

CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

323 Reform St. N.
NYA, MN. 55368

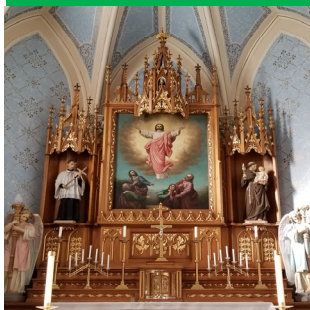
PASTOR

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

Parish Office Hours:

Tues 10am-2pm & Fri. 8:30am-2pm

Office Phone: 952-466-2031

Business Administrator:

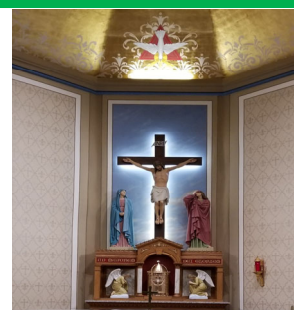
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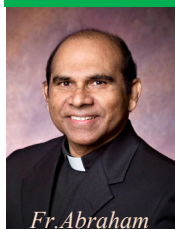
Safe Environment Coordinator:

Sarah Smith...952-856-1052

bookkeeper@st-bernard-cologne.org



Seventeenth Sunday In Ordinary Time – July 26 & 27, 2025



Aligning Our Will with God's Will

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Prayer is our most intimate and powerful means of communicating with God. In Genesis 18:20 - 32, Abraham's intercession shows something deeper than simply petitioning for others. It is about bold friendship with God, rooted in trust. Abraham freely engages God in a dialogue, appealing to divine justice and mercy. He does not aim to change God's will, but aligns himself with God's will and proposes through persistent pleading.

When the disciples ask Jesus to teach them to pray, he gives them the Lord's Prayer (Luke 11:1-13). He instructs them to approach God as Father, and to pray for his kingdom, daily needs, and forgiveness. Then Jesus illustrates this with the parable of a friend knocking at midnight for bread. By presenting this story Jesus emphasizes the need for persistent prayer, acknowledging our total dependence on God. This parable does not mean that God is a reluctant giver. Rather it stresses the necessity of our persisting in prayer as the expression of our total dependence on God. Persevering in prayer helps us to purify our prayer, to make clear to ourselves our values and hopes, and to lead us to ask for what is really in our very best interests.

The gospel story also reminds us that God is not a vending machine providing anything we ask. God is our loving "Father" who knows what we truly need, what to give, when to give and how to give. This includes not only our daily bread but also our spiritual needs. The value of persistent prayer is not to change God's will but to change our will according to God's will. Keep in mind that Jesus has taught us to address God as Father. A loving Father listens to his child, but does not blindly endorse every request. Instead, the loving Father provides what is needed, including discipline.

Prayer is a relationship, an intimate, loving and caring, parent-child relationship. The Greek text means: "Ask and you will receive something good," not just whatever we ask for. Hence, we are to be persistent declaring our trusting faith and dependence on God. This Sundays' liturgy reminds us of the necessity for perseverance in prayer and the power of intercessory prayer.

World day of Prayer for Grandparents and the Elderly. It was established by Pope Francis to honor grandparents and the elderly, held on the fourth Sunday of July, close to the feast of Saints Joachim and Anne (July 26), the grandparents of Jesus. The day is meant to foster a renewed encounter between young and old and to express love for the grandparents and elderly members of our families. This annual celebration also recognizes the important role grandparents play in passing on faith to the next generation.

Rosary Intention: *For Grandparents and the Elderly*

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	July. 28		No Mass:
Tuesday	July. 29	ASC.	Adoration: 3pm-6pm
		ASC.	Confession: 5:45-6:05pm
		ASC.	Mass: 6:15pm
Wednesday	July. 30	ST. B.	Confession: 7:30-7:50am
		ST. B.	Mass: 8:00am
		ST. B.	Adoration: 2:00am-6:00pm
Thursday	July. 31	ST. B.	Mass: 8:00am
Friday	Aug. 1	ASC.	Mass: 8:00am
Saturday	Aug. 2	ST. B.	Confession: 4:30pm-4:50pm
		ST. B.	Mass: 5:00pm
Sunday	Aug. 3	ASC.	Mass: 8:00am
		ST. B.	Mass: 10:00am

What is going on in our Parishes
and in the Community

The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

A Holy Obligation, August 15, 2025.

