

# CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION

323 Reform St. N.  
NYA, MN. 55368

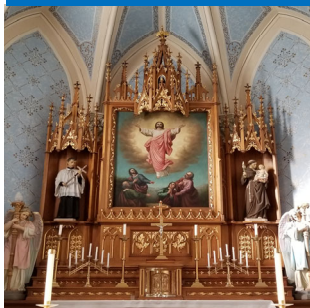
## PASTOR

Fr. Abraham Kochupurackal CMI

OFFICE .....952-856-1050  
frabraham@st-bernard-cologne.org

# ST. BERNARD CHURCH

212 Church Street E.  
Cologne, MN. 55322



Website: [www.ascensionstbernardparishes.org](http://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](mailto:busadmin@ascensionnya.org)

### Safe Environment Coordinator:

Virginia Hanson ...952-777-0110

[busadmin@ascensionnya.org](mailto:busadmin@ascensionnya.org)

Tues 10am-2pm & Fri. 9am—2pm

Office Phone: 952-466-2031

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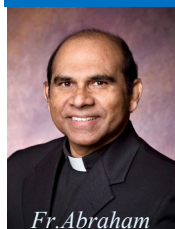
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## The Ascension Of The Lord – May 16 & May 17, 2026



Fr. Abraham

## 40 HOURS OF ADORATION ST. BERNARD June 4<sup>th</sup> 8:00 pm - June 6<sup>th</sup> 5:00 pm



Dear Sisters and Brothers,

The Forty Hours Devotion is a cherished Catholic tradition that involves continuous prayer before the Blessed Sacrament, exposed in a monstrance for forty hours, typically spanning three days. It begins with a Mass of Exposition and concludes with a Mass of Reposition, often accompanied by a Eucharistic procession and Benediction. This devotion offers a profound opportunity for prayer, reflection, and spiritual renewal.

Participation in the Forty Hours Devotion invites individuals and families to deepen their relationship with Christ through focused prayer and adoration. It is also a powerful act of reparation and intercession, especially in times of spiritual need. Gathering together in this way strengthens our unity as a parish community and renews our awareness of the Real Presence of Christ in the Eucharist. In a world where devotion to the Eucharist can diminish, this sacred time stands as a vital witness to its central place in our Catholic life.

As we celebrate the third year of this beautiful devotion, we are deeply grateful for the faithful participation of our parishioners and all who have joined us in prayer in past years.

You are warmly invited to participate in our annual Forty Hours Devotion in honor of Our Lord in the Most Holy Eucharist. This sacred time of prayer will begin with Holy Mass at **8:00 pm. on Thursday, June 4, at St. Bernard**, and will conclude with Holy Mass at **5:00 pm. on Saturday, June 6**, the eve of the Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ. May this time of devotion inspire and strengthen our faith, and draw each of us closer to our Lord Jesus Christ.

We are seeking volunteers to ensure that **at least one adorer is present** before the Blessed Sacrament at all times. For **overnight hours**, we kindly ask that **two or three adorers** be present whenever possible.

**Sign up sheets are located at St Bernard and Ascension. You may also sign up by scanning the QR code or through Sign up Genius:** <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F0E4FA5A72EABFC1-63919621-40hour>



Contact Pam Kunkel [pkunkel654@gmail.com](mailto:pkunkel654@gmail.com) Mobile # (952) 564-1832 or Doris Mielke, Mobile # (612) 910-2365 with any questions or concerns.

*All are welcome to join us for 40 Hours of Adoration.*

Yours in Christ,  
Fr. Abraham Kochupurackal CMI  
Pastor

**Rosary Intention:** “For the Graduates”

**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>	May. 18		No Mass:
<i>Tuesday</i>	May. 19	ASC. ASC. ASC.	Adoration: 3pm-6pm Confession: 5:45-6:05pm Mass: 6:15pm
<i>Wednesday</i>	May. 20	ST. B. ST. B. ST. B.	Confession: 7:30am Mass: 8:00am Adoration: 2pm-6pm
<i>Thursday</i>	May. 21	ST. B.	Mass: 8:00am
<i>Friday</i>	May. 22	ASC.	Mass: 8:00am
<i>Saturday</i>	May. 23	ASC. ASC. ASC.	Confession: 4:30pm-4:50pm Adoration: 4:30pm-5:00pm Mass: 5:00pm
<i>Sunday</i>	May. 24	ASC. ASC. ST. B.	Adoration: 7:30am-8:00am Mass: 8:00am Mass: 10:00am

