



FATHER SEELOS AND SANCTITY

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FATHER SEELOS' ANNIVERSARY MASS

The annual Mass to commemorate the death of Father Seelos will take place on Sunday, October 7, at 10:00 A.M. at St. Alphonsus Church, 2030 Constance Street, New Orleans. Most Reverend Philip M. Hannan, Archbishop of New Orleans, will be the main concelebrant and preach the homily at the Mass. Immediately after, a reception will be held in Liguori Auditorium, adjacent to the church. The Mass marks the 106th anniversary of Father Seelos' death.

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Father Seelos was buried in St. Mary's Assumption Church on the corner of Josephine and Constance Streets, the day after his death. When the examination known as the Informative or Ordinary Process, took place under the diocesan authorities in the years 1900 to 1903, his body was exhumed, identified, placed in a new casket, and then reburied in the sanctuary of St. Mary's.

There the body lay for over sixty years until April, 1967, when it again was brought to light, placed in still another casket and carried across the street to St. Alphonsus Church where it was buried before the high altar.

Every year thousands come from near and far to pray at his tomb. 28,000 families read the monthly bulletin, FATHER SEELOS AND SANCTITY. Hundred of letters of petition and thanksgiving pour each month into the Father Seelos Center at 2030 Constance Street—not only from the New Orleans and Louisiana areas but from all points of the U. S. and even foreign lands.

This anniversary of Father Seelos' leaving this world, our prayers are that the good Lord will bring his cause for beatification to a successful conclusion.

Joseph Elworthy, C.S.S.R.

Copies of THE CHEERFUL ASCETIC by Father Michael Curley, C.S.S.R., are available at the Father Seelos Center and will also be available for purchase before and after the anniversary Mass. The price is \$4.95 per copy. This book is on the life of Father Seelos.

FATHER SEELOS WAS A RECOLLECTED RELIGIOUS

by Father Grangell

The Virtue for October: Recollection and Silence

Patron: St. Simon, the Apostle.

Text: Jesus dismissed the crowd and ascended the mountain alone to pray.
(Matt 14/23)

Father Seelos lived the virtue of Recollection every day of the year. He lived in the presence of God always. He spoke to God constantly. "My God I love You" was on his lips and in his heart ceaselessly. He was not a dissipated individual, serving God and serving the distracted world at the same time. He served God.

He loved his Redemptorist habit. He wore it always. It kept him recollected. The black robe reminded him that he did not belong to the world, he had to do penance for the sins of the world; the white collar reminded him of the purity of heart that was to be his; the little crucifix at his heart reminded him that he was dedicated and consecrated as a Redemptorist to the love of God. When he received this crucifix on the day he was invested in the religious habit, he prayed as he embraced and kissed it: "May I die for the love of Thy love who wast so graciously pleased to die for the love of my love." That prayer became the echo of his life. The big rosary at his side kept him in constant touch with his Blessed Mother.

Some people suffer from an identity crisis. They don't know themselves, they don't know why they are living. Father Seelos knew himself. On the day of his religious Profession, the day he made his vows, kneeling before the Blessed Sacrament with his hand on the Bible, he said: "Burning with the desire of consecrating myself entirely to Thy Holy Love, I bind myself to serve Thee Henceforth with all my strength my imitating the life of Thy Divine Son, which is the only way to please Thee and to labor for the salvation of the most abandoned souls." That was his life, 1) Everything for the love of God; 2) To live the life of Christ; 3) to save souls. Remember the prayer to his crucifix above!

His imitation of Christ was according to the asceticism of St. Alphonsus, the monthly virtue. As a missionary priest, every soul was to be helped to heaven, by prayer, by penance, by resignation to God's Will, by good example and by preaching.

Make the formula of Father Seelos' profession your life. You can. May Our Blessed Mother help you to be a perfect lover of Jesus Christ, a recollected, not a dissipated soul. Make a Retreat some time.

SPECIAL LETTERS

Hanover, Pa.

"I would like to report a favor I received from Father Seelos' intercession. Some time ago my hands and fingers became numb. I was told it was probably caused by poor circulation. Being only 27 years old I had never experienced this before. The little finger on my one hand became stiff and I couldn't bend it for at least six months. I began praying before my picture of Father Seelos and touching a cloth memento of him to my hand. The numbness began to disappear and I was once again able to move my finger. I believe this favor was granted through Father Seelos' intercession."

G. Z.

Kenner, La.

"I must write and let everyone know about a favor I received through Father Seelos' intercession. There have been hundreds of favors granted me through Father Seelos, but nothing as great as this! I am a Senior just out of High School. The first day I found a good job with the help of Father Seelos' prayers. I'll be starting college next month and having to go there and work every day. I was in real need of a car. We had looked around for a second hand car, but had no luck with the fact that I only had \$400.00 to deal with. So yesterday I went by myself to see how much a new Volkswagen would cost. The man filled all the papers as if to buy it, all the while I knew I couldn't afford it. The credit would never be approved in my father's name because he has tons of loans to pay. I called today to see the answer, thinking I'll just go pick up my deposit. The man said my car would be ready for me at 4:00 o'clock. I couldn't believe it! I really didn't think I was going to be able to get that car. Now it is parked in our driveway — all mine — after I finish paying for it in 33 months. There were two things I wanted most in life — a college education and a car to get around in — and, of course, a job. Someone had to be on my side. Through Father Seelos' prayers all these things are being made possible to me. Thanks again Father Seelos!"

M. J. D.

New Iberia, La.

"I was introduced to the Powerful intercession of Father Seelos five years ago by an elderly lady who is now deceased and ask that you remember her in your daily Masses. I pray daily that Father Seelos will be declared a saint. I have received numerous favors through his intercession. I get such rapid answers that at times I feel that I am in direct contact. I'll always be grateful to Father Seelos. Please remember my intentions in your daily Masses."

E. W.

New Orleans, La.

"Two years ago I took with pains across the chest and could not walk one block. The Doctor said pains were caused by an angina heart. I began to wear the cloth memento of Father Seelos and to say the prayer. The other day I had a check-up at the Doctor's and he said both my chest and heart are in very good condition. I do all my own work. Many thanks to Almighty God and Father Seelos for his intercession for this favor that was granted me."

L. B.

New Orleans, La.

"I promised Father Seelos if my legs would stop hurting (the ache was almost unbearable) I would write and tell you people. I said the prayer on the Father Seelos prayer card many times during the day for several days, and on the third day I did not have any pain. Thanks to Father Seelos for interceding for me and the answer to my prayers."

E. O.

SPECIAL NOTES

For blessings with the mission crucifix of Father Seelos for your friends and relatives who are hospitalized, please call Miss Addie Buhler, 895-6176.

For literature about Father Seelos and any other matters concerning the cause of Father Seelos, please call the Father Seelos Center, Mrs. Agnes Bourg, Secretary, and she will be happy to send the literature, etc.

October is the month of the Holy Rosary! Say your Rosary daily. Love the Blessed Mother. A child of Mary is never lost. Devotion to Mary is a sure sign of salvation.

Spread devotion to Father Seelos among your relatives and friends. Write to the Center for pictures and the novena for his canonization.

Thanks for your gifts toward the restoration of St. Mary's Church — Father Seelos' Church.

Father Grangell has recently undergone eye surgery for cataracts. We hope by the time you read this newsletter he will be well on his way to full recovery.

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