Father Martin Ahiaba, A heartfelt welcome to our parish communities. We are delighted to have you with us this weekend to celebrate Mass, and we look forward to hearing you speak about the ministry that provides direct relief to the poor. Please know that you and your ministry are in our prayers.

### 40 HOURS ADORATION

St. Bernard, Cologne (June 4 - 6, 2026)



Sign up sheets are located at St. Bernard and at Ascension. You may also sign up by scanning the QR code. Contact Pam Kunkel [pkunkel654@gmail.com](mailto:pkunkel654@gmail.com) Mobile # 952-564-1832 or Doris Mielke, Mobile # 612-910-2365 with any questions or concerns.

*All are welcome to join us for 40 Hours Adoration.*

Yours in Christ,  
Fr. Abraham Kochupurackal CMI  
Pastor

**Rosary Intention:** For a Fruitful 40 Hours of Adoration.

**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>	June. 1		No Mass:
<i>Tuesday</i>	June. 2	ASC. ASC. ASC.	Adoration: 3pm-6pm Confession: 5:45-6:05pm Mass: 6:15pm
<i>Wednesday</i>	June. 3	ST. B. ST. B. ST. B.	Confession: 7:30am Mass: 8:00am Adoration: 2pm-6pm
<i>Thursday</i>	June. 4	ST. B. ST. B.	Mass: 8:00pm 40 Hours of Adoration
<i>Friday</i>	June. 5	ASC. ST. B.	Mass: 8:00am 40 Hours of Adoration
<i>Saturday</i>	June. 6	ST. B. ST. B. ST. B.	40 Hours of Adoration Confession: 4:30pm-4:50pm Mass: 5:00pm
<i>Sunday</i>	June. 7	ASC. ST. B.	Mass: 8:00am 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.

**Memorial Decorations that have not been picked up yet can be find by the Big Tree in the Ascension Cemetery and by the Air Conditioning Units in the back of Church at St. Bernard.**

**Food For The Poor:** Please join us the weekend of May 30 -31, 2026 to hear Rev. Martin A. Ahiaba speak at all the Masses about a ministry providing direct relief to the poor throughout Latin America and the Caribbean. Father Ahiaba will share personal witness about Food For The Poor's mission to care for the destitute as a means of living out the Gospel mandate to love one another. A devoted shepherd and theologian, Fr. Ahiaba brings over 20 years of ministry in healthcare, parish, and correctional settings. With a PhD in Systematic Theology, he offers compassionate spiritual care, guiding individuals with wisdom, faith, and a deep commitment to holistic ministry. Please welcome Fr. Ahiaba and prayerfully consider supporting this worthy cause with your generosity.

**Faith Formation Update:**

Congratulations to **Emma Panning** who took 1st place in the state of Minnesota for the Grades 3-4 age group for the Knights of Columbus **Keep Christ in Christmas** poster contest. Congratulations also goes to **Veronica Prosofski** for placing 2nd in the state for Grades 1-2. Awesome job!!

**Church of Ascension**

**Ascension Weekly Collection Report  
Totals as of 05/17/2026**

Weekly Operating Budget:	\$ 3,182.70
Weekly Envelopes/Plate:	1,251.47
Weekly E-Giving:	865.00
Collections Budget YTD:	\$ 146,404.20
Actual Collection YTD:	\$ 144,910.98
<b>Total Collected Over (Under) YTD:</b>	<b>\$ (1,493.22)</b>
Capital Improvement Offering:	225.00
Capital Improvement-E-Giving:	50.00
Capital Improvement YTD:	\$ 10,101.00

**Capital Campaign Total Raised So Far:\$395,720-180%**



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!

**"Yesterday is gone. Tomorrow has not yet come. We have only today. Let us begin." -Mother Teresa**

**Church of St. Bernard**

**St. Bernard Stewardship of Treasure  
Totals as of 05/17/2026**

Weekly Operating Budget:	3,197.52
Weekly Envelopes/Plate	3,603.00
Weekly E-Giving	325.00
Collection Budget YTD:	172,471.65
Actual Collection YTD:	175,080.50
<b>Total Collected Over (Under) YTD</b>	<b>2,608.85</b>
Capital Improvement Offering:	210.00
Capital Improvement E-Giving	100.00
Capital Improvement YTD:	10,857.50

**Capital Campaign Total Raised So Far:\$399,972 -154%**



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!

**During the summer months** don't forget that Food shelves are still in need of items to keep their shelves stocked. As you do your grocery shopping add an item or two for the food shelf. Needed items: Tuna, canned meats, meal in one, hearty soups, rice, pasta, juice, peanut butter, cereal, toilet paper, and paper towels.

**Word of Life** "Dignity is a gift from God, who created the human being in his own image and semblance (cf. Gen 1:26). It is not something that is obtained by merit or effort; nor does it depend on what we possess or achieve. It is a gift that goes before us: it is born of the look of love with which God wanted us, one by one, and continues to want us."