Anticipated Mass, August 14 at St. Bernard 6:15 pm.
Mass, August 15 at Ascension 8:00 am.

No 8:00 am Mass at St. Bernard
on Thursday, August 15.

Applications are being accepted for the **Catechetical Institute's two-year Pillars Programs** beginning this fall. There will be a live-stream at Our Lady of the Prairie in Belle Plaine, Monday evenings from 7-9pm. See saintpaulseminary.org/CI for more information or scan the QR code on the flyer in the back of church at Ascension and on the Kiosk at St. Bernard.

Archdiocesan Passport Adventure We are 175 years strong

Catholics around the world are marking 2025 as a Year of Jubilee, while at the same time we as an Archdiocese celebrate 175 years since our founding on July 19, 1850. Archbishop Hebda invites you to become an Archdiocesan Jubilee Pilgrim:

- This summer through October 12, visit seven or more parishes.
- Include our Jubilee co-cathedrals: the Cathedral of Saint Paul and the Basilica of Saint Mary, and look for the Jubilee Cross in each of them.
- Visit one of our oldest, newest and/or newly renovated churches.
- Participate in a Mass that expands your liturgical experience.
- Share your adventures with us on social media: #175passport and tag us @ArchdioceseSPM
- Join us October 12 for Mass + Ice Cream Social on the Cathedral of Saint Paul Lawn. Download or print your passport here and visit archspm.org/passport for information!

Church of Ascension

Ascension Weekly Collection Report

Totals as of 07/13/2025

Weekly Operating Budget:	\$ 3,182.70
Weekly Envelopes/Plate:	6,795.00
Weekly E-Giving:	900.00
Collections Budget YTD:	6,365.70
Actual Collection YTD:	\$ 9,689.00
Total Collected Over (Under) YTD:	3,323.60
Capital Improvement Offering:	205.00
Capital Improvement-E-Giving:	50.00
Capital Improvement YTD:	\$ 305.00



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!

"Lord, teach us to pray." The disciples are asking how to approach God, how to communicate with Him. Jesus' answer? Have no fear, and have no embarrassment. God waits at the door. Knock. The conversation is yours to start. ©LPi

Church of St. Bernard

St. Bernard Stewardship of Treasure

Budget for week	3,095.25
Contributions 07-09 through 07-15-2025	2,095.00
Total Actual Collection YTD	5,293.00
Total Actual Collection Over (Under) Budget	(897.50)
Forward in Faith	
Envelope Income	109.00
Electronic Donations	0.00
Forward in Faith Total	109.00
Forward in Faith YTD	368.00

Mission Appeal Collection 869.00



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Faith Formation Update:

Registration for the 2025-26 Faith Formation Year is open! You can register by scanning the QR Code! We look forward to welcoming everyone back in September!



Prayer for Grandparents and the Elderly

"Lord God almighty, bless our grandparents and the elderly with long life, happiness, and health. May they remain constant in your love and be living signs of your presence to their children and grandchildren. We ask this through Christ our Lord." Amen
USCCB

Mass Ministry Schedule—August 2 & 3

Mass Ministry	St. Bernard Sat. 5:00 pm	Ascension Sun. 8:00 am	St. Bernard Sun. 10:00 am
Sacristan	Monica Kooiman	Brian Willems	Patricia Quinn
Servers	Brooklyn Hoen & Luca Hoen	Jayden Michels & Kendra Michels	Daniel Worm & Emma Panning
Reader	Roger Storms	Jean Schmitz	Rob Wickenhauser
EMHC	Margaret Wickenhauser	Kathy Kloempken	Andy Kleindl
Ushers	Ralph Laumann & Leo Willems	Do Whitaker & Paul Lano	Leonard Hoen Jr. & Dick Arnst
Greeters	Sarah Foley	Pat Johnson	Julie Kleindl
Homebound Ministers	N/A	Grp A: Dave & Ann Dettmann Grp B: Curt Wilson & Steve Helget	N/A

