

# Holy Spirit Polish National Catholic Church

Father Rafal Dadello will be celebrating Holy Mass on Sunday August 26<sup>th</sup> at 11.00 a.m. All are welcome. It is the 21 Ordinary Sunday  
The first reading is from the Book of Joshua  
The second reading is from the Letter of St. Paul to the Ephesians 5:21-27  
The Holy Gospel is from St. Mark: 6:60-69

Father Dadello will also be celebrating Holy Mass for the Catholic community on Saturday, August 25<sup>th</sup> at 4.00 p.m. in St. Paul's Lutheran Church, 32 West Main Street in St. Johnsville.

## **Our Sunday Message**

It was crunch time for some of the disciples. Many had been swept along and had followed Jesus for a variety of reasons — the miracles, the power, the crowds, the prospect of adventure and excitement. However, when he began to teach about the Eucharist many found his words hard to stomach (literally). Jesus' teaching on the Eucharist, like his teaching on the cross, became a stumbling block.

The disciples' response is at least honest, 'This is a hard saying; who can listen to it?'. Many of them rejected his teaching and turned their back on him. Jesus' question to his twelve core disciples elicits a beautiful and profound response from Peter: 'Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life; and we have believed, and have come to know that you are the Holy One of God'.

Jesus' teaching on the Eucharist is an invitation for us to live by faith. We accept and embrace Jesus' teaching; we believe first and then seek to understand. St Cyril of Jerusalem wrote, 'Do not, therefore, regard the bread and wine as simply that, for they are, according to the Master's declaration, the Body and Blood of Christ. Even though the senses suggest to you the other, let faith make you firm. Do not judge in this matter by taste, but be fully assured by faith, not doubting that you have been deemed worthy of the Body and Blood of Christ.' This teaching is spirit and life (v. 63). It is the Holy Spirit who gives us his light so we believe and receive.

Coffee Hour will follow Holy Mass and be sponsored by Ron and Yvonne Hrobuchak

Our annual Polka Festival featuring Tony's Polka Band will be held at the East Herkimer Fish and Game Club on Saturday September 8<sup>th</sup> from 1:00 to 5:00.

The church is conducting a food drive to support the local food pantry. Parishioners are encouraged to bring non-perishable items to church on Sundays. Parishioners are also encouraged to donate paper products, coffee and other items needed for the church's Coffee Hour that is held every Sunday after Holy Mass.

The PNCC was organized in Scranton, PA in 1897. The denomination has over 25,000 members in North America. The church in Little Falls belongs to the Mohawk Valley Seniorate district, which also includes churches in Latham, Schenectady, New York Mills, Rome and Schenectady. More information about the PNCC can be obtained by calling Fr. Dadello at 823-0793, also by visiting [WWW.PNCC.ORG](http://WWW.PNCC.ORG) or [WWW.HOLYSPIRITPNCC.ORG](http://WWW.HOLYSPIRITPNCC.ORG) Anyone needing a ride to Holy Mass can call Karen Filipski at (315) 823-4152 or John Rogers at (315) 429-9314.

May the blessing of the Lord be upon you.