Pope Leo XIV, [Message to Participants in "Building Communities that Safeguard Dignity"](#)

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## Mass Ministry Schedule—June 4th, 6th, & 7th

Mass Ministry	St. Bernard Thursday 8:00pm	St. Bernard Sat 5:00 pm	Ascension Sun. 8:00 am	St. Bernard Sun. 10:00 am
<b>Sacristan</b>	Pam Kunkel	Doris Mielke	Brian Willems	Patricia Quinn
<b>Servers</b>	Kieran Allison & Dan Worm	Kieran Allison, Ava Hanson & Lilly Hanson	Brianna Duenow & Nathan Duenow	Dan Worm & Emma Panning
<b>Reader</b>	Rob Wickenhauser	Joyce Schwartz	Sue Tellers	Julie Kleindl
<b>EMHC</b>	Volunteer	Mary Meuwissen	Steve Helget	Andy Kleindl
<b>Ushers</b>	Bob Symanitz & Brian Vos	Tom Dahl & Ralph Laumann	Eugene Dvorak & Paul Lano	Dick Arnst & Bob Symanitz
<b>Greeters</b>	Roger Storms	Monica Kooiman	Grace Cook	Casey Jones
<b>Homebound Ministers</b>	N/A	N/A	Grp A-Steve Coyle & Curt Wilson Grp B-Sue & Rich Tellers	N/A

### Mass Times Intentions

<b>Monday</b>	June 1		<b>No Mass</b>
<b>Tuesday</b>	June 2 <b>6:15 pm</b>	<b>ASC.</b>	Pope Leo XIV
<b>Wednesday</b>	June 3 <b>8:00 am</b>	<b>ST. B.</b>	Merlyn & Margaret Eiden †† & Living & Deceased of the Eiden Family
<b>Thursday</b>	June 4 <b>8:00 pm</b>	<b>ST. B.</b>	Living & Deceased members of the Donna Meuleners Family†
<b>Friday</b>	June 5 <b>8:00am</b>	<b>ASC.</b>	Mass of Reparation
<b>Saturday</b>	June 6 <b>5:00 pm</b>	<b>ST. B.</b>	Vernon Walter †† & All Parishioners
<b>Sunday</b>	June 7 <b>8:00 am</b>	<b>ASC.</b>	Chris Heille †
<b>Sunday</b>	June 7 <b>10:00 am</b>	<b>ST. B.</b>	George & Ethel Worm ††

**Readings for the week of May 31, 2026**  
**Sunday:** Ex 34:4b-6, 8-9/Dn 3:52, 53, 54, 55, 56/2 Cor 13:11-13/Jn 3:16-18 **Monday:** 2 Pt 1:2-7/ Ps 91:1-2, 14-15b, 15c-16/Mk 12:1-12 **Tuesday:** 2 Pt 3:12-15a, 17-18/ Ps 90:2, 3-4, 10, 14 and 16/Mk 12:13-17 **Wednesday:** 2 Tm 1:1-3, 6-12/ Ps 123:1b-2ab, 2cdef/Mk 12:18-27 **Thursday:** 2 Tm 2:8-15/ Ps 25:4-5ab, 8-9, 10 and 14/Mk 12:28-34 **Friday:** 2 Tm 3:10-17/ Ps 119:157, 160, 161, 165, 166, 168/Mk 12:35-37 **Saturday:** 2 Tm 4:1-8/ Ps 71:8-9, 14-15ab, 16-17, 22/Mk 12:38-44 **Next Sunday:** Dt 8:2-3, 14b-16a/Ps 147:12-13, 14-15, 19-20/1 Cor 10:16-17/Jn 6:51-58

**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.**

### 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.

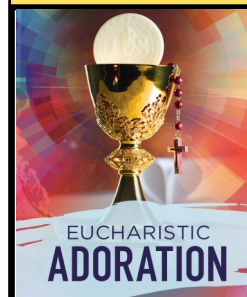
### Eucharistic Adoration

#### Ascension

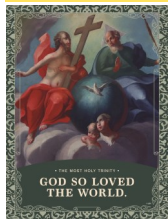
Every Tuesday  
3:00 pm until 6:00 pm

#### St. Bernard

Every Wednesday  
2:00 until 6:00 pm



May 31, 2026



I was 16 years old on a youth group retreat in the mountains. One night, I opened my heart to the message being proclaimed: that God so loved the world that He sent His Son for us. Later, I lay under the pine trees and looked up at the countless stars. They seemed different. No longer cold, distant balls of chemical reactions, they appeared as an expression of God's love, as if He were giving those stars directly to me. The truth of God sending His Son changed how I saw the whole universe.

That is what today's Gospel reveals: **"God so loved the world that he gave his only Son."** (John 3:16) The universe is not just a whirl of impersonal forces or empty space. At its heart is a gift: the Father eternally giving the Son, not to condemn, but to bring life.

This is not abstract doctrine but deeply personal. God gives His Son for you and me. Each human life is precious enough to be caught up in that eternal gift.

It is in the Mass where we encounter this most directly. In the Word proclaimed, in the assembly gathered, in the priest, and above all in the Eucharist, the Father once again gives His Son. What looks like bread and wine is the drama of the Trinity, laboring to love us here and now.

The Trinity is not a puzzle to solve but the blazing Truth at the center of everything: the Father gives the Son for you and me. Lord, help us to see this more clearly. — *Father John Muir* ©LPi