

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

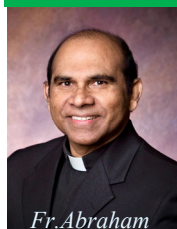
Safe Environment Coordinator:

Sarah Smith...952-856-1052

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Twenty-Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time – October 11 & 12, 2025



Fr. Abraham

Stewardship: A Way of Life Rooted in Gratitude

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

This weekend, we begin the Stewardship Process in our parish—a vital moment in our spiritual journey together. Stewardship is more than a program or campaign; it is a way of life, rooted in the recognition that God is the Creator and Owner of all. Every blessing we enjoy—our time, our talents, and our treasure—comes from Him.

Stewardship is our response to this generosity. It is how we say “thank you” to God by returning a portion of what we’ve received, offering it in service to Him and to our community. Living as stewards transforms us. It calls us to move from self-centeredness to Christ-centeredness, leading to a true conversion of the heart and deepening our relationships with God and one another.

This Sunday’s Scripture readings offer a powerful reflection on gratitude. In the First Reading (2 Kings 5:14–17), Naaman, the pagan army commander, returns to thank the prophet Elisha after being healed of leprosy. He brings costly gifts to express his gratitude. In the Gospel (Luke 17:11–19), we hear of ten lepers healed by Jesus, yet only one—a Samaritan, a gentile—returns to thank Him. The other nine, who were Jews, walk away without a word of gratitude.

Jesus asks the question: “Where are the other nine?” The Samaritan leper, seen as an outsider, becomes a model of faith and thankfulness. His response reminds us not to take God’s gifts for granted. As we reflect on these readings, we are invited to ask ourselves: **How grateful are we for the blessings God has given us? Do we take the time to recognize and return thanks?**

In our own parish, we are blessed with many generous people who offer their time, talents, and financial support. Their sacrifices have helped build a vibrant, faithful community. Through their ministries and quiet acts of service, they have made a lasting impact on the life of our parish.

Over the next three weekends, you will hear from fellow parishioners about their personal experiences with stewardship—how giving has transformed their lives and their faith. This is a time for all of us to reflect prayerfully on how we, too, are called to give back.

At the conclusion of this three-week process, you will be invited to make a **concrete commitment** of your **time, talent, and treasure** in support of our parish’s mission.

Thank you for your generosity, your prayers, and your willingness to share God’s blessings with our parish family. May this season of stewardship be one of grace, gratitude, and renewal for us all.

Rosary Intention: *That our community may grow in faith through active and joyful stewardship.*

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	Oct. 13		No Mass:
Tuesday	Oct. 14	ASC. ASC. ASC.	Adoration: 3pm-6pm Confession: 5:45-6:05pm Mass: 6:15pm
Wednesday	Oct. 15	ST. B. ST. B. ST. B.	Confession: 7:30-7:50am Mass: 8:00am Adoration: 2:00pm-6:00pm
Thursday	Oct. 16	ST. B.	Mass: 8:00am
Friday	Oct. 17	ASC.	Mass: 8:00am
Saturday	Oct. 18	ST. B. ST. B. ST. B.	Adoration 4:30pm Confession: 4:30pm-4:50pm Mass: 5:00pm
Sunday	Oct. 19	ASC. ASC. ST. B. ST. B.	Mass: 8:00am Coffee Truck! 7:30am-10:30am Adoration 9:30am Mass: 10:00am

What is going on in our Parishes and in the Community

We will be having the **Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick** this weekend. Ascension's Anointing of the Sick will be after the 5pm Saturday Mass and St. Bernard's will be after the 10 am Mass on Sunday.

Next Sunday is World Mission Sunday, a day when Catholics around the globe unite in prayer and generosity for the Church's missionary work. This week, we invite you to pray the World Mission Rosary, created by Venerable Archbishop Fulton Sheen. Each decade represents a region of the world, reminding us that we are one family in mission. We will be taking a second collection next weekend to assist the Church's missionary work in 1,124 mission territories. Please consider how you will participate next Sunday through your prayer and support.

Catechetical Institute: Three Ages of the Interior Life -Tuesdays, Oct. 14-Nov. 11, 7-9 p.m., Our Lady of Grace, Edina

Expand your Knowledge of the Spiritual Life and Contemplative Prayer! Examine the powerful prayer methods of St. John of the Cross and St. Teresa of Avila in this five-session course, from The Saint Paul Seminary Catechetical Institute. Taught by Deacon Dan Gannon, Taught by Deacon Dan Gannon, director for Ongoing Clergy Formation, Three Ages of the Interior Life will help you understand the essential dispositions needed to progress in holiness and teach you practical ways to enter into the life of grace. Learn more and register at cistudent.com/course-information-Carmelite.

Every October, the Church in the U.S. celebrates **Respect Life Month**. We reflect on the gift of every human life and how to build a culture that protects life from conception to natural death.

Pray the Rosary for the Respect for all life.

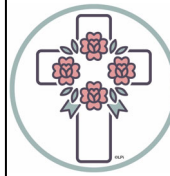
Church of Ascension

Ascension Weekly Collection Report Totals as of 09/28/2025

Weekly Operating Budget:	\$ 3,182.70
Weekly Envelopes/Plate:	1,159.00
Weekly E-Giving:	520.00
Collections Budget YTD:	41,375.10
Actual Collection YTD:	\$ 39,440.00
Total Collected Over (Under) YTD:	\$ (1,935.10)
Capital Improvement Offering:	250.00
Capital Improvement-E-Giving:	25.00
Capital Improvement YTD:	\$ 2,765.00



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!



Please pray for the repose of the soul of **Leo Pouliot** whose funeral was this past Saturday. Please keep his family in your prayers.

