

CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

323 Reform St. N.
NYA, MN. 55368

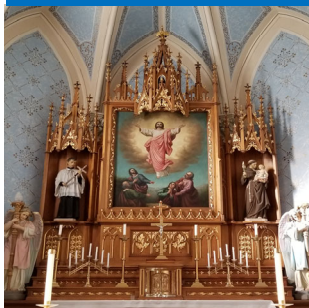
PASTOR

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:

Virginia Hanson ...952-777-0110

busadmin@ascensionnya.org

Tues 10am-2pm & Fri. 9am—2pm

Office Phone: 952-466-2031

Business Administrator:

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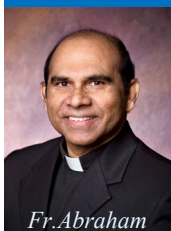
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Sixth Sunday Of Easter – May 09 & May 10, 2026



Fr. Abraham

“You Are Not Alone”

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

The setting of this Sunday’s Gospel (John 14:15–21) is Jesus’ farewell discourse. The apostles are troubled, filled with sadness and uncertainty. Jesus is preparing them for his departure, though they do not yet understand what lies ahead. Into that moment of anxiety, he offers more than reassurance, he offers them a way to live. *“If you love me, you will keep my commandments.”* At first, these words may sound like a condition.

But Jesus is describing a relationship. Love naturally expresses itself in action. When someone truly matters to us, their words and values matter too. Obedience, then, is not about pressure, it is about love made visible in daily life.

Then Jesus promises “another Advocate,” the Spirit of truth. This is a profound assurance. The Holy Spirit is not simply a vague source of comfort, but God’s own presence, guiding, strengthening, and reminding us of all that Jesus taught. While the world may not recognize the Spirit, those who love Christ will come to know this presence deeply.

Jesus assures his disciples an extraordinary promise: *“I will not leave you orphans; I will come to you”*. (Jn 14:18). That is one of the most tender lines in the Gospel. These words reveal the heart of Jesus. He acknowledges their fear of abandonment and answers it with a promise of abiding presence. This is not only a future hope, but a present reality: “I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you.” Christianity is not only about believing in Christ, but about living in him and allowing him to live within us.

The history of the Church over two millennia testifies to the truth of this promise. Jesus did not abandon his followers. The first reading of this Sunday (Acts 8: 5-8, 14-17) describes how the Holy Spirit empowered Philip to preach with conviction, leading many to faith. Through times of persecution and suffering, Christ has remained with his people, strengthening them through the Spirit.

The risen Lord continues to live in us and in his Church. Through the Holy Spirit, our lives are given purpose and direction. The Divine Advocate enlightens our minds, deepens our understanding of faith, and guides us in living out Christian love. Once again, the Gospel returns to its central message: “Those who love me will be loved by my Father, and I will love them and reveal myself to them.” The invitation is simple, though not always easy: to love Christ, to live according to his teachings, and to remain open to the presence of the Holy Spirit, who is closer to us than we often realize.

Happy Mother’s Day. On this special occasion of Mother’s Day, we give thanks for the gift of our mothers. Let us honor them with our love and gratitude—cherishing those who are with us, and remembering in prayer those who have gone before us to their eternal reward. We also recognize and appreciate all “spiritual mothers” who care for others with generosity and prayerful devotion. May Mary, the Mother of Jesus and also our mother, intercede for all mothers and strengthen them in their loving vocation.

Yours in Christ,

Fr. Abraham Kochupurackal CMI

Pastor

Rosary Intention: “For all Mothers, living and deceased”

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	May. 11		No Mass:
Tuesday	May.12	ASC. ASC. ASC.	Adoration: 3pm-6pm Confession: 5:45-6:05pm Mass: 6:15pm
Wednesday	May. 13	ST. B. ST. B. ST. B.	Confession: 7:30am Mass: 8:00am Adoration: 2pm-6pm
Thursday	May. 14	ST. B.	Mass: 8:00am
Friday	May. 15	ASC.	Mass: 8:00am
Saturday	May. 16	ST. B. ST. B. ST. B. ST. B.	Confession: 4:30pm-4:50pm Adoration: 4:30pm-5:00pm Mass: 5:00pm Linger Longer:
Sunday	May. 17	ASC. ST. B. ST. B. ST. B. ST. B.	Mass: 8:00am Adoration: 9:30am-10:00am Graduation Mass Mass: 10:00am Linger Longer:

What is going on in our Parishes and in the Community



Blessing for Mother's Day

Dear Lord,
Pour your goodness and grace upon the women of our community today in a special way. For mothers: fill them with joy and blessing.
For those who have lost children: hold them in their sorrow.
For those who have hoped for children: surround them with Your love.
For those who have lost a mother: may they know Your comfort.
For those carrying difficulty on this day: bring them consolation.

Bless all women this day. Thank you for the love they bring to this world, no matter their circumstances or story.
Amen. ©LPi

Capital Campaign Update:

As we wrap up our Wave of the Campaign, we ask that if you have not had a chance to make a pledge yet, that you prayerfully consider an amount that you are able to give and drop off your pledge card at the parish office or in the offertory basket this coming week and weekend. Thank you for your continued support!

Faith Formation Update:

Congratulations to our Second Graders

Who made their First Communion's last week!



Church of Ascension

Ascension Weekly Collection Report

Totals as of 04/26/2026

Weekly Operating Budget:	\$ 3,182.70
Weekly Envelopes/Plate:	1,943.61
Weekly E-Giving:	835.00
Collections Budget YTD:	\$ 136,856.10
Actual Collection YTD:	\$ 137,921.51
Total Collected Over (Under) YTD:	\$ 1,065.41
Capital Improvement Offering:	170.00
Capital Improvement-E-Giving:	75.00
Capital Improvement YTD:	\$ 9,570.00

Capital Campaign Total Raised So Far:\$315,200-143%



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!

Knights of Columbus – Volunteers Needed!

The Knights of Columbus are looking for helping hands for our annual Winstock bartending fundraiser. It's a fun night of service and community support.
Shift: Friday, June 19 • 8:00 PM–12:30 AM
Requirements: Must be at least 18 years old
To Volunteer: Call or text Bob Willems to sign up or with questions. 612-430-3295.
Come join us for a great night supporting a great cause!

Church of St. Bernard

St. Bernard Stewardship of Treasure

Totals as of 04/26/2026

Weekly Operating Budget:	3,169.58
Weekly Envelopes/Plate	1,515.00
Weekly E-Giving	511.50
Collection Budget YTD:	162,879.09
Actual Collection YTD:	164,585.50
Total Collected Over (Under) YTD	1,706.41
Capital Improvement Offering:	110.00
Capital Improvement E-Giving	145.50
Capital Improvement YTD:	10,124.50
Catholic Home Missions Collection	417.00
Capital Campaign Total Raised So Far:\$366,962 –141%	



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!

Word of Life—“Radical solidarity compels us to come alongside vulnerable mothers in profound friendship, compassion, and support for both them and their preborn children. It requires us to address the fundamental challenges that lead an expectant mother to believe she is unable to welcome the child God has entrusted to her. We must do all we can to provide mothers, children, and families with the support they need to flourish. This cannot be accomplished by laws or policy alone, but requires the continual transformation of our own hearts, recognizing in every person the face of Christ, and placing their needs before our own.” USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities, “Radical Solidarity”

Mass Ministry Schedule—May 16th & 17th

Mass Ministry	St. Bernard Sat. 5:00 pm	Ascension Sun. 8:00 am	St. Bernard Sun. 10:00 am
Sacristan	Doris Mielke	Cheryl Coyle	Patricia Quinn
Servers	Luke Allison & Lexy Allison	Kendra Michels & Jayden Michels	Marshall Panning & Isaac Schrupp
Reader	Joyce Schwartz	Amber Michels	Julie Kleindl
EMHC	Bernie Shambour (H); Sarah Foley (C); Helen Nicklaus (C)	Kathy Kloempken	Julie Clemensen (H); Pam Kunkel (C); Meghan Stusynski (C)
Ushers	Tom Dahl & Ralph Laumann	Steve Coyle & Eugene Dvorak	Andy Kleindl & Bob Symanitz
Greeters	Barbara Knorr	Grace Cook	Judy Glander
Homebound Ministers	N/A	Grp A: Dave & Ann Dettmann Grp B: Rich & Sue Tellers	N/A

