

Holy Spirit Polish National Catholic Church

Father Rafal Dadello will be celebrating Holy Mass on Sunday September 30th at 11.00 a.m. All are welcome. It is the 26th Sunday of Ordinary Time

The first reading is from the Book of Numbers 11:25-29

The second reading is from the Letter of James: 5:1-6

The Holy Gospel is from St. Mark 9:38-43,45-48

Father Dadello will also be celebrating Holy Mass for the Catholic community on Saturday, September 29th at 4.00 p.m. in St. Paul's Lutheran Church, 32 West Main Street in St. Johnsville.

Our Sunday Message

Possessiveness is not an attractive characteristic. It's uncharitable, inward-looking and ultimately selfish. It prevents us from seeing the good in others. Eventually it can corrupt and destroy.

Yet unfortunately this kind of attribute is something we're all too familiar with. In the encounter in today's Gospel, Jesus reveals the dangers of exclusivity even among his followers. The disciples have come across someone performing exorcisms in Jesus' name. Because they don't recognize him as one of their number, they seek to prevent him. In the face of the prejudice shown against the outsider, Jesus' attitude is of tolerance and acceptance. 'Do not forbid him... [He] that is not against us is for us'.

We may be irritated by the disciples' narrowness of outlook, but we should stop before we become too critical. How much of them do we recognize in ourselves? All they can see is that the man is an outsider, 'not one of us'. And so they are quick to write him off. But how do we respond to outsiders in our own society? How do we react to refugees, to asylum seekers? What do we think of those whose faith is different from our own? How do we relate to members of other churches? The disciples' failure has deep roots, which we all share. It's a failure in faith, a failure to see and acknowledge the power and the freedom of God's Spirit.

The Spirit works wherever he wills. The Spirit who works in outsiders is the same Spirit who encourages people to come inside, and who leads and directs the Church. We need to look at how we welcome those on the outside. How eager are we to open ourselves to them?

Coffee Hour will follow the Holy Mass and be sponsored by Monika Dadello

On Saturday, October 13 we are going to have Golombki Sale starting at 10.00 a.m. until sold out. Blessing of pets will take place on the same day at 12.00 at the front of the church.

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, which 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 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.