

CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

323 Reform St. N.
NYA, MN. 55368

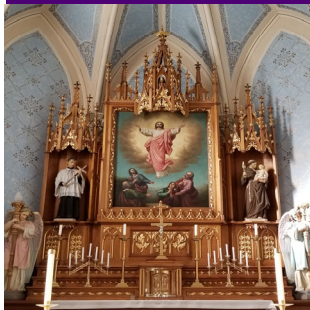
PASTOR

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:

Virginia Hanson952-856-1051

busadmin@st-bernard-cologne.org

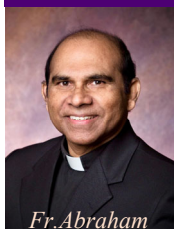
Safe Environment Coordinator:

Sarah Smith...952-856-1052

bookkeeper@st-bernard-cologne.org



Palm Sunday Of The Passion of the Lord – April 12, & 13, 2025



Fr. Abraham

Holy Week: A time of Reflection and Renewal

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

As we begin Holy Week, we focus on the Passion of Jesus Christ (Lk 22). This Sunday is traditionally called “Sunday of the Lord’s Passion” or “Passion Sunday.” Throughout this Lenten season, our parish family has responded to the call to faithfulness through various charitable and spiritual practices, especially through participation in the Holy Mass, the Stations of the Cross, the Rosary, the Sacrament of Reconciliation, and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament.

This Sunday, we remember the moment when Jesus made His final entry into Jerusalem. It was a triumphant arrival, declaring Jesus as King, much like King David’s own entry into the city. St. Luke makes this clear in his gospel: “The whole multitude of his disciples began to praise God aloud with joy for all the mighty works they had seen, saying: ‘Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord!’” (Lk 19:37-38). Jesus is our King, and we are called to follow him. His entry into Jerusalem was just the beginning of the journey. We are invited to walk with him, step by step—from the gates of Jerusalem to the Upper Room, to the Garden of Gethsemane, to the Praetorium, to Calvary, and finally to the tomb, from which he would rise again in glory.

Palm Sunday celebrates the kingship of Christ and his triumph, while Passion Sunday calls us to reflect on both his suffering and his immense love. The Passion narrative speaks of the pain Jesus endured, but it also reveals his love for us. By choosing to go to Jerusalem, Jesus shows His humility and his willingness to save us. This Sunday marks the beginning of our journey into the Paschal Mystery. We re-enact both Christ’s triumphant entry and his passion, which reflect the dual nature of our Christian life.

Today, we are celebrated, but tomorrow, we may face hardship. Today, we are loved, but the next day, we might face rejection. Today, we are praised, but tomorrow, we could be criticized. Like Jesus, those who love God and their neighbors must be ready to face challenges, suffering, and even death. Victory often comes through suffering. The Passion is not the final chapter of Christ’s story—and it is not the final chapter of ours either. It marks the start of the Holy Week journey that will culminate in the glory of Easter Sunday.

Similarly, though many of our days may seem filled with difficulty, they are not the end. These moments are only the prelude to victories that are yet to come in this life, and they point toward the ultimate triumph in the next.

The liturgical celebrations of Holy Week are rich in meaning, and they are intended to be experienced as a continuous celebration of Christ’s Passion, Death, and Resurrection. For this reason, all are encouraged to participate fully in the liturgies on Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter. By participating in these celebrations, we deepen our relationship with God, strengthen our faith, and grow closer to one another as disciples of Christ.

May this Holy Week be a time of reflection and renewal, empowering us to follow our King, Jesus Christ. He walks the challenging and narrow path of the Cross, but we are assured of ultimate victory and the fullness of life.

Rosary Intention: *For the grace filled observance of the Holy Week.*

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**

<i>Monday</i>	Apr. 14		No Mass:
<i>Tuesday</i>	Apr. 15	ST. B. ASC. ASC. ASC.	Quilting Group 9:00am Adoration: 3pm-6pm Confession: 5:45-6:05pm Mass: 6:15pm
<i>Wednesday</i>	Apr. 16	ST. B. ST. B. ST. B.	Confession: 7:30-7:50am Mass: 8:00am Adoration: 2:00am-6:00pm
<i>Thursday</i>	Apr. 17	ST. B.	Mass: 7:00pm
Good Friday	Apr. 18	ASC. ST. B.	Living Stations: 3:00pm Good Friday Service 7:00pm
<i>Saturday</i>	Apr. 19	ASC.	Easter Vigil 8:00pm
Easter Sunday	Apr. 20	ASC. ST. B.	Mass: 8:00am Mass: 10:00am

What is going on in our Parishes
and in the Community

Holy Week Scheduled:

Holy Thursday– St. Bernard at 7pm
 Good Friday-Living Stations at Ascension at 3pm
 Good Friday—St. Bernard at 7pm
 Easter Vigil– Ascension at 8pm

We will be having two special collections the week of Holy Week. Holy Thursday we will be collecting money for our Social Justice Emergency funds.

