



Seelos *and* Sanctity

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HOW TO OBTAIN A CURE FROM FATHER SEELOS

by Father Vaughn

I have often been asked, "Father, what can I do to obtain a cure from Father Seelos for someone I love very dearly?"

I have given the matter a lot of thought. I offer to you the following suggestions as to what you might do in your efforts to obtain a cure from the saintly Servant of God.

1. The first thing that you must do is to COMPLETELY SURRENDER THE SICK PERSON INTO THE HANDS OF GOD. You must give yourself and your loved one over to God's healing power. How often did not Christ say to those He cured "Your faith has healed you."

2. COMPLETELY RESIGN YOURSELF TO GOD'S WILL. Your prayer must be the prayer of our Lord in the garden, "Father, if You are willing, take this cup away from me. Nevertheless, let Your will be done, not mine."

3. PRAY FOR YOUR DOCTOR. God uses the instrumentality of his trained hands in order to work His healing power. God does not always work miracles directly by suspending the laws of nature. In fact most of the time God uses other human beings as His instruments to carry out His purposes. As one doctor put it, "We treat the patient and God heals him."

4. DO NOT PANIC when a loved one becomes deathly sick. Rather give yourself over to the power of God with full trust that God's Will be done. Let a spirit of calm peace radiate from you to the sick person.

5. RESOLVE TO BE A MORE FAITHFUL FOLLOWER OF CHRIST FROM THAT MOMENT ON. I am convinced that Almighty God is more likely to grant a special favor if we demonstrate to Him that we will in some way be a better Christian as a result of His granting an answer to our request.

6. Ask God to heal your loved one. But ask Him only once. After that, THANK HIM FOR HIS WONDERFUL GOODNESS. I think that this affirmative type of faith is a much deeper faith. It is the faith of a child who possesses a deep and abiding trust in the power and goodness of his father. When you thank God for His wonderful Goodness you thereby demonstrate your powerful faith in His protecting love.

7. ASK YOUR FRIENDS TO JOIN YOU IN MAKING THESE ACTS OF FAITH. Particularly give them the picture prayer cards of Father Seelos. The more people who pray for the cure the greater the possibility that God will grant it. We know that He is not deaf to our pleas. The more the children plead with their father, the more likely it is that Father will grant their request.

8. INSTILL THIS QUIET FAITH IN THE SICK PERSON. Urge them to a calm abandonment to God's Will and a quiet trust in the power of their heavenly Father.

9. CLEANSE SIN FROM YOUR SOUL. This act of renunciation of your sins is a demonstration of your willingness to give your life over to God. It is a powerful factor in bringing about a cure.

10. DEVELOP AND DEMONSTRATE A SINCERE WILLINGNESS TO ACCEPT GOD'S ANSWER NO MATTER WHAT IT MAY BE. Determine that you will show no bitterness or resentment against His Holy Will.

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Perhaps the cure will come in a way that no one could say for sure that God's Hand was directly involved. Perhaps your prayer, your faith, and your mental attitude merely brought about the proper mental climate on the part of the sick person so that a cure resulted. Maybe no one will ever know whether the cure was the result of God suspending the laws of nature or of God simply allowing the laws of nature to take their course. What we do know is that if you follow the above suggestions completely and wholeheartedly, somehow, in some way, you will benefit from it and so will the sick person.

A PRAYER TO FATHER SEELOS

For your own intentions, and all the petitions placed before the tomb of Father Seelos, let us pause and say -

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 SO THAT OTHERS MAY KNOW AND IMITATE HIS HOLY LIFE. THROUGH HIS PRAYERS PLEASE GIVE ME THIS FAVOR. . .

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Dear Father:

I first heard of Father Seelos when visiting my grandmother in another city. I saw the small booklet on her dresser and asked her if I could borrow it. I returned home and put it away but I couldn't forget what I had read.

My husband is a Protestant and I am a Catholic. We had been having so much trouble and hate was beginning to grow in our hearts for each other. I was so unhappy because I knew I was losing my love and faith in God. Yet a very small voice inside me kept reminding me of Father Seelos.

I had tried to pray just to God and the Blessed Mother but it had been years since I had been to Mass or to receive Holy Communion. I had married outside the church. I now felt that God no longer remembered me.

Then my husband and I separated and that's when I felt like striking God but somehow I took the booklet from where I had put it away and began to pray. I did not ask God to bring my husband back but to help me accept His will and to fill my despairing heart with that love and faith that I once had when I was a child. I knew I had lived in sin for so long that with all honesty I deserved hell and God had spared me and I didn't want to pass up this chance. So I started a novena and at the end of my novena I could think more clearly and didn't feel so alone or desperate.

I could feel God little by little. I felt that God had forgiven me and was giving me a chance to love Him again. I now know that God and Father Seelos are with me and I know that as long as I pray my rosary and remember my Catholic training I will not lose my soul. For a while the thought of committing suicide entered my mind. Now through the intercession of Father Seelos I have realized that God is not to blame. Rather, I am to blame for not having faith in Him. Even though my husband and I are separated I have faith in God and the Blessed Mother that I will face what lies ahead because they are by my side.

My point is that if Father Seelos could intercede for such a sinner like me, I am sure he will help others.



DATE FOR TRANSFER OF SEELOS REMAINS
CHANGED TO SATURDAY,
APRIL 29, 5.30 P.M.

Last month we announced to you that the remains of Father Seelos would be transferred to St. Alphonsus Church on April 30. **THIS HAS BEEN CHANGED TO APRIL 29th AT 5:30P.M.** Notify your friends of this change.

The Mass will be celebrated by His Excellency, Most Rev. Abel Caillouet, D. D., Vicar General of the Archdiocese of New Orleans. Present to supervise the ceremonies of transferral will be Rev. Nicola Ferrante, C.S.S.R., the Postulator General of the Redemptorist Fathers. Father Ferrante resides in Rome and is in charge of the cause of Father Seelos.

This will indeed be an historic occasion. Perhaps never again in your lifetime will you have the opportunity to witness ceremonies of the transferral of the remains of a candidate for canonization. We strongly urge everyone devoted to Father Seelos to attend. Holy Mass will be celebrated and the ceremonies of transferral will follow. Bring your friends.

.... saving my life. I was in a serious automobile accident and had to undergo surgery as a result of internal injuries suffered in the accident. I carry the cloth memento of Father Seelos with me at all times and know that it was his prayers that saved me from instant death. I will be ever grateful for receiving the blessing from Father Vaughn when I was hospitalized.

.... the recovery of my mother from a serious illness. After a change in doctors she snapped out of a mental depression and her physical condition improved. She is doing fine now.

.... change in attitude of my fellow workers. I had a change of duties in my office and the people in the department with me at first were very unkind, which made things difficult for me. A few of them have extended their friendship to me, for which I am grateful.

.... helping me find an artificial eye which my 23 month old girl must wear. She had taken it out and lost it. We searched hours for it and after invoking the help of Father Seelos I found it in a kitchen cabinet, one which the child couldn't reach and where I would hardly have thought of looking for it. The cost of a replacement, as well as the time spent waiting for it were spared us.

.... favorable reports after surgery for both my father and my mother. In both cases cancer was feared.

.... helping me control my temper until an unpleasant situation resolved itself.

N.B. These reports of "Thanksgiving" are from the statements of our correspondents. Official judgement of the favors granted can be given only by the proper church authorities.