

Holy Spirit Polish National Catholic Church

Father Rafal Dadello will be celebrating Holy Mass on Sunday December 16th at 11.00 a.m. All are welcome. It is the Third Sunday of Advent

The first reading is from the Book of the Prophet Zephaniah 3:14-18

The second reading is from the Letter of Paul to the Philippians 4:4-7

The Holy Gospel is from St. Luke 3:10-18

Father Dadello will also be celebrating Holy Mass for the Catholic community on Saturday, December 17th at 4.00 p.m. in St. Paul's Lutheran Church, 32 West Main Street in St. Johnsville.

Coffee Hour will follow the Holy Mass and be sponsored by Anna Kuchma and Jennie Bednarski

Our Sunday Message

This Gospel contains the heart of John the Baptist's preaching. His message of repentance in preparation for the coming of the Lord resonated with the crowds who flocked to see him. Just as it stirred his hearers to long for the coming Messiah, so it moves us to worship.

We might think that John had cause to be humbly satisfied at the success of his mission — what more could be asked for than genuine repentance and new-found faith? But John stressed that he was only the messenger sent ahead of the Messiah - his baptism in water was to be surpassed by a new baptism. John came to understand that the promised Messiah was at hand, who would take away the sins of the world.

John baptized people in the Jordan to symbolize their repentance, but he knew that something more than a symbol was needed to rescue humankind — they needed to be immersed in the Spirit of God.

Jesus has given us the Holy Spirit. This gift from the Father empowers us to respond to our call and vocation to live our life in the Spirit. Once more we are able to know God's love and to love God and others. We can press on each day in hope, knowing the Spirit will form the character of Jesus within us.

Christmas Schedule:

Monday – **December 24** – Christmas Eve – Holy Mass in St. Johnsville at 4.00 p.m. – Holy Mass in Little Falls at 8.00 p.m.

Tuesday – **December 25** – Christmas Day – Holy Mass in Little Falls at 11.00 a.m.

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.