



SEELOS AND SANCTITY

VOLUME VIII, NUMBER 8

AUGUST, 1969

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

We will have a half-day of Recollection in honor of Father Seelos on Wednesday, September 3, beginning at 1 P. M. and ending with Holy Mass at 5:30 P. M. The exercises will be in St. Alphonsus Church. Father William Grangell will conduct the exercises. This is for men and women.

If you can't make the entire afternoon make some of it.

SPECIAL NOTES

Don't forget the 5:30 Mass each Wednesday evening in St. Alphonsus Church. All the intentions recommended to Father Seelos' intercession are remembered at this Mass. And you are given a special opportunity to venerate the mission cross he used.

Each Friday Father Grangell continues his weekly visits to the hospitals in the New Orleans area to bless the sick with the mission cross of Father Seelos. If you want a patient to receive this blessing, phone 895-6176. Miss Addie Buhler will make the arrangements.

Sometimes we are unable to arrange a driver to chauffeur Father around to the various hospitals. If you might volunteer your services please let us know. You would be called only in an emergency. Please phone 895-6176 or the Seelos Center 525-2495, if you can help us.

We could also use a few more women to crochet around the cloth mementoes which Father gives to the sick. If you would like to do this call 895-6176 or 525-2495.

Kindly direct requests for literature, etc. to the Seelos Center. You will receive the items you request without delay if you do so.

Any checks sent to help us spread the knowledge of Father Seelos - or for any other reason - should be made out to the SEELOS CENTER or SEELOS FUND. It speeds up the handling of all checks because there is no delay for obtaining personal endorsements. Thanks so much!

FATHER SEELOS AND HUMILITY

BY FATHER GRANGELL

One day a man asked Father Seelos for a good, understandable definition of Humility. The holy Priest told the man that Humility was Truth. He asked: What is Truth? Father Seelos recalled to his memory how Pontius Pilate asked that question of Christ when our Most Holy Redeemer told him He had come into the world to give testimony to the Truth. Pilate did not wait for the answer. He turned his back on Christ and walked away. Many are like that today - they do not want to know the Truth.

The answer to that question: "What is Truth?" is very simple. I am what I am in the eyes of God and nothing more. All that I have, I have from God! There is no such thing as self-sufficiency, being self-made, in its final analysis.

Science and its exploits - the arts and inventions and libraries - come from minds given man by God. Are the mentally retarded, the imbecile proud? No. Why not? They can do nothing, say nothing. St. Paul concluded: What have we that we have not received and if we have received, why do we glory as though we have not received it?

Look around you today and see the tragedy of errors! ! Some have a little education - no matter how much they have, it is still a little. No man knows everything, can do everything. And yet, some of these intellectuals do not believe in God, or they practice some sort of make-believe religion - they never say a prayer. They are self-sufficient! They are proud. They do not know the Truth.

It's the same with some who have an abundance of the world's riches. So, with those who meet with applause, who have authority, who are captains of industry and leaders of thought. If they do not thank God for what they have, they are proud. Father Seelos prayed much - he asked God for what he needed, he thanked God for what he had, and he begged God's pardon for the offences against the Divine, Infinite Authority and Wisdom of God. He realized his nothingness, his helplessness, his dependence and adored the Almighty God. Proud people never pray, or do so spasmodically. Humble people pray.

Father Seelos was always cheerful, happy. He saw God's will in everything.

Father Seelos never had an enemy. Only proud people have enemies and will not forgive.

Father Seelos was humbly obedient to all lawful authority. He saw the Church as the Mystical Body of Christ, he saw the Holy Father as Christ's Vicar on earth, he saw God's will in his religious superiors. His great Faith made him most humble.

If you are imitating the Sanctity of Father Seelos, then your virtue for the month of August is Humility. Check it.

NOBODY WAS EVER AS HUMBLE AS THE BLESSED MOTHER. ASK HER TO HELP YOU.

FEATURE LETTERS

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.

"ONLY TWO WEEKS ago I wrote asking your prayers for two little friends who are paralyzed as a result of swimming accidents and for one in particular whose parents seemed to be unable to show him the attention that he so badly needed.

"I went to Mass and Holy Communion for a week and begged Father Seelos to intercede in some way. To our surprise his family visited him three times in one week with all the children and brought a T. V. for him. His morale has taken on new heights!

"The child's parents had come so seldom that the nurses on duty didn't know who they were and only a few weeks ago his mother had come to the hospital without even seeing him and of course this had crushed the child.

"When he leaves the hospital he will return to a trailer - completely paralyzed. Please pray with me that he is encouraged in some way to attend a school of some kind. This can be done I understand, but he will need all the help he can get. Although Father Seelos has been a wonderful friend to me personally, I felt obligated to write you about this particular incident."

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"ON MARCH 16, 1967, my nephew became very sick with what the doctors seem to think was encephilitis. He remained sick for many days. On Good Friday he was so sick that the doctors held no hope for him at all and were making arrangements for his funeral which seemed inevitable.

"A friend gave me the prayer to Father Seelos and I began to pray to him that day. Later I found out that while the doctors thought my nephew was dying he took a change for the better.

"My prayer to Father Seelos then was for my nephew to recover at least without brain damage, something the doctors fear in a case like this.

"I promised to write to you if he recovered. Although he is still in a wheelchair, he is in good health and has started college in California where he and his wife live."

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"THIS IS A PUBLICATION I promised for favors granted. My son had a dreadful thing happen. One of his ears went deaf and he couldn't hear a thing. He went to the doctor and he told him it could be serious or not, and maybe he would have to puncture the ear drum.

"I prayed to Father Seelos and promised an offering which is enclosed."

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"FOR MANY YEARS I prayed for my son, who seemed to be antagonistic in many ways. He was disturbed for what reason we could not tell. Shortly after sending him to a Catholic Boarding School and beginning my first prayers to Father Seelos, his whole attitude and manner changed. It seemed almost miraculous.

SECOND CLASS POSTAGE
PAID AT NEW ORLEANS, LA.

FEATURE LETTERS (CONTINUED)

"Later he did get into a little trouble. Again I prayed to Father Seelos who helped greatly. Charges were dropped and his name kept out of the newspaper.

"When his grades were not too good and he almost had to leave a Catholic University, I called on Father Seelos again. He was allowed to stay on probation.

"I needed financial help. I was not doing too well in my work, which is on a commission basis. Since praying to Father Seelos great help has been given me."

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"AFTER OUR SECOND DEPLOYMENT TO VIET NAM, I wish to notify you of favors received through the intercession of Father Seelos during this last deployment, upon our arrival in Norfolk, Virginia this morning.

"a. Protection of the crew from spiritual and serious physical harm and a safe return home. b. Harmony and the ability to carry out our daily routine and to accomplish the many projects within the medical department. c. The lower rate of sickness for the month of June."

Published monthly at the Seelos Center, 2030 Constance Street, New Orleans, Louisiana, 70130.

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

Published with Ecclesiastical Approbation.

Rev. William Grangell, C.S.S.R., Vice-Postulator and Editor; Miss Josie Becker, Associate Editor; Mrs. James Bourg, and Rev. Raymond Gaydos, C.S.S.R., Executive Assistants.