Good Friday the only collection will be for the Holy Land. Funds are used for the upkeep of shrines like the Church of the Holy Sepulcher in Jerusalem, the Basilica of the Annunciation in Nazareth and the Church of the Nativity in Bethlehem. They also are used to support the parishes, schools and social service projects of the local Catholic communities in those cities and throughout the region, as well as to fund training for priests, religious and university students. Thank you for your generosity!

As a reminder, you can donate to all special collections online through E-Giving!

Reminder to keep decluttering those closets and collecting items for our CUF Fundraiser in partnership with the Epilepsy Foundation of MN! The trailer will be parked in the Ascension Parking Lot from April 22nd- May 6th! More information can be found on our website under the Bulletin page in the March 9th insert. Thank you for you support!

Faith Formation Update:

We will be assembling blessing bags for Sharing and Caring hands for our service night, April 23rd. If you have any unopened toiletry items you will not be using, or would like to donate any, we are gladly accepting them through April 14th! They can be dropped off to either Parish office or put in the basket in the back of Ascension or the Narthex of St. Bernard. Thank you for your generosity!

Church of Ascension

**Ascension Weekly Collection Report
Totals as of 03/30/2025**

Weekly Operating Budget:	\$ 3,101.92
Weekly Envelopes/Plate:	2,221.00
Weekly E-Giving:	570.00
Collections Budget YTD:	120,974.88
Actual Collection YTD:	\$ 129,575.85
Total Collected Over (Under) YTD:	8,600.97
Capital Improvement Offering:	90.00
Capital Improvement-E-Giving:	25.00
Capital Improvement YTD:	\$ 9,885.00



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!

The Final Ascension KC Sunday Bingo

will be on Sunday April 27th starting at 1pm! Come out for a Sunday Funday with the family! Cost is \$6 for one card or 2 for \$10.

Church of St. Bernard

St. Bernard Stewardship of Treasure

Budget for week	2,790.10
Contributions 03-26 through 3-31-2025	1,672.00
Total Actual Collection YTD	151,455.30
Total Actual Collection Over (Under) Budget	14,790.27
Forward in Faith	
Envelope Income	209.00
Electronic Donations	151.00
Forward in Faith Total	360.00
Forward in Faith YTD	36,086.96
Global Solidarity Collection	408.00



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!

Thank you to everyone who helped out at the St. Joes Fish Fry on Friday to benefit St. Bernard Parish! We could not have done it without you. And thank you to everyone who came out for dinner. Your support of our Parish is greatly appreciated!

Word of Life:

“Suicidal individuals—with or without a terminal illness—typically do not want to die; they want to escape what they perceive to be an intolerable situation, and they inaccurately believe that suicide is their only way out. The patient requesting assisted suicide is often asking, ‘Does anyone want me to be alive, or care enough to talk me out of this request and support me through this difficult time?’”

USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities, “Every Suicide is Tragic” usccb.org/every-suicide-tragic

Mass Ministry Schedule—April 17, 18, 19 & 20

Mass Ministry	St. Bernard Holy Thurs. 7:00pm	St. Bernard Good Fri 7:00pm	Ascension Sat. 8:00pm	Ascension Easter Sun. 8:00am	St. Bernard Sun. 10:00am
Sacristan	Pam Kunkel	Patricia Quinn	Cheryl Coyle	Kathy Kloempken	Patricia Quinn
Servers	Dan Worm, Lily Hanson, Marshall Panning	Dan Worm, Lexy Allison & Luke Allison	Josie Friendshuh & Jessica Duenow	Volunteers	Emma Panning & Isaac Schrupp
Reader	Julie Kleindl & Joyce Schwartz	Mary Sue Thaemert & Rob Wickenhauser	Cheryl Coyle & Cathleen Williams	Brian Willems	Sarah Foley
EMHC	Meghan Stusynski (H), Andy Kleindl (C) & Mary Meuwissen (C)	Margaret Wickenhauser (H) Sarah Foley (C)	Lisa Whitaker	Steve Helget	Andy Kleindl & Volunteer
Ushers	Tom Dahl & Leo Willems	Bob Symanitz & Volunteer	Steve Coyle & Volunteer	Steve Schrupp & Tom Lano	Dick Arnst & Bob Symanitz
Greeters	Roger Storms	Brian Vos	Janet Fahey	Volunteer	Brian Vos
Hb Ministers	N/A	N/A	N/A	Dave & Colleen Donnay	N/A

