

CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

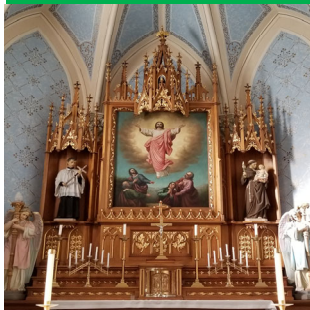
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NYA, MN. 55368

PASTOR

Fr. Abraham Kochupurackal CMI
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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@ascensionny.org

Safe Environment Coordinator:

Sarah Smith...952-777-0111

bookkeeper@ascensionny.org

Parish Office Hours:

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

Office Phone: 952-466-2031

Business Administrator:

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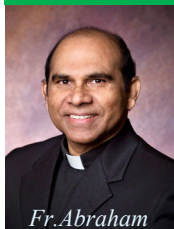
Safe Environment Coordinator:

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Twenty-Sixth Sunday In Ordinary Time – September 28 & 29, 2024



Fr. Abraham

Understanding the Holy Mass - 2

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

3. The Penitential Rite: We must strive to approach the altar of God with humble dispositions, and should receive the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ free from grave sin, and in a worthy fashion, as St. Paul exhorts us in 1 Corinthians 11:23-29. And so, the priest invites us to “prepare ourselves to celebrate the sacred mysteries” by confessing our sins publicly before almighty God and the congregation. The Penitential Rite gives us a chance to recognize our failings and ask God to cleanse us of all that might hold us back from the celebration of the Eucharist. Our faith teaches that this action will indeed remove the stain of any sins we have committed that are not mortal sins. If we have committed any grave sin, we must first go to Confession before we may receive Holy Communion. For the Penitential Act, the Church has used two main options: a longer prayer called the *Confiteor*, and a simple prayer with three responses.

A. The Confiteor: During the Penitential Rite, the congregation may pray a longer prayer, called the *Confiteor*. “*Confiteor*” is Latin for “I confess”. In the *Confiteor*, we confess our sins, not only “to Almighty God”, but also to our “brothers and sisters”. The prayer thus follows the exhortation of Saint James to “confess your sins to one another”, (James 5:16). Our sins affect our relationship with God and our relationships with each other. The *Confiteor* also challenges to consider seriously four areas in which we may have fallen into sin: “In my thoughts and in my words, in what I have done and in what I have failed to do.” These four points serve as an excellent examination of conscience.

The fourth part, “in what I have failed to do” reminds us that the Christian path is not merely a negative way of avoiding sinful thoughts words, desires, and actions. Christianity is ultimately about the imitation of Christ. We must put on Christ and his virtues. St. Paul exhorts the Colossians to put on compassion, kindness, lowliness, meekness, patience, and most of all love (Colo 3: 12–15). Jesus does not want us merely to avoid sin. He wants us to grow in his self-giving love.

During the *Confiteor*, we should “**strike our breasts**” while saying, “*through my fault, through my fault, through my most grievous fault.*” This prescribed “striking” is a symbolic tapping of the chest with a clenched fist over one’s heart, signifying repentance. This action also recalls the penitent tax collector in Luke, chapter 18, who “beat his breast and prayed, ‘O God, be merciful to me a sinner.’” The *Confiteor* ends with the individual asking for the prayers of the rest of the assembly and the Saints, led by the Blessed Virgin Mary, whose sinlessness and humility are the perfect model for our own Christian lives.

B. The second option’s first response comes from Baruch 3:2 “Have mercy on us, O Lord. For we have sinned before you.” The second response is taken from Psalm 85:8- “Show us, O Lord, your mercy. And grant us your salvation.” The third option for the Penitential Rite is based on Isaiah 61:1-7 where the mission of the Messiah is laid out to bring good news to those in bondage. “He has sent me to bring good news to the afflicted.” The second declaration of the priest comes from Matthew 9:13 “For I came not to call the righteous, but sinners.” The third declaration of the priest is based on Romans 8:34 “It is Christ Jesus, who died, rather, was raised from the dead, who is at the right hand of God, who, indeed intercede for us.” It is perfectly legitimate to use these other, shorter options. The purpose is the same: to declare our sinfulness before God and each other and to implore the Lord for his forgiveness and mercy. At the end of the *Confiteor* or one of the other options, the priest concludes the Rite by offering a **prayer of absolution**, asking ‘God to have mercy, forgive our sins, and bring us to everlasting life’. Bowing our head as the priest says this prayer is one way to accept the mercy of God.

Rosary Intention: “For all who have asked us to pray for them.”

