

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—3pm

Office Phone: 952-466-2031

Business Administrator:

Virginia Hanson952-856-1051

busadmin@st-bernard-cologne.org

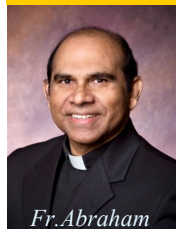
Safe Environment Coordinator:

Sarah Smith...952-856-1052

bookkeeper@st-bernard-cologne.org



Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe- November 22 & 23, 2025



Fr. Abraham

Christ Our King: The Reign of Love

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

This weekend, we celebrate the **Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe**, which marks the end of our Church year. Pope Pius XI established this feast in 1926 to remind the world that Christ alone is King and that true peace and justice flow only from His rule over our hearts and lives.

When we picture Christ the King, we may imagine him crowned with gold and glory. Yet we also see another powerful image—the Sacred Heart of Jesus. Though Jesus did not walk this earth with his heart visible, he carried a heart burning with love for us. The image of his Sacred Heart reminds us that his kingship is one of compassion, mercy, and sacrifice.

Earthly kings often expect their people to give their lives in defense of crown and country. But our King reversed that pattern: he gave his own life for his people. His kingdom is not built on power or conquest, but on love that gives itself completely.

Christ's Kingship is unlike any other. He was anointed by the Father as the Eternal Priest and Universal King. As Priest, he offered his life on the Cross for our redemption. As King, he reigns over all creation, presenting to the Father a kingdom founded on truth, justice, peace, love, and holiness.

To acknowledge Jesus as King means allowing him to reign in our hearts, our homes, and our world. When we consecrate ourselves and our families to the Sacred Heart of Jesus, we proclaim him as Lord of our lives. Many who have enthroned the Sacred Heart in their homes experience transformation—greater unity, peace, and love within their families.

Often, our faith becomes private—each person praying alone. But when a family gathers around the image of the Sacred Heart, something beautiful happens: walls begin to fall, hearts are united, and Christ takes his rightful place at the center of family life.

Each Sunday, as we gather to celebrate the Eucharist, we renew our commitment to live under Christ's reign. When we are sent forth with the words, *"Go in peace to love and serve the Lord,"* we are reminded to live throughout the week as citizens of his Kingdom—doing his will, spreading his truth, and sharing his love. As we honor Christ our King today, let us thank him for the suffering and humiliation he accepted for our sake. Whatever sacrifices our faith asks of us are small compared with the price he paid for our salvation. Let us be faithful and grateful subjects of this loving King, members of his kingdom on earth, and heirs of the everlasting kingdom he has prepared for us in heaven.

Yours in Christ,

Fr. Abraham Kochupurackal CMI

Pastor

Rosary Intention: In thanksgiving to God for all our Blessings, Gifts and Graces.

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. BRARDS' PARISHES

Monday	Nov. 24		No Mass:
Tuesday	Nov. 25	ASC. ASC. ASC.	Adoration: 3pm-6pm Confession: 5:45-6:05pm Mass: 6:15pm
Wednesday	Nov. 26	ST. B. ST. B. ST. B.	Confession: 7:30-7:50am Mass: 8:00am Adoration: 2:00pm-6:00pm
Thursday	Nov. 27	ASC.	Thanksgiving Mass: 9:00am
Friday	Nov. 21		No Mass:
Saturday	Nov. 22	ASC. ASC.	Confession: 4:30pm-4:50pm Mass: 5:00pm
Sunday	Nov. 23	ASC. ST. B.	Mass: 8:00am Mass: 10:00am

What is going on in our Parishes
and in the Community

Thanksgiving Mass will be at Ascension this year at 9:00am.

Please note that the Parish Office will be closed on Thursday, November 27th, and Friday, November 28th, for Thanksgiving. There will be no Friday morning Mass on November 28th at Ascension.

Our Combined Advent Reconciliation Service will be on Wednesday, December 10th at St. Bernard starting at 6:30pm

Mass will be at 8am at Ascension and 6:15pm at St. Bernard on Monday, December 8th for the Immaculate Conception. Please note that this is a Holy Day of Obligation

The **Word Among Us** is available for Advent. These are free to all Parishioners, so please take one!

MARRIAGE RETREAT:

Worldwide Marriage Encounter Retreat is an enrichment for married couples who value their relationship and desire a richer, fuller life together. Please join us at Our Lady of Grace Parish in Edina for a 2-day Weekend Retreat - March 7-8, 2026. Go home Saturday evening and return Sunday morning. Take time to connect with your spouse, work through common themes together and renew your marriage. To apply or for info: call 612-334-7440 or WWME.org.

Come Away With Me Retreat- Thursday, Dec. 4, 8:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m., Dunrovin Retreat Center, Marine on Saint Croix. God invites you to "Come away with Me." During this one-day retreat, each retreatant is welcomed into a day of prayer, quiet, and rest through Scripture reflections and Eucharistic adoration. A meal will be shared, and snacks are plentiful. Walk Dunrovin's beautiful grounds or take a nap. Peace be with you. Find more information at dunrovin.org/visit/adult-retreats/come-away-with-me-retreats.

Church of Ascension

Ascension Weekly Collection Report Totals as of 11/09/2025

Weekly Operating Budget:	\$ 3,182.70
Weekly Envelopes/Plate:	1,943.00
Weekly E-Giving:	720.00
Collections Budget YTD:	\$ 60,471.30
Actual Collection YTD:	\$ 57,589.00
Total Collected Over (Under) YTD:	\$ (2,882.30)

Capital Improvement Offering:	120.00
Capital Improvement-E-Giving:	25.00
Capital Improvement YTD:	\$ 3,720.00



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!

