

# Holy Spirit Polish National Catholic Church

Father Rafal Dadello will be celebrating Holy Mass on Sunday March 3<sup>rd</sup> at 11.00 a.m. All are welcome. It is the Third Sunday of Lent  
The first reading is from the Book of Exodus 3:1-8,13-15  
The second reading is from the First Letter of Paul to the Corinthians 10:1-6,10-12  
The Holy Gospel is from St. Luke 13:1-9

Father Dadello will also be celebrating Holy Mass for the Catholic community on Saturday, March 2<sup>nd</sup> at 4.00 p.m. in St. Paul's Lutheran Church, 32 West Main Street in St. Johnsville.

Coffee Hour will follow Holy Mass and be sponsored by Anna Kuchma and Jennie Bednarski

Every Friday during Lent beginning on February 15 we are going to have Stations of the Cross at 6.00 p.m.

## **Our Sunday Message**

In an age without newspapers, TV or the Internet tragic news still got out there. Jesus comments on two hot topics of discussion — two tragic accidents that had recently occurred. The first of these otherwise unknown incidents concerned the killing of some Galileans while they were offering sacrifice, probably in the Jerusalem temple at Passover. Pilate was notorious for his brutal attitude towards the Jewish people and the practice of their faith. The second incident was probably a construction accident at the Siloam Reservoir at Jerusalem. Sadly, then as now, such random and tragic events were interpreted as divine retribution.

People of a religious fundamentalist persuasion often claim God's judgement in a way that is cold, callous and erroneous -be it the terrible outbreak of AIDS in the early 1980s or the attack on the World Trade Center Towers in New York in 2011. Terrible human tragedies are interpreted to suit people's poor theology.

Jesus rejected this teaching and sought to correct it. On one occasion, on encountering a blind man he was asked by his disciples, 'Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?' But he immediately corrected this heresy: It was not that this man sinned, or his parents... Jesus taught that good fortune or disaster, blessing or curse, success or failure is no indication of our spiritual state before God because God causes his sun to shine on all of us, the righteous and the unrighteous. Today isn't the time to cast aspersions or accuse or make assumptions about how God thinks or acts because today is the time for repentance. God's mercy and kindness gives us time to repent and change, but one day we will be required to give an account of our lives to the living God.

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 Syracuse. More information about the PNCC can be obtained by calling Fr. Daddello 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.