



Seelos and Sanctity

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Vice-Postulator

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Editor

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The Value of a Single Moment of Time

During her lifetime Queen Elizabeth had gathered together millions of dollars. Finally she became an old woman and lay dying. At her bedside friends gathered about her arguing over who would get her money and succeed her on the throne of England. She opened her eyes and shrieked like a crazy woman. "I will give you all of my possessions for just one moment of time."

Try to put yourself in the place of Queen Elizabeth. You are dying.

At that moment you will finally realize what Job meant in the Bible when he said "My life is like the wind. . . ."

Then you will realize the truth of the words of the Book of Wisdom. It says that our life is like an arrow speeding to its mark.

Then you will realize how perfectly St. James described life when he said "What is your life? You are but a puff of smoke that appears for a little while and then disappears."

When all is said and done, life is very short.

When the end of your life finally comes do you want to look back on a wasted life? If not you must learn that time is your most precious possession. You must be more careful with how you spend your time, than with how you spend your money. Time is money . . . money that can purchase eternity.

St. Alphonsus made a solemn promise to God at the age of 32 never to waste a moment of time. He lived to be 90 years old and never once broke his promise. He dedicated his life to only one task -- getting his own soul to heaven and bringing the souls of others with him.

Father Seelos was filled with the idea of the importance of using each moment of time for God. He made use of each passing moment to live his life in such a way to be pleasing to God and merit happiness in eternity.

Your life will pass by all too quickly. Treasure each passing moment. Don't waste that time. Use each moment of it to accomplish good in this world. Seek the things that really count. Lay up treasures for yourself in heaven where neither rust nor moth consumes nor thieves break in and steal.

FATHER VAUGHN

In conformity with the decree of Pope Urban VIII all statements contained herein are unreservedly submitted to the judgment of the Holy See and to the decision of the Sacred Congregation of Rites.

IMPRIMATUR † Archbishop John P. Cody, August 22, 1964 New Orleans, Louisiana

To Know and Imitate His Holy Life

The humility of Father Seelos was a genuine quality of his soul and this virtue was evident throughout his entire life.

He wrote to his family that he was constantly amazed at how much patience God had displayed toward him. All of his achievements he attributed to God, never once losing sight of his entire dependence upon Him.

When asked by a lady of his parish to be her spiritual guide and to help her imitate Christ more perfectly, he agreed to do so but stressed the fact that he was amazed that she would approach him for such help when he felt himself so unworthy. He constantly referred to himself as the "most miserable of sinners."

He felt himself unfit to be a superior, however, those in charge of the Congregation certainly seemed to think otherwise. He served as Novice-Master, Prefect of Students and Superior or Rector of several houses of the Congregation. While giving Missions, he was always Superior of the Mission Band.

Authority never "went to his head." While he had the name and appearance of a Superior actually those in his community ruled and he obeyed. He would say "Others have more experience and understand things better than I. Let them act as they think best. I will simply run along with them."

Father Seelos' humility was such that he actually wished to hold the lowest office in the Congregation. In fact, in one of his letters to his family he told them that he would rather work as a lay brother than as a priest. He loved God so deeply and had such a keen perception of sin, that faults we would not even notice seemed to him to be very great. For this reason he considered himself to be unworthy of the high status of the priesthood.

It is related in his life that when he was Novice-Master he often accompanied the novices on hikes. Many times they walked thru muddy roads. On these occasions the boys would take off their shoes and leave them at the door in order not to track mud all over the house. After they had left Father Seelos would quietly make his way to the door and clean and polish the shoes.

For Seelos Guild Members Only

Please remember in your prayers the happy repose of the soul of

MRS. CECILE DUFRENE

who died recently.

Thank you for your continued support. We need you very much.

GOD BLESS YOU!

Our Special Intention for September

Now that school is about to reopen we recommend to your prayers all of our school children. Pray for them that they will succeed in their studies, but pray especially for their spiritual welfare. Pray too that God will send us more priests and religious from among them.

On the occasion of his transfer from Pittsburgh to Baltimore the parishioners had planned a grand farewell party for him. However, they were unable to carry through with the party because he left without anyone's knowing about it.

In 1860 Bishop O'Connor resigned as Bishop of Pittsburgh and he proposed the name of Father Seelos to Rome as the most worthy candidate to succeed him. On hearing of this Father Seelos prayed most fervently that God would spare him this dignity and honor. He also asked the communities of priests and nuns of other religious orders who knew him to join him in this prayer. He wrote to the Superior General in Rome and asked him to do everything possible to prevent his appointment by representing himself as entirely unfit to hold this office. He was convinced that this was a fact. The Superior General was successful in preventing the appointment.

True humility can only be acquired if we are convinced that without God's help we can accomplish nothing. With God "on our side" very much is possible. Repeat this prayer every day: "Jesus, meek and humble of heart, make my heart like unto Thine."

JOSIE M. BECKER

THE SEELOS GUILD

THE SEELOS GUILD is an association of those who are interested in the canonization of Father Seelos.

WHAT GUILD MEMBERS DO -- Distribute Seelos literature, pray to him daily, pray for other Guild members and try to donate monthly to help his cause. These regular contributions make this publication possible and enable us to distribute literature to encourage pray-ers to Father Seelos.