Church of St. Bernard

St. Bernard Stewardship of Treasure

Budget for week	3,080.27
Contributions 09-24 through 09-30-2025	4,147.50
Total Actual Collection YTD	45,139.50
Total Actual Collection Over (Under) Budget	4,000.63
Forward in Faith	
Envelope Income	9.00
Electronic Donations	143.00
Forward in Faith Total	152.00
Forward in Faith YTD	2,706.00



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!

Your Prayers are requested for the repose of the soul of **John Foley Jr.**, brother-in-law of Leonard, Roger & Rich Hoen and Patricia Quinn, who passed away September 17.

May **John** rest in peace and may his soul and all the souls of the faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in peace. Please pray also for peace and comfort for **John's** family.

Faith Formation Update:

Thank you to everyone who supported our Faith Formation program and students by participating in the Ascension CUF and Faith Formation Coffee Fundraiser! Stay tuned for information about coffee pickup.

The Elephant Joe's Truck will be at the Ascension parking lot on Sunday Oct. 19th from 7:30-10:30am. 10% of all sales will go back be donated back to Ascension CUF and our Faith Formation program.

Mass Ministry Schedule October 18 & 19

Mass Ministry	St. Bernard Sat. 5:00 pm	Ascension Sun. 8:00 am	St. Bernard Sun. 10:00 am
Sacristan	Doris Mielke	Brian Willems	Patricia Quinn
Servers	Marshall Panning Emma Panning	Brianna Duenow & Jessica Duenow	Buckley Jones & Daniel Worm
Reader	Judy Glander	Sue Tellers	Brenda Jones
EMHC	Margaret Wickenhauser (H); Julie Clemensen (C); Andy Kleindl (C)	Steve Helget	Helen Nicklaus (H); Sarah Foley (C); Pam Kunkel (C)
Ushers	Ralph Laumann & Leo Willems	Eugene Dvorak & Richard Tellers	Leonard Hoen Jr. & Bob Symanitz.
Greeters	Barbara Knorr	Grace Cook	Casey Jones
Homebound Ministers	N/A	Grp A: Dave & Ann Dettmann Grp B: Tim George & Curt Wilson	N/A

Mass Times Intentions

Monday	Oct. 13		No Mass
Tuesday	Oct. 14 6:15 pm	ASC.	Fr. Abraham's Intention
Wednesday	Oct. 15 8:00 am	ST. B.	Adrian Wickenhauser
Thursday	Oct. 16 8:00 am	ST. B.	Merlyn & Margaret Eiden †† & Living & Deceased members of the Eiden Family
Friday	Oct. 17 8:00am	ASC.	For All Parishioners
Saturday	Oct. 18 5:00 pm	ST. B.	Vernon Walter † & All Parishioners
Sunday	Oct. 19 8:00 am	ASC.	Janie Jasin †
Sunday	Oct. 19 10:00 am	ST. B.	Leonard Meuleners †

Readings for the week of Oct. 12, 2025

Sunday: 2 Kgs 5:14-17/Ps 98:1, 2-3, 3-4 (see 2b)/2 Tm 2:8-13/Lk 17:11-19 **Monday:** Rom 1:1-7/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4/Lk 11:29-32 **Tuesday:** Rom 1:16-25/Ps 19:2-3, 4-5/Lk 11:37-41 **Wednesday:** Rom 2:1-11/Ps 62:2-3, 6-7, 9/Lk 11:42-46 **Thursday:** Rom 3:21-30/Ps 130:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6ab/Lk 11:47-54 **Friday:** Rom 4:1-8/Ps 32:1b-2, 5, 11/Lk 12:1-7 **Saturday:** 2 Tm 4:10-17b/Ps 145:10-11, 12-13, 17-18/Lk 10:1-9 **Next Sunday:** Ex 17:8-13/Ps 121:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8 (see 2)/2 Tm 3:14-4:2/Lk 18:1-8

**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@ascensionnyny.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.

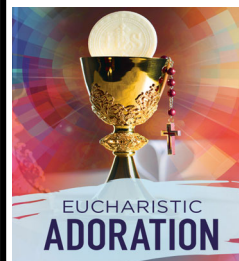
Eucharistic Adoration

Ascension

Every Tuesday
3:00 pm until 6:00 pm

St. Bernard

Every Wednesday
2:00pm until 6:00 pm



October 12, 2025 Twenty-Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Dorothy Day, the great Catholic activist, doubted God's existence. At least in her early adult years. But something changed when after giving birth to her daughter, she experienced an overwhelming gratitude. She later described how, as she held her daughter, the only appropriate response was a kind of unlimited gratitude. She had done nothing to deserve such a gift — this tiny, miraculous life — but there she was, flooded with gratitude, completely undone by the love of such a Giver.

Something similar occurs in Luke 17:19 when Jesus tells a healed leper, **“Stand up and go; your faith has saved you.”** This man had already received physical healing through his faith. But the moment of an even deeper transformation came when he turned back, fell at Jesus' feet, and gave thanks. Like Dorothy, this man's gratitude led him to encounter the Giver.

Isn't that what we want, too? Gratitude to God has the power to break our chains of sadness, bitterness, and disenchantment. It empowers us to step out of the prison of self-pity and into the reality of God's abundant love. It shifts our focus from what we lack to what we have received, from what wounds us to what heals us.

Where do we learn this? The Mass. The priest prays: “It is truly right and just, our duty and our salvation, always and everywhere to give you thanks.” Always. Everywhere. Not just when life is easy. Not just when prayers are answered as we expect. Gratitude is not a passive feeling; it is an act of faith. In the Eucharist, we remember that Christ himself has given everything for us. And in this act of gratitude, we are healed. — *Father John Muir* ©LPi