"You cannot be half a Saint; you must be a whole saint or no saint at all."

-St. Therese of Lisieux

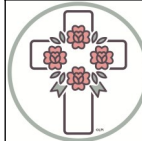
Church of St. Bernard

St. Bernard Stewardship of Treasure

Budget for week	3,208.20
Contributions 11-05 through 11-11-2025	1,683.00
Total Actual Collection YTD	63,636.50
Total Actual Collection Over (Under) Budget	2,175.91
Forward in Faith	
Envelope Income	109.00
Electronic Donations	51.00
Forward in Faith Total	160.00
Forward in Faith YTD	4,222.50



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!



Please pray for the repose of the soul of Edward Brown whose funeral was Saturday November 22nd, and for his family during this time.

Faith Formation Update:

We are once again asking you to prayerfully consider donating to our STBAFF sponsorship program. Over the years we have raised over \$57,000 to support our families and children in Faith Formation. These donations help to fill the gap in the budget as well as help with the special projects we do over the year that gives back to our community like the Blessing Bags that go to Sharing & Caring Hands, and the Christmas Bags that are distributed at Peace Villa. Sponsorship forms can be picked up in the back of Church as Ascension and in the Narthex at St. Bernard. The youth of our Parishes are the future of our Church and so please prayerfully considering supporting our program and community.

Mass Ministry Schedule—November 29th and 30th

Mass Ministry	Ascension Sat. 5:00 pm	Ascension Sun. 8:00 am	St. Bernard Sun. 10:00 am
Sacristan	Sherry Witte	Cheryl Coyle	Doris Mielke
Servers	Volunteers	Steve Lemmer	Marshall Panning & Logan Pellegrino
Reader	Brian Willems	Cheryl Coyle	Patricia Quinn
Eucharistic Ministers	Cathleen Williams	Irene Yaeck	Helen Nicklaus
Ushers	Tom Lano & Steve Schrupp	Richard Tellers & Don Whitaker	Tom Dahl & Leo Willems
Greeters	Jim Mulville	Steve Coyle	Victoria Arnst
Homebound Ministers	N/A	Rich & Sue Tellers	

Mass Times Intentions

Monday	Nov. 24		No Mass
Tuesday	Nov. 25 6:15 pm	Ascension	Alan Klobe †
Wednesday	Nov. 26 8:00 am	St. Bernard	
Thursday	Nov. 27 9:00 am	Ascension	For an Increase in Vocations
Friday	Nov. 28		No Mass
Saturday	Nov. 29 5:00 pm	Ascension	Ann Nielson †
Sunday	Nov. 30 8:00 am	Ascension	Valentin and Catherine Klobe † †
Sunday	Nov. 30 10:00 am	St. Bernard	

Readings for the week of Nov. 23, 2025
Sunday: 2 Sm 5:1-3/Ps 122:1-2, 3-4, 4-5 (see 1)/Col 1:12-20/Lk 23:35-43 **Monday:** Dn 1:1-6, 8-20/Dn 3:52, 53, 54, 55, 56/Lk 21:1-4 **Tuesday:** Dn 2:31-45/Dn 3:57, 58, 59, 60, 61/Lk 21:5-11 **Wednesday:** Dn 5:1-6, 13-14, 16-17, 23-28/Dn 3:62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67/Lk 21:12-19 **Thursday:** Dn 6:12-28/Dn 3:68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74/Lk 21:20-28 **Friday:** Dn 7:2-14/Dn 3:75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81/Lk 21:29-33 **Saturday:** Dn 7:15-27/Dn 3:82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87/Lk 21:34-36 **Next Sunday:** Is 2:1-5/Ps 122:1-2, 3-4, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9/Rom 13:11-14/Mt 24:37-44

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.

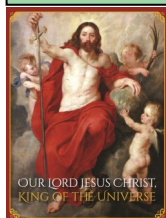
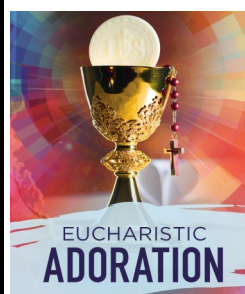
Eucharistic Adoration

Ascension

Every Tuesday
3:00 pm until 6:00 pm

St. Bernard

Every Wednesday
2:00 until 6:00 pm



November 23, 2025 Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe

Not long ago, I was called to a hospital to anoint a woman in her early 80s. She was dying, and visibly in pain. But what struck me most wasn't her suffering — it was the atmosphere in the room. She had eight children and 30 foster kids, and many of them were gathered around her. You'd expect sorrow, fear, maybe even despair. But the room was filled with something else entirely — a quiet strength, a kind of sweetness. It was as if she was suffering not just with them, but for them. And they, in love, were suffering for her. The pain was real. But so was the peace. I didn't want to run. I felt as if I was in a little paradise, beeping machines and all.

I think of that moment when I hear today's Gospel. Jesus, hanging on the cross, doesn't look like a king. But one of the crucified, dying men beside him sees through the suffering and says, "**Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom**" (Luke 23:42). That word — *remember* — literally means to make someone a member again. He's asking to be joined to Christ, to become part of his Body. And Jesus says, "**Today you will be with me in paradise.**"

He doesn't say, "I'll take your suffering away." He says, "**You will be with me.**"

That's the strange power of Christ the King. He doesn't rule by avoiding suffering. He reigns by entering into it, and transforming it with love.

What are you suffering right now in your life? Likely you want it to stop. But if we are willing to suffer with him — paradise begins even today.

— Father John Muir

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