



Seelos and Sanctity

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CHRISTIAN KINDNESS

One thing which has always impressed me in the life of Father Seelos is his kindly disposition. He was a man who was genuinely loved by the people with whom he associated. In every page of his life one constantly sees a true spirit of considerateness for the feelings of his fellowman.

When I was in Germany last year I visited his home town of Fuessen. I left the city feeling that I knew Father Seelos better than I had before. I could still see this same friendly disposition in the people of his native city. They were a cheerful, open-hearted group who made me feel at home the very first time I saw them.

Added to his naturally friendly disposition was an intense faith. Every human being represented Christ to him. He, therefore, strove to treat everyone with the same consideration which he would have shown toward Christ Himself.

I feel that nothing is more needed in this world than a model of CHRISTIAN KINDNESS. No matter how you analyze the world's problems, it always comes back to a lack of Christian charity.

The world tensions today are the result of a lack of charity.

Practically all of your personal problems can be boiled down to either a lack of Christian charity in yourself or in someone else.

Most people's emotional problems would be remedied by a massive dose of Christian charity.

What a wonderful place this world would be if everyone would imitate the Christian charity of Father Seelos!

We are dedicating this year's editions of SEELOS AND SANCTITY to encouraging you to imitate the charity, the kindness, the consideration of the feelings of your fellowman as exemplified by the kind and charitable Father Seelos.

May this spirit of genuine consideration, love and affection for your fellowman as exemplified by this saintly Servant of God continually grow in your hearts.

Let us all try to be another Seelos. Let us imitate his efforts to become another Christ -- a sacrificing Christ -- a considerate Christ -- a charitable Christ.

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, Dec. 17, 1964, New Orleans, Louisiana

TO KNOW and IMITATE HIS HOLY LIFE . . .

In January we celebrate the feast of the Holy Family. Therefore we thought it would be appropriate to consider Father Seelos' love for his own family. Any one who read the many letters he wrote to them saw this love shine forth on every page.

However strong this attachment was, his love for God shone forth even more. He had applied for admission to the Redemptorists before he left to study at the University of Munich. He felt sure his letter of acceptance would arrive shortly but he never mentioned his plans even though he knew that this would be his last vacation with his family. He did speak to his father in a more or less general way trying to find out what his father's feelings were. He heartily agreed with his son that he should go to the foreign missions if he so desired. Nothing was said to the rest of the family about it. When his vacation came to an end, he very affectionately said goodbye to them, knowing he would never see them again.

After receiving a letter of admission from the superior of the Redemptorists in America, he did not visit his family, but rather wrote each one of them a farewell letter.

When he was travelling to the port city of LeHavre, he passed near his home town of Fussen. He felt he would only deepen his family's pain of separation if he visited them again. He, therefore, sacrificed a final farewell visit offering to God the sorrow it cost him.

He died without ever returning to his native land to see his loved ones.

Many of us could very well imitate Father Seelos' love for his family. Too often we realize when it is too late how generously God has endowed us with good parents, brothers, sisters. No doubt his brothers and sisters had their little scraps as all children do. After all, they were human like all of us. But as they grew to manhood and womanhood they were very close to each other.

Thank God for your family, whether small or large, and strive in every way to be helpful to them.

JOSIE BECKER

For Seelos Guild Members ONLY

Every new year brings with it new resolutions. If you haven't been including the intentions of all Guild members in your prayers to Father Seelos heretofore, why not make the intention NOW that every time you say our little prayer, it will be offered for the intentions of all Guild members and also for the repose of the souls of all of our departed Guild members.

Also remember to pray for the success of the cause for canonization of Father Seelos.
GOD BLESS YOU!

ABOUT "HILDA"

In reviewing our correspondence for the last couple of months, we notice many letters of thanks to Father Seelos for protection during the hurricane Hilda, which was on October 3 and 4. Our city seemed to be in the path of the hurricane. We had quite a few uneasy hours. Everyone stormed heaven and our dear Lord saw fit, through the intercession of Father Seelos and the other saints invoked, to save our city.

