



FATHER SEELOS AND SANCTITY

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HAPPY NEW YEAR!

The workers at the Father Seelos Center wish to thank all of you who sent us Christmas greetings. It is nice to be thought of. We in turn wish all of you God's blessings for a happy New Year. We hope that Father Seelos will intercede for you for your many needs during 1970 and every year!

PUBLIC HOLY HOUR EACH MONTH

We have a conducted public Hour of Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament on the first Wednesday of each month, from 5:00 to 6:00 P.M. in St. Alphonsus Church with the intention that God, present on the Altar, might honor Father Seelos and thereby bring more souls to Himself. We begin with a conference at 5:00 P.M. Then, after Holy Mass, all venerate the mission cross which was the most precious possession of Father Seelos.

Try it. Get in the habit of attending. Bring others with you!

YOUR PRIVATE ADORATION PROGRAM

The Father Seelos private adoration program is dropping off a bit according to our records. You can help to make it more perfect by keeping the appointment you made for yours. The idea is to have a kind of perpetual adoration program before the Blessed Sacrament in St. Alphonsus Church where the tomb of Father Seelos is in the sanctuary. Spending this hour is in imitation of Father Seelos - and you do it strictly on your own as a private devotion, visiting with the Prisoner of Love in the tabernacle.

Certainly all of us can implore Him in this way for the graces we need to do His Will. And think of the many intentions that are possible: family, friends, deceased, for better understanding in our country, for peace in Vietnam, for the underprivileged, for our elected officials, etc. The list is endless. And, of course, that Father Seelos might be canonized and thereby help the faith of millions.

BE SURE TO CROP YOUR ATTENDANCE CARD IN THE BOX AT THE TOMB SO YOUR HOUR CAN BE RECORDED IN OUR OFFICE.

YOUR BLESSING EVERY FRIDAY

You are blessed every Friday by Father Grangell at 5:30 p.m.! That's when he starts out to give individual blessings to those hospitalized in the New Orleans metropolitan area. For this he uses the mission crucifix which Father Seelos used over 100 years ago. But before he leaves the priest house with that same crucifix he blesses everybody in the world who knows, loves and prays to Father Seelos. That, of course, includes you!

THE FAITH OF FATHER SEELOS

BY FATHER GRANGELL



We are now beginning another year of Personal Sanctity, planned after the life of Father Seelos. When this holy man of God made his Religious Profession in the Redemptorist Family, he promised God very solemnly and seriously that he would imitate the life of Jesus Christ, His Most Holy Redeemer. Every lover of Jesus Christ tries to imitate Him in a general way. Father Seelos, however, had a perfect system. It was his Holy Rule - a particular Virtue for each month.

The first month is the first Virtue - FAITH.

Our Most Holy Redeemer did not practice the Virtue of Faith, but He loved those who had Faith in Him. Father Seelos underlined all those incidents of Faith in his Bible and would read them often and preach them constantly. Father Seelos recited the Act of Faith daily and put into action everything that the "Catholic Church believes and teaches because Thou, God, hast revealed them to her, Thou canst neither deceive nor be deceived."

He saw in the Holy Father the Vicar of Christ on earth and obeyed Him in every respect, and became impatient with anyone who criticized the Holy Father or objected to anything the Holy Father said or did. His Religious Superior was God in person for him. His Rule in all its detail was the Will of God.

He loved the Holy Eucharist, the Mystery of Faith. He was attracted to the Tabernacle in his monastery Chapel and would make many visits to His Eucharistic Lord. He would never pass a church without a visit. People who assisted at his Holy Mass used to say one could see he was reliving the Last Supper and Calvary. He used to say he was a millionaire, giving out Holy Communion, giving something that was more precious, more valuable than all the riches of the world.

He had to suffer much, mentally and physically, but he united his sufferings with those of Christ and was happy to be one with Christ. He actually made Saints of people, especially the sick, having them pray: "Not My Will, but Thine be done." He taught them to say: "I offer my sufferings and my pain in reparation for the sins of the world - for the conversion of sinners."

He loved the Blessed Mother and reminded his people that a child of Mary is never lost.

I think all of us can imitate Father Seelos in his practice of the Virtue of Faith in this first month of the year 1970, and in all the months of our lives. Holy Scripture says: My holy man lives by Faith. (Romans 1/17).

May I wish you a Happy, Holy, Healthy New Year. Let us pray for one another. KEEP MARY IN YOUR EVERY YEAR.

LETTERS

Marrero, La.

I am sending a little donation I had promised for a successful operation for my grandson. He has recovered very nicely. Thank God and Father Seelos. Please publish this in your monthly paper.

Mrs. F. G.

New Orleans, La.

Dear Father Grangell:

I had been having dizzy spells for a few years and at times I'd feel like I was going to fall when going up or down steps.

My doctor told me at first it was due to shock when my son died suddenly. The doctor said it would be quite a while before I could overcome this.

I've taken different medicines he ordered for me, but still no results. So I asked Father Seelos to please intercede for me to our Blessed Lord so I would soon be well again. After two weeks I began to feel better. The dizzy spells began to leave and some days I was alright. Then later they would return. I feel much better now and am still praying that the dizzy feelings do not return and that I'll be relieved altogether.

Thanks to Father Seelos for I'm sure this favor was granted through his intercession.

Mrs. M. T.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Father Seelos was born on January 11, 1819. We do not have any special services honoring his birthday, but we suggest that you in your own way wish him a Happy Birthday. You know he won't forget you on yours.

CHEERFUL ASCETIC

"Cheerful Ascetic" is the name of the book on the life of Father Seelos. If you haven't obtained your copy yet, then you really must as soon as possible. Every fact or statement about him has been verified by Father Michael J. Curley, the editor. It is the only authentic life story of Father Seelos. And if you don't find tears in your eyes when you read about how he died in New Orleans -- then you just aren't human!

Because of contributions made toward the production of the book, it is priced at only \$4.95. Order it by sending check or money-order to Father Seelos Center, 2030 Constance St., New Orleans, La. 70130. You'll receive your book promptly.

BOYS AND YOUNG MEN WANTED

The Church needs more and more good priests. Understandably boys or young men might be a bit shy about whether they should try the seminary. There's No problem, though, if they contact Father Grangell. He will be glad to discuss their future and help them in any way. Urge them to write him or phone for an appointment. 2030 Constance St., New Orleans, La. 70130 - or telephone: 522-6748.

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