What is going on in our Parishes  
and in the Community

**Our Memorial Day Mass will be held at Ascension this year at 8:45am. Please have all cemetery decorations picked up by June 1st for our mowers.**

**Mark your Calendars for the Joint Parish Picnic! It will be hosted by St. Bernard this year on September 19th after the 4:00pm Mass. As always we are looking for volunteers to help. If you are able to help, please reach out to Doris Mielke.**

**Food For The Poor'** Father Martin A. Ahiaba will be visiting our parish to speak on behalf of 'Food For The Poor' during the weekend of May 30 & 31, 2026. 'Food For The Poor' Organization works to end the suffering of impoverished children and families in the Caribbean and Latin America. In each face they see the living Christ, who is hungry, thirsty, and homeless. Their ministry focuses on the greatest needs of the destitute. Father Ahiaba will share personal witness about Food For The Poor's mission to care for the destitute as a means of living out the Gospel mandate to love one another. Please welcome Fr. Ahiaba and pray for 'Food For The Poor's' ministry.

### Capital Campaign Update:

**As we wrap up our Waves of the Campaign, we want to thank everyone who participated in supporting the future of both our Parishes and the Archdiocese. Your generosity will be impact future generations of Minnesota Catholics!**

### Faith Formation Update:

**Thank you to everyone who donated items to our Faith Formation/Epilepsy Foundation Fundraiser! It was another very successful year. Stay tuned for final numbers!**

## Church of Ascension

### Ascension Weekly Collection Report Totals as of 05/03/2026

Weekly Operating Budget:	\$ 3,182.70
Weekly Envelopes/Plate:	1,080.00
Weekly E-Giving:	965.00
Collections Budget YTD:	\$ 140,038.80
Actual Collection YTD:	\$ 139,966.51
<b>Total Collected Over (Under) YTD:</b>	<b>\$ (72.29)</b>
Capital Improvement Offering:	230.00
Capital Improvement-E-Giving:	51.00
Capital Improvement YTD:	\$ 9,826.00

**Capital Campaign Total Raised So Far:\$334,320-152%**



**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 05/03/2026

Weekly Operating Budget:	3,197.52
Weekly Envelopes/Plate	<b>2,095.00</b>
Weekly E-Giving	765.00
Collection Budget YTD:	166,076.61
Actual Collection YTD:	<b>167,445.50</b>
<b>Total Collected Over (Under) YTD</b>	<b>1,368.89</b>
Capital Improvement Offering:	159.00
Capital Improvement E-Giving	200.00
Capital Improvement YTD:	<b>10,483.50</b>
Catholic Home Missions Collection	98.00

**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**—“The Lord says to us, ‘Do not fear: I am with you’ (Isaiah 41:10). He speaks these words not as one who merely observes our pain, but as one who experienced immense suffering. And the very wounds that bear witness to his suffering indicate the essence of our identity and worth: we are loved by God. Reflecting on the healed wounds of the Risen Christ, we see that even our most difficult trials can be the place where God manifests his victory. He makes all things beautiful. He makes all things new.” USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities, “Be Not Afraid”

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## Mass Ministry Schedule—May 23rd & 24th

Mass Ministry	Ascension Sat. 5:00 pm	Ascension Sun. 8:00 am	St. Bernard Sun. 10:00 am
Sacristan	Sherry Witte	Brian Willems	Monica Kooiman
Servers	Hailey & Payton Stender	Charlie Friendshuh & Josie Friendshuh	Buckley Jones & Emma Panning
Reader	Volunteer	Colleen Donnay	Brenda Jones
EMHC	Pat Johnson	Curt Wilson	Volunteer
Ushers	Steve Schrupp & Rick Ulrich	Justin Buckentin & Eugene Dvorak	Tom Dahl & Andy Kleindl
Greeters	Jeremy & Julie Gesinger	Sue Schultz	Casey Jones
Homebound Ministers	N/A	Grp A: Dave & Ann Dettmann Grp B: Dave & Colleen Donnay	N/A

