



Seelos

and

Sanctity

REV. JOHN J. VAUGHN, C.S.S.R.

Vice-Postulator

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Editor

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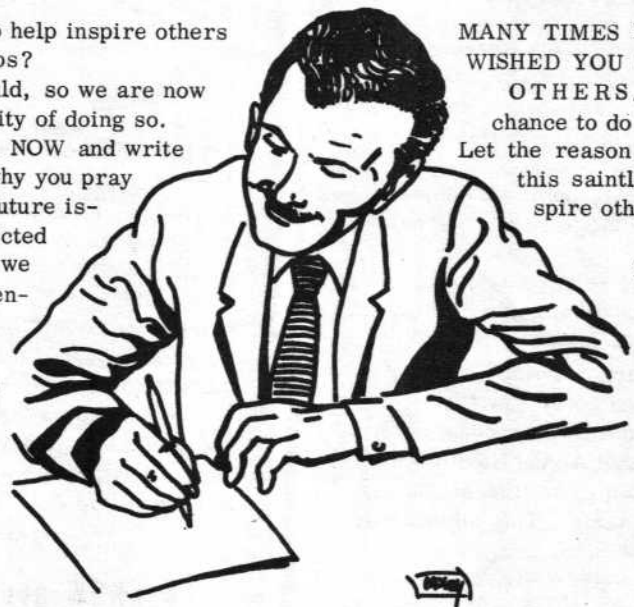
WHY DO YOU PRAY TO FATHER SEELOS?

Would you like to help inspire others to pray to Father Seelos?

We know you would, so we are now giving you an opportunity of doing so.

Why not sit down NOW and write us a letter telling us why you pray to Father Seelos. In future issues we will print selected replies. Of course, we have no intention of mentioning your name.

Your expression of the reasons why you pray to Father Seelos will inspire others to follow your example.



MANY TIMES PERHAPS YOU HAVE WISHED YOU COULD PREACH TO OTHERS. Well, here's your chance to do a little preaching. Let the reason for your devotion to this saintly Servant of God inspire others to pray to him.

We are waiting to hear from you. Don't disappoint us!

FATHER
VAUGHN

Please send us names of people whom you think might be interested in knowing more about Father Seelos. We will be happy to send them this bulletin each month free of charge. As you know, our sole support for the cause of making Father Seelos more widely known comes from devoted readers of this monthly paper. The more names we have in our file the greater support we will receive and consequently the more we can do to make others know about the life of this saintly Servant of God.



Seelos -

Apostle of Kindness

(continued)

by Luana Jambois

The Seelos family lived in happiness in their big three story house. "Big" in this case does not mean riches. There were ten children in the family, including the adopted son John, whom they called "the little prince" among themselves. On the third floor of the house in Fuessen was the attic-barn where the fresh-smelling hay was stacked. It was from this floor that young Cunneunde fell to her death.

Francis Xavier and one of his brothers shared a second floor bedroom. Every night after family prayers, down the long dark hall they would go. Like all small boys they imagined all sorts of things waiting in the darkness. Holding hands they went, each praying to his guardian angel, each afraid to tell the other of his secret fears. Years later, in a poem to his Guardian Angel, Father Seelos remembered these days:

"That interior fear, both of us knew it.
Not because we thought that we would
lose our way.

We walked quiet as mice, Holding
hands to guide each other
Until we reached our goal."

The same brother complained loudly because Xavier said his rosary every night in bed. Xavier's continued whisperings of "Hail Marys" kept him awake! Young Xavier learned to say his rosary so quietly that his brother was never disturbed again. This nightly habit he kept until his death.

Xavier was his mother's special favorite. He was never as strong as the others and was one of the youngest. Besides this he loved to join her in her personal daily prayers. From this came his great dedication to the Blessed Virgin and the rosary. From the piety and good humor of his parents came the devotion and gaiety of their children.



He was very gay. Once he masqueraded around the neighborhood streets in his father's wedding suit and high hat! Good clean fun! Papa Mang took a dim view of the same situation. The good clean fun was brought to a sudden halt by a firm parental blow on the young man's posterior!

He always remembered the punishment; but nothing seemed to down his good spirits. He enjoyed the games of his friends with zest.

However, his greatest happiness was in pleasing God. The few small pennies he received from his parents were used to decorate an altar he built in the corner of his bedroom. Like his father, he revered the Church at Fuessen and loved to spend as much of his time in it as he could

Although most children were not allowed to receive their First Communion until 12 or 13 years of age, the local priest permitted Xavier to receive his Communion at eleven. From that first moment of boyish joy, the flame of his love for Jesus was never to die in his soul. Immediately he began his first steps toward the altar.

(to be continued)

TO KNOW and IMITATE HIS HOLY LIFE . . .