Mass Times Intentions

Day	Time	Location	Intention
Monday	April 14		No Mass
Tuesday	April 15 6:15 pm	Ascension	For Those in Purgatory
Wednesday	April 16 8:00 am	St. Bernard	Fr. Joseph N. Streff †
Holy Thursday	April 17 7:00 pm	St. Bernard	Merlyn & Margaret Eiden †† & Living & Deceased members of the Eiden Family
Good Friday	April 18 7:00 pm	St. Bernard	Good Friday Liturgy
Holy Sat.	April 19 8:00 pm	Ascension	Darlene Mondor †
Easter Sun.	April 20 8:00 am	Ascension	Betty O'Neil †
Easter Sunday	April 20 10:00 am	St. Bernard	Marcy Wickenhauser † & All Parishioners

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

Readings for the week of April 13, 2025

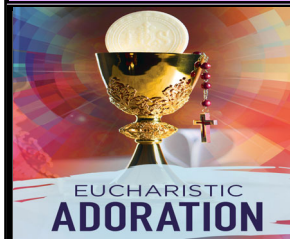
Sunday: Lk 19:28-40/Is 50:4-7/Ps 22:8-9, 17-18, 19-20, 23-24 (2a)/Phil 2:6-11/ Lk 22:14—23:56 or 23:1-49
Monday: Is 42:1-7/Ps 27:1, 2, 3, 13-14/Jn 12:1-11
Tuesday: Is 49:1-6/Ps 71:1-2, 3-4a, 5ab-6ab, 15 and 17/Jn 13:21-33, 36-38
Wednesday: Is 50:4-9a/Ps 69:8-10, 21-22, 31 and 33-34/Mt 26:14-25
Thursday: *Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper:* Ex 12:1-8, 11-14/Ps 116:12-13, 15-16bc, 17-18 (see 1 Cor 10:16)/1 Cor 11:23-26/Jn 13:1-15
Friday: Is 52:13—53:12/Ps 31:2, 6, 12-13, 15-16, 17, 25 (Lk 23:46)/Heb 4:14-16; 5:7-9/Jn 18:1—19:42
Next Sunday: Acts 10:34a, 37-43/Ps 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23/Col 3:1-4/Lk 24:1-12

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.



Eucharistic Adoration

Ascension

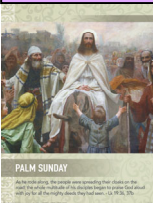
Every Tuesday

3:00 pm until 6:00 pm

St. Bernard

Every Wednesday

2:00 until 6:00 pm



Palm Sunday Luke 19:28-40

“As he rode along, the people were spreading their cloaks on the road.” (Luke 19:36)

Consider how useless it is to spread your clothes on the ground for a donkey to walk on. The clothes get smeared with hooves, and who knows the grimy places where they've been? The animal may leave some unsavory presents on them. They may get stolen by a thief looking to make a buck. The thorns, thistles, rocks and muck of the road will leave stains. The clothes may never be useful again, and you'll probably walk home shivering without your normal covering. Yet this is precisely the gesture the people employ to welcome Jesus and his donkey. Why does this detail matter?

Wastefulness is an essential part of celebration. Consider the unnecessary extravagance of Christmas decorations, confetti and ticker tape parades, baseball players spraying each other with bottles of champagne after a victory, birthday gifts for kids and so on. This wastefulness signals celebration and therefore participation in higher identities (as believers, winners, and parents, to mention the above examples). That's what the wasted cloaks are all about. Those who donate their cloaks participate in Christ's kingship in Jerusalem — and we savor it two thousand years later.

The lesson? Learn how to “waste” money, time, clothes, and food on Christ. We do this at Mass, but in so many other ways, too, like serving the poor, going on retreats, and doing prayerful study. When we practice this holy wastefulness, Jesus will ride into our lives and we'll be more deeply members of his kingdom. — *Father John Muir* ©LPi