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 | Sep. 30 | | No Mass: |
| Tuesday | Oct. 1 | ASC. ASC. ASC. | Adoration: 3pm-6pm Confession: 5:45-6:05pm Mass: 6:15pm |
| Wednesday | Oct. 2 | ST. B. ST. B. ST. B. ASC. | Confession: 7:30-7:50am Mass: 8:00am Adoration: 2:00-6:00pm Faith Formation: |
| Thursday | Oct. 3 | ST. B. | Mass: 8:00am |
| Friday | Oct. 4 | ASC. | Mass: 8:00am |
| Saturday | Oct. 5 | ASC. ST. B. ST. B. | Prayers for Our Children: 11:00-1200pm Confession: 4:30-4:50pm Mass: 5:00pm |
| Sunday | Oct. 6 | ASC. ASC. ST. B. ST. B. | Mass: 8:00am Donut Sunday: Mass: 10:00am Soup Social: 11:00am |

What is going on in our Parishes and in the Community

Check out our new Website!

We are excited to share that we have a new joint website-www.ascensionstbernardparishes.org. The old websites are no longer active, so please use this new website to access Bulletins, parish updates and upcoming events, as well as Faith Formation information!

Reminder that our existing E-giving platforms will be transitioned out at the end of September. If you have not done so already, please take a minute to sign up for a ParishSOFT E-giving account! You can scan the QR Code under the weekly collection report or also on our website under the Ascension or St. Bernard page. If the Parish office set up your E-giving, please contact us and we can cancel your previous donation. Thank you for your continued support of our Parishes and Ministries!

For the cry of the Earth— *The Pope's September Prayer Intention.*: We pray that each one of us will hear and take to heart the cry of the Earth and of victims of natural disasters and climate change, and that all will undertake to personally care for the world in which we live.

Faith Formation Update:



Thank you to our wonderful volunteers who have stepped forward to help with our 2024-25 Faith Formation Program! We are blessed to have so many who come back year to year to make this such a successful program. May God Bless you abundantly!

Church of Ascension

Ascension Weekly Collection Report

Totals as of 09/08/2024

| | |
|--|-------------------|
| Weekly Operating Budget: | \$ 3,101.92 |
| Weekly Envelopes/Plate: | 2,731.00 |
| Weekly E-Giving: | 815.00 |
| Collections Budget YTD: | 34,121.12 |
| Actual Collection YTD: | 33,102.00 |
| Total Collected Over (Under) YTD: | (1,019.12) |
| Capital Improvement Offering: | 220.00 |
| Capital Improvement-E-Giving: | 45.00 |
| Capital Improvement YTD: | \$2,880.00 |



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!

Ascension Bible Study will be starting up Sunday October 6th after the 8am Mass. This will be a 7 week course and we will be studying "*Conversion: Following the Call of Christ*". Cost is \$12 for the workbook. Call or text Chris George at 763-898-9854 to register!

Church of St. Bernard

St. Bernard Stewardship of Treasure

| | |
|--|-------------------|
| Budget for week | 3,100.00 |
| Contributions 09-11 through 09-17-2024 | 3,787.00 |
| Total Actual Collection YTD | 32,977.00 |
| Total Actual Collection Over (Under) Budget | (2,060.52) |
| Forward in Faith | |
| Envelope Income | 1,007.00 |
| Electronic Donations | 0.00 |
| Forward in Faith Total | 1,007.00 |
| Forward in Faith YTD | 5,244.00 |



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!

St. Bernard's "Soup Social" (formerly Chili Feed) and Cash Raffle is scheduled for Sunday, October 6th from 11:00 am. To 4:00 pm. Or the soup is gone. Envelopes with extra Raffle tickets and Quilt Chance sheet are available in the Narthex. Available on a separate table in the narthex are baskets for your "Silent Auction items" and also containers for your baked goods A box for your money and Raffle ticket stubs is also on a table in the narthex. Please help us make this years "Soup Social" a Hugh success. Thank you.

Word of Life "Over the years, the FDA has bent the law and shown disregard for women's health when it comes to chemical abortion. In 2000, mifepristone was first approved using an 'accelerated' review process that is supposed to be only for new drugs that treat serious illnesses and are better than existing treatments. But pregnancy is not an illness, and abortion drugs are riskier than surgical abortion."

USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities, "Abortion Pills: The Basics"

Mass Ministry Schedule—October 5 & 6

| Mass Ministry | St. Bernard Sat. 5:00 pm | Ascension Sun. 8:00 am | St. Bernard Sun. 10:00 am |
|------------------------------|------------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Sacristan | Doris Mielke | Kathy Kloempken | Patricia Quinn |
| Servers | Logan Pellegrino & Volunteer | Jayden Michels & Caleb Michels | Dan Worm & Marshall Panning |
| Reader | Mary Sue Thaemert | Colleen Donnay | Brenda Jones |
| Eucharistic Ministers | Margaret Wickenhauser | Steve Helget | Pam Kunkel |
| Ushers | Ralph Laumann & Leo Willems | Justin Buckentin & Eugene Dvorak | Leonard Hoen Jr. & Bob Symanitz |
| Greeters | Roger Storms | Steve Coyle | Andy Kleindl |
| Homebound Ministers | N/A | Theresa Hartmann & Pat Johnson | |

| Mass Times Intentions | | | |
|-----------------------|------------------------|-------------|--|
| Monday | Sept. 30 | | No Mass |
| Tuesday | Oct. 1 6:15 pm | Ascension | Ozward Schmitz † |
| Wednesday | Oct. 2 8:00 am | St. Bernard | Leonard Sr. & Lorraine Hoen †† |
| Thursday | Oct. 3 8:00 am | St. Bernard | Hilbert & Euella Knauer †† |
| Friday | Oct. 4 8:00 am | Ascension | Mass of Reparation |
| Saturday | Oct. 5 5:00 pm | St. Bernard | Gilbert Rademacher † & All Parishioners |
| Sunday | Oct. 6 8:00 am | Ascension | Alice Enright † |
| Sunday | Oct. 6 10:00 am | St. Bernard | The Deceased Members of the Bernard Mohrbacher family |

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

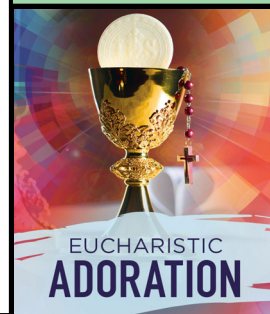
Communion for Homebound
Ascension - Sue Tellers.....612-247-6881
St. Bernard - Barb Knorr.....952-484-9628

Anointing of the Sick
Call the parish office at any time.

Readings for the week of Sept.29, 2024
Sunday: Nm 11:25-29/Ps 19:8, 10, 12-13, 14 (9a)/Jas 5:1-6/Mk 9:38-43, 45, 47-48 **Monday:** Jb 1:6-22/Ps 17:1bcd, 2-3, 6-7/Lk 9:46-50 **Tuesday:** Jb 3:1-3, 11-17, 20-23/Ps 88:2-3, 4-5, 6, 7-8/Lk 9:51-56 **Wednesday:** Jb 9:1-12, 14-16/Ps 88:10bc-11, 12-13, 14-15/Mt 18:1-5, 10 **Thursday:** Jb 19:21-27/Ps 27:7-8a, 8b-9abc, 13-14/Lk 10:1-12 **Friday:** Jb 38:1, 12-21; 40:3-5/Ps 139:1-3, 7-8, 9-10, 13-14ab/Lk 10:13-16 **Saturday:** Jb 42:1-3, 5-6, 12-17/Ps 119:66, 71, 75, 91, 125, 130/Lk 10:17-24 **Next Sunday:** Gn 2:18-24/Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5, 6 (see 5)/Heb 2:9-11/Mk 10:2-16 or 10:2-12

**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@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.**



Eucharistic Adoration
Ascension
 Every Tuesday
 3:00 pm until 6:00 pm

St. Bernard
 Every Wednesday
 2:00 until 6:00 pm



September 29, 2024 26th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Maggots, grubs, worms. When I imagine one or many of these nasty slimy buggers living inside my body — unseen, feeding off my flesh, slowly rotting me out — I feel deeply disgusted. If I knew I had a worm, I would do anything to remove the alien invader, and fast. But what if I couldn't ever get it out?

This is precisely the image Jesus uses to describe those who cause others to sin and fail to cut out what leads them to sin. He contrasts the kingdom of God with Gehenna, “where the worm does not die.” If we can stomach it for a moment, there is much wisdom in this nauseating metaphor.

First, sin is always parasitic. It feeds on what is good like a worm in a host. It's not symbiotic or additive, as virtue and love always are. Sin invades, devours, and damages the sinner. Second, sin is always social. No matter how hidden, it quietly eats away at others — usually the most poor and vulnerable, the “little ones,” as the Lord says. How healthy it is for us to acknowledge this! Our gossiping, greed, over-indulgence, lying, pride, laziness, lust for power and reputation, and so on ... they do not add anything to life. They are worms eating away at others and ourselves.

We cut out these filthy parasites through genuine repentance and bold action. Imagine the peace and relief that follows the removal of a sickening worm from your body. How much greater is the peace we enjoy when the spiritual worms are gone for good. We'd never wait to act against physical parasites. Neither should we with the worms of sin. — *Father John Muir* ©LPi