



FATHER SEELOS AND SANCTITY

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OCTOBER, 1974

ANNIVERSARY MASS FOR FATHER SEELOS

The death of Father Francis Xavier Seelos, C.S.S.R., will be commemorated on Sunday, October 6, with a concelebrated Mass at 10 A.M. in St. Alphonsus Church, 2030 Constance Street, New Orleans. This Mass will mark the 107th anniversary of Father Seelos' death of the yellow fever. Most Rev. James E. McManus, C.S.S.R., former bishop of the diocese of Ponce in Puerto Rico, will be the main concelebrant and homilist. All our readers are invited to attend this Mass, at least in spirit, and pray for the cañonization of Father Seelos.

Joseph Elworthy, C.S.S.R.



FATHER FRANCIS X. SEELOS, C.S.S.R., 1819-1867

FATHER SEELOS LIVED WITH GOD

by Father Grangell, C.S.S.R.

Virtue for October: Recollection

Patron for the month: St. Simon, Apostle

Text for Meditation: And having dismissed the crowd, Jesus went up into the mountain alone to pray. (Matt. 14/23)

As a child, Father Seelos lived in a Catholic city. There were crucifixes and statues of the Blessed Mother and patron saints at every street corner. People were not ashamed to be pious. They would kneel at these shrines and say the Rosary, as the business world moved around them. Young Francis Seelos became a recollected soul early in life. He lived with God.

When he became a Redemptorist, he found the Crucifix and holy pictures all over the house and in his room. They reminded him to talk with God. When he preached missions, he had a special sermon on having these holy articles in the home. We must have constant reminders to think of God. Keep some kind of a reminder on the kitchen table, on your desk, on your person. Sickness keeps us close to God—we pray. So do troubles and worries—we make visits to the Blessed Sacrament, we go to daily Mass.

Try to make a closed retreat in some religious house, to be wholly recollected and prayerful for a few days in holy silence.

Did you ever notice as you drive along a highway how the trees grow? Where the forest is dense and the trees are crowded together, they have no room for expansion and perfect symmetry. Then, you see a solitary tree, nothing disturbing its developments. It is most perfect and beautiful to behold. Our cities are crowded with people—a big entangled, restless mass of humanity. If anyone of these people can get away from the crowd and make a retreat, alone with God—or spend some time daily with the Blessed Sacrament—he will develop to his full spiritual potential.

Another highway thought! All the signs and ads along the way are about places where we can eat and lodge and get gas. Never a thought about God! I wish some rich religious person or club or church would erect many billboards with big letters, which we could read a mile away! MY GOD I LOVE YOU. Wouldn't that be great! It would please Protestants and Jews and Catholics. Our national motto is: In God we Trust. If anybody doesn't believe in God he doesn't belong in America.

Still on the highway! You see MPH ceaselessly. Make MPH mean: *Mother of Perpetual Help*, pray for us.

May Father Seelos help you to be recollected, close to God and His Blessed Mother always.

SPECIAL LETTERS

New Orleans, La.

"I had an operation last May and have been having a difficult time making a recovery. I requested Father Seelos to pray on my behalf and during the past few weeks there has been a great improvement in my condition. I am grateful to him for his intercession."

A. L. N.

Waggaman, La.

"I want to publicly thank Father Seelos for his intercession. A very special favor was granted to me. My son was in an automobile accident. I prayed to Father Seelos that the judge's decision would be in his favor, which it was. Thanks to God and Father Seelos."

Z. L. M.

New Orleans, La.

"I have been praying, asking Father Seelos' intercession for 25 years for this special favor, that God would let me live to see my son and his wife married in the Catholic Church. To the joy of everyone concerned, on their 25th Wedding Anniversary my daughter-in-law became a Catholic and they were married in church. Thanks to God and Father Seelos for answering my prayers. I promised publication."

L. G.

New Orleans, La.

"I would like you to know of favors granted to us through the intercession of Father Seelos. My sister was seriously injured in an accident which resulted in brain damage. The doctor suggested placing her in a home since I must work for a living and she requires nursing care. I prayed to Father Seelos to help us find a good nursing home in the short time allotted to us. My prayers were answered in that we were able to place her in a good home for the required date. I prayerfully thank Father Seelos for all the favors that I have received through his intercession but I know you like to know about them."

L. A.

Harahan, La.

"Saturday night my teenage son was getting ready to go to the Chicago Concert at Municipal Auditorium. I asked him to please put a cloth memento of Father Seelos in his wallet. When he returned about one o'clock, he realized he had lost his wallet with his driver's license, money and papers. I asked Father Seelos to intercede for him to find the wallet. Sunday morning after many calls, my husband located the wallet through someone at the auditorium."

H. J. B.

Vacherie, La.

"I would like to publish my thanks to Father Seelos for a favor received through his intercession. I promised publication if my son would get a good job in a plant with good benefits. He got his job. I also give thanks to the Infant Jesus of Prague, Mother of Perpetual Help and Sacred Heart of Jesus."

L. J. B.

SPECIAL NOTES

October is the month of the Holy Rosary! Say it daily!

Many things — Be sure we have your correct address — pray for the canonization of Father Seelos — write to us in detail of favors received — make the Novena Mass every Wednesday at 4:30 P.M. in St. Alphonsus Church — volunteer to do a day's work at Father Seelos Center. Call 525-2495.

For blessings with Father Seelos' Crucifix, call Miss Addie Buhler, 895-6176.

Read the life of Father Seelos, THE CHEERFUL ASCETIC. Copies are available at the Father Seelos Center at \$4.95 per copy.

If you want cloth mementoes and pictures and prayers to Father Seelos, write to us at the Center.

Thanks for sending us four and more names and addreses to make our little paper grow from 28,000 to 100,000 readers! God love you!

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