"O allow me, my Jesus, to raise my eyes to behold the gracious Eyes of my dying Redeemer. What would You say with Your last gaze? Yes, I do understand what Your Eyes

YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS SUPPORT THE PROGRAM OF THE SEELOS CENTER. WE COUNT ON YOUR REGULAR MONTHLY HELP TO ENABLE US TO MAKE FATHER SEELOS MORE WIDELY KNOWN. WON'T YOU PLEASE USE THE ENCLOSED ENVELOPE EACH MONTH TO HELP US?

are saying. Your Eyes tell me more than words can express. Your Eyes spoke volumes to St. Peter. The tears that are forced from them at the sight of ungrateful Christians say more than a million words ever could do. O most loving Eyes! Look also upon me! Your look will convert me. O Jesus, my love! Never let me be lost from Your Sight! You are a jealous God. You will permit me to love no one but You because You deserve every ounce of my love. Oh if only my eyes could always gaze upon the secrets of Your sufferings."

Father Seelos offered the above prayer many, many times during his lifetime. Place your crucifix before you and gazing at the Eyes of our beloved Redeemer, repeat these prayerful words again and again. Can you not experience feelings similar to those expressed so beautifully by Father Seelos?

JOSIE BECKER

THANKS!!!

"I feel very remiss in not having acknowledged and expressed my gratitude before now to good Father Seelos for a wonderful favor I obtained some months ago through his powerful intercession. I previously wrote you concerning another great favor I feel sure he obtained for me and the letter was published in 'Seelos and Sanctity.'

"Some months ago, I was suffering from a severe nervous breakdown. I was telling one of the good ladies in the parish about my troubles and she said that the Seelos Rosary would be said at her home that night and she would request that it be offered for my intention. Well, apparently, that brought the matter to a crisis, as my niece and nephew prevailed upon me to go to the hospital for treatments the following weekend, although I protested bitterly. In less than three weeks' time, I was back home; feeling much better and have been continuing to improve right along insofar as my nerves are concerned. Anyone who has had the misfortune of having a nervous breakdown

will attest to the fact that it is just about the worst thing that can happen and will understand why I am so deeply grateful to Father Seelos.

"The doctor has told me that my husband is seriously ill; he is not only crippled with arthritis, but has a heart condition and emphysema (I understand the latter ailment causes a lot of suffering.) I am requesting prayers for him. Please also pray for his conversion and salvation.

"Another favor I am praying for is the safe delivery of my niece's child, expected in the early summer. She has RH blood factor and her last child was born dead. She lost a ten year old girl in an accident. She has three sons but she is so very anxious to have a little girl.

"I feel certain that Father Seelos is always coming to my aid in the most trying circumstances and will continue to do so. God grant that he will be made a canonized saint during your lifetime, Father Vaughn, as you have worked so hard and faithfully to bring this about and I am sure it would make you and thousands of others so very happy. God bless you always.

"P. S. I forgot to mention that my old brother is seriously ill and does not appear to have much longer to live. He has turned against his Catholic faith, although he was sent to a Catholic School and has a practical Catholic wife and children. I pray daily to Father Seelos for him to come to his senses before it is too late."

GOD BLESS YOU, FATHER REINTJES!

On April 25, Rev. William H. Reintjes, C. SS. R., uncle of Father Vaughn, will celebrate the 50th anniversary of profession as a Redemptorist. Father Reintjes is well known to our Redemptorist parishioners in New Orleans and several other Redemptorist parishes throughout the country. All join us in wishing him a HAPPY ANNIVERSARY. May God grant him many more years with us.

PLEASE!!

"Through Father Seelos prayers, please grant me this favor - that I may have a goal in life and find something constructive to do to overcome the depressed, nervous feeling I have."

"Please place my petition at the tomb of Father Seelos - that a peaceful and happy solution be found for the welfare of my mother who is suffering from a mental illness. My sister and I have tried to no avail to bring mother to a hospital or place her in a home, but each time an obstacle comes in our way and we feel that it is not the solution. I have thought of having her live with my husband and me, but they have never been too friendly and I wonder if it is not a bad idea. But my mother needs help - she does not want any great responsibility of taking care of herself and her home - but thinks she wants to live with us.

"Please ask the other petitioners to pray that a way may be opened, that I might be enlightened with wisdom to see God's way for a peaceful and happy solution to our troubled family's problem."

"I have been praying to Father Seelos for my daughter. She lost her husband a year ago and has been grieving ever since. I prayed that she would find a little job - anything that would get her out of the house. She lives 400 miles from me and her other relatives and is among strangers. She has found a job at the school but finds it very hard. Please continue to pray for her and I will too."

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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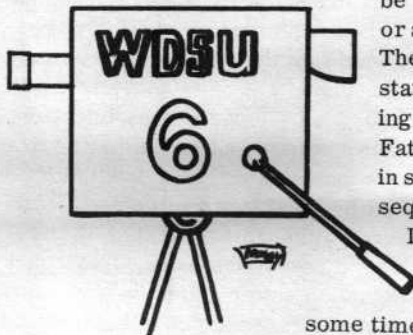
SEELOS CENTER

2030 Constance Street

New Orleans, Louisiana 70130

SEELOS TV PROGRAM

WDSU-TV, Channel 6, in New Orleans, is working on a television program about Father Seelos. As yet we do not know whether it will



be a half-hour or an hour long. The television station is working closely with Father Vaughn in shooting film sequences now.

It is planned that it will be telecast

some time within the week before Easter.

Watch the New Orleans paper and Channel 6 for the time and date.