### Mass Times Intentions

Day	Time	Church	Intention
Monday	May 18		No Mass
Tuesday	May 19 6:15 pm	ASC.	Elroy & Myrtle Buesgens ††
Wednesday	May 20 8:00 am	ST. B.	Merlyn & Margaret Eiden † & Living & Deceased memers of the Eiden Family
Thursday	May 21 8:00 am	ST. B.	Martin J. Quinn †
Friday	May 22 8:00am	ASC.	Donna Meuleners † Family
Saturday	May 23 5:00 pm	ASC.	Dennis & Bernice Wickenhauser ††
Sunday	May 24 8:00 am	ASC.	Donna Meuleners †Family
Sunday	May 24 10:00 am	ST. B.	Stanley Paul † & All Parishioners

**Readings for the week of May 17, 2026**  
**Sunday:** Acts 1:1-11/Ps 47: 2-3, 6-7, 8-9/ Eph 1:17-23/Mt 28:16-20 **Monday:** Acts 19:1-8/Ps 68:2-3ab, 4-5acd, 6-7ab/Jn 16:29-33 **Tuesday:** Acts 20:17-27/Ps 68:10-11, 20-21/Jn 17:1-11a **Wednesday:** Acts 20:28-38/ Ps 68:29-30, 33-35a, 35bc-36ab/Jn 17:11b-19 **Thursday:** Acts 22:30; 23:6-11/Ps 16:1-2a and 5, 7-8, 9-10, 11/Jn 17:20-26 **Friday:** Acts 25:13b-21/Ps 103:1-2, 11-12, 19-20ab/ Jn 21:15-19 **Saturday:** Acts 28:16-20, 30-31/Ps 11:4, 5 and 7/Jn 21:20-25 **Next Sunday:** Acts 2:1-11/Ps 104:1 and 24, 29-30, 31 and 34/1 Cor 12:3b-7, 12-13/Jn 20:19-23

**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.....952-484-9628

#### Anointing of the Sick

Call the parish office at any time.

### Eucharistic Adoration

#### Ascension

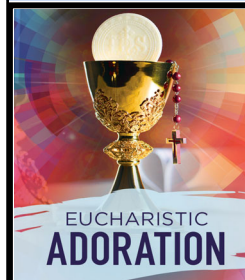
Every Tuesday

3:00 pm until 6:00 pm

#### St. Bernard

Every Wednesday

2:00 until 6:00 pm



### May 17, 2026 7th Sunday of Easter

Not long after my brother's first child was born, a beautiful little girl named Mary Elise, I asked him what it was like. Was he nervous? Overwhelmed? He said, "When I first held her, I was in such shock. I think I just said, 'I am your dad. I am your dad.'" That moment marked a deep transformation for him. He was not just holding a baby; he was stepping into a new identity. Over the years, I have seen him live his fatherhood with quiet sacrifice, joy, and faithfulness. It started with that moment of truth.

This, I propose, is a glimpse of what Jesus means when he prays, "**Consecrate them in the truth.**" (John 17:17) To be consecrated is to be set apart in love, not taken out of the world. Consecration sends us into it with a new identity, always one that binds us to him and to others in love. Our bond to Jesus and others is the deep truth that he continually renews.

Whenever we speak deep truths about ourselves, we experience this renewal: "I have sinned;" "I need help;" "I forgive you;" "I take you as my husband;" "I believe in one God..." Whether in confession, in the liturgy, or in a recovery group, truth heals and transforms.

And the deepest truth of all? That we belong to the Risen and Ascended Christ. Our lives are no longer just ours. We are his and he is ours.

Name one truth you need to step into more deeply, about yourself, someone else, or God. Maybe put it on a note on your mirror. Let that truth consecrate you this week. — *Father John Muir* ©LPi