

ASCENSION & SAINT BERNARD

..... CATHOLIC CHURCHES



Contact Us

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ASCENSION

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Mass schedule

ASCENSION

Saturday Vigil | 5:00pm
(2nd, 4th and 5th Weekends)

Sunday | 8:00am

Tuesday | 6:15pm

Friday | 8:00am

Reconciliation

Tuesday | 5:45-6:05pm

Saturday | 4:30pm-4:50pm

(2nd, 4th and 5th Weekends) or by appointment

SAINT BERNARD

Saturday Vigil | 5:00pm

(1st and 3rd Weekends)

Sunday | 10:00am

Wednesday | 8:00am

Thursday | 08:00am

Reconciliation

Wednesdays | 7:30am - 7:50am

Saturday | 4:30pm-4:50pm

(1st and 3rd) Weekends) or by appointment

Featured News

OUR JOINT PARISH PICNIC WILL BE HOSTED BY ST. BERNARD ON SEPTEMBER 19TH AFTER THE 5:00PM MASS. THIS YEAR IT WILL BE HELD ON THE ST. BERNARD GROUNDS! A-K PLEASE BRING SALADS AND VEGGIES, L-Z PLEASE BRING FRUITS AND DESSERTS. AS ALWAYS WE ARE LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS TO HELP. IF YOU ARE ABLE TO ASSIST, PLEASE REACH OUT TO DORIS MEILKE. HOPE TO SEE EVERYONE THERE!

SEPTEMBER 12TH AND 13TH, 2026 | 24TH LITURGICAL SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Forgiveness and Reconciliation

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

The Scripture readings for this Twenty-Fourth Sunday invite us to reflect on forgiveness and reconciliation. Jesus teaches this message through the parable of the unforgiving servant (Matthew 18:21-35). He tells the story of a servant who owes his master an enormous debt. Unable to repay it, the servant begs for mercy, and the master, moved with compassion, forgives the entire debt. Yet, when that same servant encounters someone who owes him a much smaller amount, he refuses to show the mercy he himself had received. Jesus reminds us that we are all like that servant. We are sinners who continually depend on God's mercy and forgiveness. God does not forgive us because we have earned it, but because God is merciful and loving.

This is why we pray in the Lord's Prayer, *"Forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us."* Having received God's forgiveness, we are called to extend that forgiveness to others. When Peter asks Jesus how often he must forgive, Jesus answers, *"Not seven times but seventy-seven times"*. In other words, forgiveness should not have a limit. As followers of Christ, we are called to forgive those who have offended us and to seek peace rather than allow anger and resentment to take root in our hearts.

Of course, this can be difficult, especially when we have been deeply hurt or when we witness terrible acts of violence and injustice. Forgiveness does not mean forgetting what happened, denying our pain, or pretending that evil is acceptable. It is natural to experience anger, grief, and sorrow when we have been seriously wounded. At the same time, holding on to hatred and anger can gradually consume us. The first reading from the Book of Sirach reminds us to surrender our anger and desire for vengeance to the Lord. Judgment ultimately belongs to God, not to us. Sirach tells us, *"The vengeful will suffer the Lord's vengeance."* Instead, we are called to forgive: *"Forgive your neighbor's injustice; then when you pray, your own sins will be forgiven"* (Sirach 28:1-2). Forgiveness is not always easy, but it is an essential part of our relationship with God. Forgiveness frees us from carrying that burden and allows us to experience the peace that comes from God's love. To forgive is to imitate the mercy of God and to recognize our own need for forgiveness.

Forgiveness also does not mean ignoring injustice or failing to protect the innocent. We must continue to oppose evil, seek justice, and hold people accountable for their actions. Mercy does not cancel justice; rather, it opens a path toward healing, conversion, and reconciliation. Ultimately, Jesus calls us to choose the peace rather than hatred. Forgiveness is often a journey that requires prayer, patience, faith, and sometimes honest dialogue.

May we ask God for the grace to forgive as we have been forgiven, to show mercy as we have received mercy, and to become instruments of peace and reconciliation in our families, communities, and world.

