

# Holy Spirit Polish National Catholic Church

Father Rafal Dadello will be celebrating Holy Mass on Sunday December 8<sup>th</sup> at 11.00 a.m.

All are welcome. It is the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent

The first reading is from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah 11:1-10

The second reading is from the Letter of St. Paul to the Romans 15:4-9

The Holy Gospel is from St. Matthew 3:1-12

Father Dadello will be celebrating Holy Mass for the Catholic community on Saturday, December 7<sup>th</sup> at 4.00 p.m. in St. Paul's Lutheran Church, 32 West Main Street in St. Johnsville

Our Coffee Hour will follow Holy Mass and be sponsored by Janice and John Rogers

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

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

## Christmas Schedule

December 24 – Vigil of the Nativity of our Lord – Holy Mass – St. Johnsville (4.00 p.m.), Little Falls (8.00 p.m.).

December 25 – Nativity of our Lord (Christmas) – Holy Mass – Little Falls (11.00 a.m.)

## Our Sunday Message

Perhaps people of every age have struggled with the stern and somewhat harsh message of John the Baptist. Living and preaching in the wilderness, dressed in rough clothing woven from camel hair, and eating locusts and wild honey was pretty strange and outlandish even then! Most people would run a mile from John the Baptist and his message of repentance — or so you would think! Yet Matthew tells us that, on the contrary, people flocked to him to confess their sins and undergo a ritual cleansing in the Jordan.

What made the people behave in this way? Was the message of repentance, confession and reconciliation more attractive then than it is now? What was it about the Baptist that created this reaction? These questions encourage us to reflect on this most important aspect of the Christian life. Nowadays we seem to have moved away from sin, repentance, confession and conversion, perhaps judging this kind of emphasis to be not 'on message' any more. But, in doing so, we are making a great mistake because examination of our lives, confession and repentance are crucial to living the Christian life.

The season of Advent is a wonderful, God-given opportunity to discover the gift of repentance and the grace of the Sacrament of Reconciliation. When was your last confession? Many have not known the grace of this sacrament for a considerable number of years. To anyone in this situation God's hand of mercy and compassion is extended.

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.