

Holy Spirit Polish National Catholic Church

Father Rafal Dadello will be celebrating Holy Mass on Sunday March 17th at 11.00 a.m. All are welcome. It is the Fifth Sunday of Lent (Passion Sunday)
The first reading is from the Book of Prophet Isaiah 43:16-21
The second reading is from the Letter of Paul to the Philippians 3:8-14
The Holy Gospel is from St. John 8:1-11

Father Dadello will also be celebrating Holy Mass for the Catholic community on Saturday, March 16th 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 Grace Archambault and Kethy Sefchick

Friday, March 22 we are going to have a Lenten Ecumenical Service (Stations of the Cross) at 6.00 p.m. Everyone of all faiths is invited.

Our Sunday Message

Just as it takes two to tango, it takes two to commit adultery (or does it?). Jesus' teaching on adultery is so radical that it is rarely referred to, seldom spoken about and little understood. We shall come to this teaching in due course. What we encounter in today's Gospel is much more than a teaching about adultery: we meet the Lord's authority and mercy in action.

How strange, then, that only the woman should be hauled before Jesus. The suggestion is that it was a set up: she was framed, and then left to face the consequences. The law required the execution of both parties. Jesus was being walked into a trap. Sanction of the legal requirement would bring him into conflict with the Romans who did not allow the Jews to authorize the death sentence. Failure to condemn the woman would bring him into conflict with the Jewish religious leaders.

Seemingly backed into a corner, Jesus diffused the situation in two ways. First, he wrote in the sand — perhaps, as some of the Church fathers have suggested, he wrote down the sins of the woman's accusers. Second, he invited those without sin to throw the first stone. No stones were thrown. Jesus was left alone with the poor woman, to whom he held out the hand of mercy and forgiveness; an amazing and powerful incident in Jesus' life to be sure.

Now back to Jesus' teaching on adultery: Jesus taught that adultery, like murder, is an easy sin to commit because we can commit it in our heart. To simply lust after a woman (or man for that matter) is to commit adultery: 'But I say to you that everyone who looks at a woman lustfully has already committed adultery with her in his heart.' (Matt. 5:28).

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 or 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.