Mass Times Intentions

Monday	July 28		No Mass
Tuesday	July 29 6:15 pm	Ascension	Chris Heille †
Wednesday	July 30 8:00 am	St. Bernard	Living & Deceased members of the Donna Meuleners Family
Thursday	July 31 8:00 am	St. Bernard	Merlyn & Margaret Eiden †† & Living & Deceased members of the Eiden Family
Friday	Aug. 01 8:00 am	Ascension	Mass of Reparation
Saturday	Aug. 02 5:00pm	St. Bernard	Richard Paul † And All Parishioners
Sunday	Aug. 03 8:00 am	Ascension	Gene Miller Jr. †
Sunday	Aug. 03 10:00 am	St. Bernard	Leonard Meuleners †

Readings for the week of July 27, 2025

Sunday: Gn 18:20-32/Ps 138:1-2, 2-3, 6-7, 7-8 (3a)/Col 2:12-14/Lk 11:1-13 **Monday:** Ex 32:15-24, 30-34/Ps 106:19-20, 21-22, 23/Mt 13:31-35 **Tuesday:** Ex 33:7-11; 34:5b-9, 28/Ps 103:6-7, 8-9, 10-11, 12-13/Jn 11:19-27 **Wednesday:** Ex 34:29-35/Ps 99:5, 6, 7, 9/Mt 13:44- 46 **Thursday:** Ex 40:16-21, 34-38/Ps 84:3, 4, 5-6a and 8a, 11/Mt 13:47-53 **Friday:** Lv 23:1, 4-11, 15-16, 27, 34b-37/Ps 81:3-4, 5-6, 10-11ab/Mt 13:54-58 **Saturday:** Lv 25:1, 8-17/Ps 67:2-3, 5, 7-8/Mt 14:1-12 **Next Sunday:** Eccl 1:2; 2:21-23/Ps 90:3-4, 5-6, 12-13, 14, 17 (1)/Col 3:1-5, 9-11/Lk 12:13-21

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.....952-484-96281

Anointing of the Sick

Call the parish office at any time.

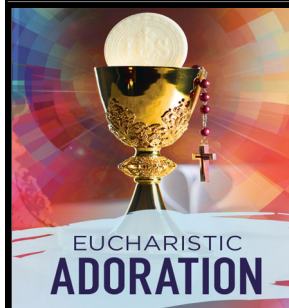
Eucharistic Adoration

Ascension

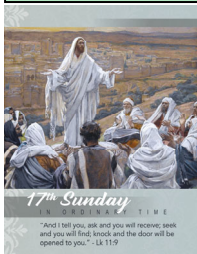
Every Tuesday
3:00 pm until 6:00 pm

St. Bernard

Every Wednesday
2:00 until 6:00 pm



July 27, 2025 17th Sunday in Ordinary Time



Once I went to a hospice facility to celebrate Last Rites for an elderly dying man. His family had told me that he had been uncommunicative for days. At the conclusion of the ritual, we began to recite the Our Father prayer. To everyone's surprise, his lips moved, clearly mouthing the words to the Lord's prayer. Stripped of most of his faculties, the man could still pray those precious God-given petitions. A lifetime of prayer had planted the words even deeper than his failing consciousness.

Do we want the Lord's prayer to be as deeply embedded in us? If we want to be people of hope, we should. Recall that our Lord immediately follows the prayer by saying: **"Ask, and it will be given to you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened to you"** (Luke 11:9). We only ask, search and knock because we hope that the request is not in vain. Everything we could possibly hope for is contained in the prayer. Praying the Our Father deepens our hope.

We should consciously pour all our hopes into the Lord's prayer; we should allow it to be an expression of hope, not simply rote words. Then, over time, it builds up our hope in God. It sinks deep into our souls and bodies. How blessed we are when these words of hope are on our lips, even when everything else seems to fail. — *Father John Muir* ©LPi