We are grateful for the number of letters received and wished to make this one acknowledgment of all of them in our paper.

Incidentally, the good Lord must not have wanted Father Seelos' mass televised on October 4. It had to be cancelled because of high winds and rain caused by hurricane Hilda.

Happy Birthday to Father Seelos -

Father Seelos, was born on January 11, 1819. This month we celebrate his birthday. Let us say "Happy Birthday" to him by attending Mass and receiving Holy Communion on this day, or if this is impossible, at least whisper a little prayer for the success of his cause for canonization.

THANKS!!!

"On September 28 of this year our second son was born to us, David Paul Seelos C. There were four other children between our first and David, who didn't live. One was born alive, one died in childbirth and two were lost before birth. The doctors say they were lost because of an RH blood incompatibility between my wife and me.

"We wanted other children desperately and so we placed our cause in the hands of Father Seelos. There were many people praying with us this time and by the mercy of Almighty God and the intercession of Father Seelos, a son was born to us.

"Now, the doctors in Rome may not see this as a miracle in the strict sense, but to us who have had so many disappointments, it most surely means that God in His own divine way "interfered" with nature. David had heart failure shortly after he was born and the pediatrician commented that it "is a miracle" he is still alive. My wife, for the second or third time, gave birth to a child with a circumvallate placenta (an occurrence which we are told happens once in a thousand cases.) The obstetrician also commented that "it was a miracle" she was able to carry this baby for the whole nine months.

"I realize that both doctors were speaking in the idiom of our language and not in the technical

sense which Rome applies to the word miracle. However, we see it as a miracle of God's mercy, a demonstration of His power through the intercession of one of His great saints and a gift of His infinite love.

"Our eternal thanks to Father Seelos. Please let us help make him a saint. We will pray."

"A year ago my son became ill and was paralyzied and the doctors did not think he would live. He was hospitalized for a year and we were told he would not walk. But today he is home and walking, thanks to Father Seelos. He has some stiffness in his hips and his legs are not straight yet, but I pray every day to Father Seelos to help him walk a little better.

"Please pray with me that his legs will become straight, and the stiffness will leave his hips."

"I recently obtained a favor through the intercession of Father Seelos. My little daughter was tested for tuberculosis and the test proved positive. The doctor advised us to have a chest X-ray. I prayed very hard to Father Seelos and when I finally received a report from the doctor he told me the X-ray was negative.

"I am grateful to Father Seelos for his intercession on behalf of my little girl."

"Rev. Francis Seelos has been kind to me. Through his intercession I have been cured of a bronchial cold which was long and painful.

"I also had a very sore toe which no doctor seemed to be able to cure. Again through the intercession of Father Seelos I was cured.

"I am deeply grateful to him for these two favors and will always thank him.

"I am humbly asking him for the return of my sight. I feel sure he will in due time help me. I wear the cloth memento which you sent and recite the prayer frequently."

Happy

New

Year

We wish you a happy New Year, filled with God's blessings. It is our sincere wish that you and your families will be blessed with a year of good health and prosperity.

PLEASE!!!

"Please pray for my nephew who just started school at the age of 5½ years. He is a very nervous child. He wants to learn. Please pray that he will be a good student and will pass to the second grade. Also that he will do his lessons as assigned by his teacher."

"My grandson who is twelve years old, is having a mental breakdown. The doctors do not seem to understand his case. He has had four doctors up to this time.

"Please remember him in your prayers. The whole family is offering Masses and Holy Communions for him and are asking Father Seelos to intercede for him."

"My son and his wife are separated. They have two lovely children. Please pray that they may understand each other. I am very much concerned, but I know that through the intercession of Father Seelos our Lord will help them and there will be a reconciliation."

"A friend of mine has a very ill child who the doctors say is incurable. We are praying to Father Seelos to intercede that this child can be cured and lead a normal life. If this cannot be granted, I pray that the parents will have the grace to accept the will of God and the strength to face the inevitable.

"Please remember this intention in your prayers."

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

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