

Holy Spirit Polish National Catholic Church

Father Rafal Dadello will be celebrating Holy Mass on Sunday July 14th at 11.00 a.m.

All are welcome. It is the 15th Sunday Ordinary

The first reading is from the Book of Deuteronomy 30:10-14

The second reading is from the Letter of St. Paul to the Colossians 1:15-20

The Holy Gospel is from St. Luke 10:25-37

Father Dadello will also be celebrating Holy Mass for the Catholic community on Saturday, July 13th at 4.00 a.m. in St. Paul's Lutheran Church, 32 West Main Street in St. Johnsville

Coffee Hour will follow Holy Mass and be sponsored by Teddie Colorito and Ruth Gorski

Our Sunday Message

Catholic social teaching has largely owned the Parable of the Good Samaritan and in a way rightly so, because it highlights the care and solicitude we owe every human being, but particularly those in dire need physically, emotionally or spiritually. However, ask yourself, if you will, whether there is a deeper meaning to the parable? Are we missing something? Is the parable simply about being good and kind and decent to your neighbor? We can be sure, absolutely sure in fact, that because Scripture is divinely inspired, there are always layers of revelation to uncover and a deeper meaning behind every verse.

Some of the early fathers of Scripture scholarship, such as Origen, St Augustine and St Thomas Aquinas, discerned in the Parable of the Good Samaritan a much deeper meaning than helping our neighbor. They approached the parable allegorically - in other words as a device in which the characters or events in the parable represent or symbolize real people and real events and communicate a hidden and profound message. Approaching Scripture allegorically can open up deeper and deeper layers to its meaning.

So, for today, let us consider an allegorical understanding of the parable. Jerusalem represents heaven and Jericho the earth or the world. The robbers are the devil and his demons. The priest represents the Torah (the Jewish law) and the Levite the Prophets. The victim beaten, bruised, wounded and left half dead by the roadside is you. The Good Samaritan is Jesus, and the donkey is Christ's body which bears the weight of the broken body of the victim of this terrible robbery on the open highway. Finally, the inn represents the church, our place of healing and sanctuary. The Good Samaritan's promise to return is a reference to Jesus' coming again in power and glory.

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. Dadello 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.