WHAT GUILD MEMBERS RECEIVE -- Share in weekly Mass; monthly copy of "Seelos & Sanctity;" all literature when published; daily prayers by 8,000 Redemptorists and by other Guild members.

IF YOU ARE NOT A MEMBER JOIN TODAY!
WRITE FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

THANKS!

"I am writing this letter in the hope that it will help, in however small a way, to increase devotion to Father Seelos. Having been educated in Catholic schools all my life, excepting college I have come to know and love a great many saints. Yet after learning of Father Seelos and visiting his tomb, I felt a certain closeness to him I had never experienced before. I felt as though I had known him personally and we had become close friends. I know that it has been through his intercession that many prayers have been answered.

"Almost a year ago my husband was out of work. We have two small children and with an accumulation of medical bills that kept increasing and no job or money in sight, we were beginning to feel almost desperate. We had just moved to New Orleans hoping to find work here. I finally secured a teaching position, but I knew it could not last as I was not well at the time. My mother had been given a pamphlet about Father Seelos and while visiting her, I read it and became quite impressed by the number of seemingly hopeless individuals he had helped. We began praying to him that Friday and I told my three classes of sixth graders (Catholic school) about him. I urged them to visit his tomb and to encourage others to do so. I also asked that they remember my 'special intention.' That

following Sunday my husband's present employer called saying that he had a job open for him. He asked where he had been as he had been trying to get in touch with him since Friday! Coincidence? I don't think so.

"Even the way we 'found' his tomb was somewhat 'uncanny.' It happened soon after moving here and hearing about him. We had often planned to go but being new in New Orleans we weren't familiar with every street. We kept thinking that one day we would make it a point to find out where it was and make a visit. But it turned out we didn't have to ask for directions. My husband was being interviewed for a job that day and my cousin, then living in the neighborhood of your church, was taking care of our children for him as I was teaching. After picking me up from school, he was going to get the children. He knew this neighborhood fairly well as we had visited my cousin many times before moving here. He surely knew the way to her apartment. But that day he made one wrong turn - and he still doesn't know what made him do it - and we found ourselves gapping with surprise at the sign "Tomb of Father Seelos." And there have been many - so many - others. So many depressing situations have been lightened through his intercession."

"Presently we are imploring him again to help us find better employment. My husband is making a small salary and our medical bills are staggering. Through Father Seelos, if it is the Will of God, I know that things will be better."

SISTER HILDEGARD TRANSFERRED

Sister Hildegard, of the Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament, formerly stationed in New Orleans, has been transferred to Philadelphia.

Sister has been a tremendous help to us, translating thousands of pages of German documents which are necessary in presenting the cause of Father Seelos in Rome. She has been working with us for the past five years.

We were very sorry to see her leave. While she will continue to do any translations which we may have, we will miss seeing her.

When reciting our little prayer to Father Seelos, won't you please include Sr. Hildegard?

PLEASE!

"May I please place my intention for consolation for my son and daughter-in-law, who have just lost their seven month old baby girl, before the tomb of Father Seelos. Please pray also for the gift and grace of confersion."

"Please say some very special prayers for my brother. He has been having quite a few difficulties. He was to start a new job a few days ago, but his body filled with fluid and the doctors seem to be baffled as to its cause. It could be caused by almost anything including the heart, kidneys or liver. He is very discouraged and doesn't want to live. He has a wife and two little children."

"Enclosed is offering for a Holy Mass at Father Seelos' tomb, asking him to bless me and my family with good health. I am a laryngectomee and so far have not mastered my new voice. I have been accepted as a client for speech instructions in New York for ten days in August. My husband and I plan to go and as we will be spending money that has been earned in the hard way, we trust God to make this trip profitable to all concerned. I am also asking God to bless our family at home while we are away."

"I now have the responsibility of caring for my two small grandsons. I have enjoyed very good health in the past, however, just at this time I am a bit concerned.

"Please ask Father Seelos to intercede for me that I will continue in good health and that the children's parents will find themselves and be capable and willing to take care of their children."

For your own intentions, the ones mentioned above and all those placed before the tomb of Father Seelos let us say the following prayer -

O MY GOD, I TRULY BELIEVE YOU ARE PRESENT WITH ME. I ADORE YOUR LIMITLESS PERFECTIONS. I THANK YOU FOR THE GRACES AND GIFTS YOU GAVE TO FATHER SEELOS. IF IT IS YOUR HOLY

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Seelos and Sauritig

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SEELOS MASS OCTOBER 4th

Our annual televised Mass will be celebrated on October 4th in St. Mary's Assumption Church at 11 A. M. This Solemn Mass will commemorate the 97th anniversary of the death of Father Seelos. We sincerely hope our friends in New Orleans and close by will make every effort to attend.

The Mass will be offered for the intentions of all those attending, of those in the television audience, for the intentions placed before the tomb of Father Seelos, and for hastening the cause of his canonization.

The Mass will be carried on Channel 6 - WDSU-TV in New Orleans.

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WILL PLEASE LET HIM BE DECLARED A SAINT OF THE CHURCH THAT OTHERS MAY KNOW AND IMITATE HIS HOLY LIFE...