Mass Times Intentions

Day	Time	Mass	Intention
Monday	May 11	No Mass	
Tuesday	May 12 6:15 pm	ASC.	Pope Leo XIV
Wednesday	May 13 8:00 am	ST. B.	Benjamin Jenkins †
Thursday	May 14 8:00 am	ST. B.	The Living & Deceased members of the Donna Meuleners Family
Friday	May 15 8:00am	ASC.	Paul Simons †
Saturday	May 16 5:00 pm	ST. B.	Richard Paul † And All Parishioners
Sunday	May 17 8:00 am	ASC.	The Paul-Braunwarth family
Sunday	May 17 10:00 am	ST. B.	High School Graduates

Readings for the week of May 10, 2026
Sunday: Acts 8:5-8, 14-17/Ps 66:1-3, 4-5, 6-7, 16 and 20/1 Pt 3:15-18/Jn 14:15-21
Monday: Acts 16:11-15/Ps 149:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6a and 9b/Jn 15:26-16:4a
Tuesday: Acts 16:22-34/Ps 138: 1-2ab, 2cde-3, 7c-8/Jn 16:5-11
Wednesday: Acts 17:15, 22-18:1/Ps 148: 1-2, 11-12, 13, 14/Jn 16:12-15
Thursday: Acts 1:15-17, 20-26/Ps 113: 1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8/Jn 15:9-17
Friday: Acts 18:9-18/Ps 47:2-3, 4-5, 6-7/Jn 16:20-23
Saturday: Acts 18:23-28/Ps 47: 2-3, 8-9, 10/Jn 16:23b-28
Next Sunday: Acts 1:1-11/Ps 47: 2-3, 6-7, 8-9/Eph 1:17-23/Mt 28:16-20

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.

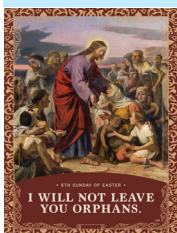
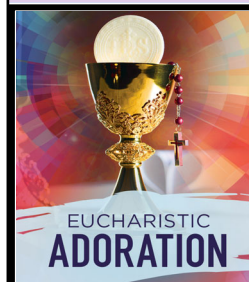
Eucharistic Adoration

Ascension

Every Tuesday
3:00 pm until 6:00 pm

St. Bernard

Every Wednesday
2:00 until 6:00 pm



May 10, 2026 6th Sunday of Easter

In my family, we can hardly speak about orphans without tears. My father was adopted as a baby. He frequently told us stories of how his parents welcomed him not just into their home but into their hearts. It was never merely a relocation or a legal transaction. It was the joy of being chosen, of receiving a family, a name, and a place where he belonged forever. Even in his later years, recalling that gift still moves him to tears of tender gratitude.

That is the kind of tenderness behind Jesus' words in today's Gospel: **"I will not leave you orphans; I will come to you."** (John 14:18) He is going away, but not abandoning us. Instead, he sends us the Advocate, the Holy Spirit — his own Spirit, shared with the Father — who dwells in us. Through the Spirit, Christ is present in us, and we are present in him. His Spirit gives us a home and a family.

We deepen this knowledge in the sacraments, in prayer, and in the daily life of the Church. The Spirit is the bond of belonging, the power that makes us God's sons and daughters, not spiritual orphans. And this is not a one-time event. There is always a deeper outpouring of the Spirit available to us, a fresh appropriation of the promise that we are never abandoned.

If only we could be as grateful as my dad is for his adoption, realizing that we have been adopted by God Himself. In Christ, we are never left as orphans. — *Father John Muir* ©LPi