

Holy Spirit Polish National Catholic Church

Father Rafal Dadello will be celebrating Holy Mass on Sunday November 3rd at 11.00 a.m.

All are welcome. It is the 31st Ordinary Sunday

The first reading is from the Book of Wisdom 11:22-12:1

The second reading is from the Second Letter of St. Paul to Thessalonians 1:11-2:2

The Holy Gospel is from St. Luke 19:1-10

Coffee Hour will follow Holy Mass and be sponsored by Joan and Butch Crandall

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

On Friday, November 1 is the Solemnity of All Saints. Holy Mass is at 6.00 p.m.

We will be selling pierogi and golumbki on an on-going basis. Please contact Karen Filipski at (315) 823-4152 to order.

On Sunday November 17th at noon we will be having our annual Harvest Dinner.

On Sunday December 15th at noon we will be having our Christmas party for children. Please bring a gift for your child.

Our Sunday Message

Every generation has their pariahs. Consider, if you will, how you would react if your bishop or parish priest was reported to have dined with a local drug baron or was reaching out to ex-prisoners, especially those convicted of sexual crimes. We would be scandalized! We might not like to think so, but we would find it hard to stomach or understand. We might find ourselves grumbling, rather as they did in Jesus' day, 'He has gone in to be the guest of a man who is a sinner'

This encounter between Jesus of Nazareth and the chief tax collector Zacchaeus highlights perfectly the 'scandal of grace.' It brings to the fore this very important biblical teaching that where sin abounds, grace super-abounds. It shows us that sin, darkness, moral confusion and ignorance attract rather than repel God - because God loves the sinner but hates the sin. It is the sin that is the enemy, not the person caught up in it.

Zacchaeus' experience of God's mercy and compassion touched and healed him, and led him to repentance and conversion. No one is beyond God's grace and mercy; no one is beyond redemption; no one is outside of God's kindness and compassion. We are to be a living expression, a sign, a sacrament, of this same mercy, kindness and forgiveness. We start first of all in our own lives. A resentful, angry Christian, who holds on to hurts and offences, is a contradiction in terms. In learning to forgive others, to hold out the hand of friendship and brotherhood/sisterhood to those we find difficult, we become this living sign, this sacrament of God's mercy and forgiveness.

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.