Yours in Christ,

Fr. Abraham Kochupurackal CMI

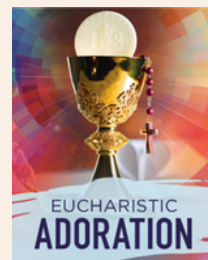
Pastor

What is going on in our community

Join us on Saturday October 3rd for a Pilgrimage to Our Lady of Guadalupe in La Crosse, WI! The day will be filled with Mass, Prayer and fellowship. Meeting time is 7:00am at St. Bernard where a bus will take you down to The Shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe. Please plan on bringing your own food and beverages, or purchasing a lunch at the Café. Contact Pam Kunkle or the Parish Office for more information! A free will donation will be accepted.



EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION



ASCENSION
EVERY TUESDAY
3:00PM UNTIL 06:00PM

ST. BRNARD
EVERY WEDNESDAY
2:00PM UNTIL 6:00PM

Rosary Intention:

"May our Joint Parish Picnic strengthen our community and help us grow together in faith."

Ascension Mass Intentions

TUESDAY: 6:15pm- Father Abraham's Intention
FRIDAY: 8:00am- Paul Simons +
SATURDAY 5:00pm- NO MASS
SUNDAY: 8:00am - Living & Deceased of the Braunwarth-Brown Family

Ascension News

A special Thank you to everyone who helped to make the Stiftungsfest Polka Mass possible! We received many wonderful compliments and are so appreciative to everyone who gave of their time and talent!



Ascension Weekly Collection Report

Totals as of 08/30/2026

Weekly Operating Budget:	\$ 3,211.54
Weekly Envelopes/Plate	940.00
Weekly E-Giving:	695.00
Collections Budget YTD:	\$ 28,903.86
Actual Collection YTD:	\$ 21,691.00
Total Collected Over (Under) YTD	\$ (7,212.86)
Capital Improvement Offering:	190.00
Capital Improvement-E-Giving:	25.00
Capital Improvement YTD:	\$ 2,637.00



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!

Saint Bernard Mass Intentions

WEDNESDAY: 8:00am- Rebecca Shamla +
THURSDAY: 8:00am- Charles and Julia Straka + +
SATURDAY: 5:00pm- Vernon Walter +
SUNDAY: 10:00am-Clarissa Wickenhauser + and All Parishioners



St. Bernard Stewardship of Treasure

Totals as of 08/30/2026

Weekly Operating Budget:	3,500.00
Weekly Envelopes/Plate	4,586.00
Weekly E-Giving:	235.00
Collection Budget YTD:	31,500.00
Actual Collection YTD:	27,782.25
Total Collected Over (Under) YTD	(3,717.75)
Capital Improvement Offering:	60.00
Capital Improvement E-Giving	54.00
Capital Improvement YTD:	2,756.00



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!

Saint Bernard News

Word of Life—"We pray to you, O Lord, that we always recognize each member of this human family as being made in your image and beloved by you, with worth and dignity."
USCCB, "PRAYER TO HEAL RACIAL DIVISION"

Faith Formation Updates

**REMINDER THAT OUR FIRST DAY OF
CLASS WILL BE WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER
16TH AT ASCENSION!**

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 13, 2026

SUN: SIR 27:30-28:7/PS 103:1-2, 3-4, 9-10, 11-12/ROM 14:7-9/MT 18:21-35 **MON:** NM 21:4B-9/PS 78:1BC-2, 34-35, 36-37, 38/PHIL 2:6-11/JN 3:13-17 **TUES:** 1 COR 12:12-14, 27-31A/PS 100:1B-2, 3, 4, 5/JN 19:25-27 **WED:** 1 COR 12:31-13:13/PS 33:2-3, 4-5, 12 AND 22/LK 7:31-35 **THUR:** 1 COR 15:1-11/PS 118:1B-2, 16AB-17, 28/LK 7:36-50 **FRI:** 1 COR 15:12-20/PS 17:1BCD, 6-7, 8B AND 15/LK 8:1-3 **SAT:** 1 COR 15:35-37, 42-49/PS 56:10C-12, 13-14/LK 8:4-15

SACRAMENTS

Baptisms: Please call the priest to make an appointment.

Marriage Arrangements: You should contact the priest as soon as you become engaged. You must meet with the priest twice, and these meetings should be 6 months before proposed wedding date.

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.

Bulletin requests are due by Wednesday for the bulletin two weekends out. All inserts and announce are due the Thursday morning of the weekend needed. Please emailed your requests or bring to the Parish office at St. Bernard or Ascension.

St. Bernard requests should be emailed to: bulletin@st-bernard-cologne.org. Ascension requests should be emailed to: busadmin@ascensionnya.org.