



# FATHER SEELOS AND SANCTITY

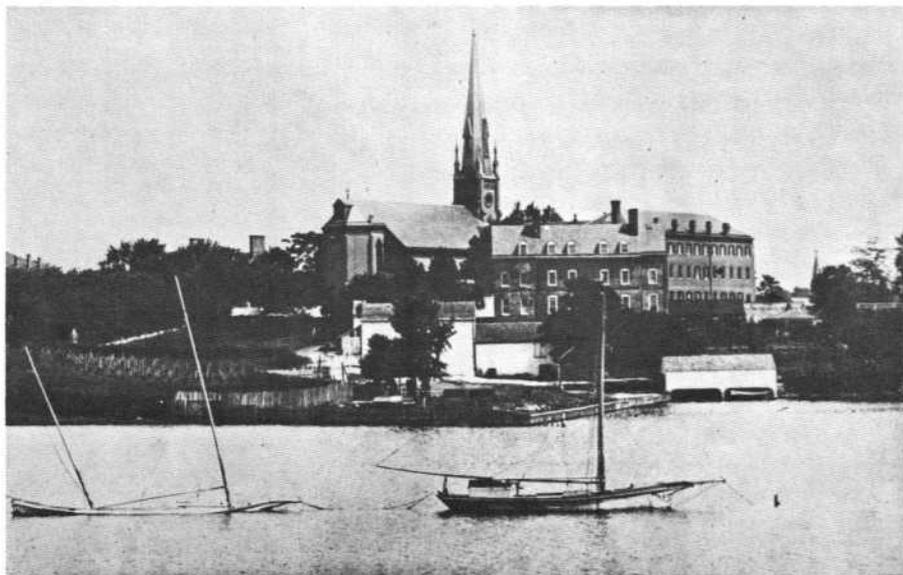
VOLUME XIV, NUMBER 12

DECEMBER, 1975

## THE SAINTS LIVE

Whoever said that he was not concerned with the Saints because he was interested in living, forgot one important fact: the saints do live today in the presence of God. The memory of many of them, after centuries have passed, may have dimmed here on earth, but they are alive and in heaven. The Church has always called upon the Saints to assist with the angels at the eternal praise of our triune God both in heaven and on earth, especially at the holy sacrifice of the Mass. That is why we feel so close to the Saints. We are united with them in the communion of the Saints.

Joseph Elworthy, C.S.S.R.



*Father Seelos lived in Annapolis, Maryland, from 1862 to 1863. The original owner of this estate was Charles Carroll of Carrollton.*

My Dear Friend and Friend of Father Seelos:

## MERRY CHRISTMAS TO YOU!

The virtue for the month of December is self-denial and love of the Cross. In Advent, as you anticipate the Crib, and on Christmas morning when you kneel at the Crib, you will see Christ practicing these virtues and setting an example for you. As King of Heaven, He could have been born in a palace with all the luxurious comforts, conveniences in the world, but He denied Himself all of these and is born in poverty and hardship, no comforts, countless inconveniences. As a tiny babe, He has a Divine, Infinite Mind, He knows His future of much suffering, ending His life on a Cross. He was a man of sorrows, but not sadness.

Father Seelos loved the Crib! He renewed his vows of Poverty, Chastity and Obedience before it daily, and very solemnly in the Community Chapel on the 25th of every month, which he celebrated as the Birthday of His Most Holy Redeemer. He meditated on the mysteries of the Divine Infancy every evening in Advent from a book by St. Alphonsus, which is still in print, on the incarnation of Jesus Christ.

Keeping his vows of Poverty, Chastity and Obedience, he lived a life of self-denial and love of the Cross. I don't know what his particular Cross in life was, maybe it was his perpetual poor health. He was physically sick always. He never complained. He lived the life of self-denial. To the question: "How are you feeling?" he would answer with a smile: "Wonderfully well, by the grace of God." He wanted no sympathy. God's Will was his will. That's why he became a great saint.

I don't know what your cross in life is! It might be personal poor health or sickness in the family — no peace at home — financial worries — somebody is away from the Church and Sacraments! You know! During Advent go to daily Mass and Holy Communion and ask for the grace to bear your cross. Check on the virtues of Poverty, Chastity and Obedience.

Merry Christmas to you from Father Seelos and everybody at the Center and myself.

May your Christmas be a MARY Christmas with our Blessed Mother's Love in it.

Sincerely,

Father Grangell, C.S.S.R.

## SPECIAL LETTERS

Belle Chasse, La.

"My daughter was to undergo a very serious operation and I was worried because she has heart trouble. By praying to Father Seelos she came out of it just fine and is almost completely recovered. Many thanks to Father Seelos for his intercession."

F. B. H.

Metairie, La.

"Thanks for an answer to my prayers to Father Seelos. Today what seemed to be the ending of a 27 year marriage and breaking up of a home was averted by my prayers to Jesus and Mary and the intercession of Father Seelos. Thanks for the happy reconciliation. It appears the marriage will be saved."

F. S.

New Orleans, La.

"We are thirteen people in the family living in a six room house. In June we were given notice to move in three months. I could not find a place under \$250.00 per month and no one wanted children. I became so sick I almost had a nervous breakdown. I sought Father Seelos intercession and later my brother decided to buy a double house with ten rooms. I am grateful to Father Seelos for his prayers."

R. M.

New Orleans, La.

"My niece was rushed to the hospital on February 9. She was seriously ill. In three weeks she had undergone three operations and was in the hospital almost three months. On Feb. 16 her brother was rushed to the hospital and also underwent three operations for a ruptured disk. We did not know whether he would walk again. While he was in the hospital my brother (their father) had a stroke. During this time I was storming heaven with my prayers. A friend sent me a prayer to Father Seelos which I started at once and today all three, while not completely well, are able to return to work. I am very grateful to Father Seelos for his intercession."

N. K. O.

New Orleans, La.

"Through self-examination I felt what I thought was a lump in my breast. I immediately prayed to Father Seelos that if this was another lump that it would not be malignant. When the doctor felt the lump he could not tell whether or not it was from the last operation. I had a mammogram and it showed nothing alarming. Six weeks later he was fully convinced it is from the previous operation. Thanks to Father Seelos for his prayers."

C. D.

## SPECIAL NOTES

We have a Holy Mass in St. Mary's on every Sunday at 4 P.M. Come and see the beautiful Church in all its lights and splendor. Bring your sick. Everybody is blessed with the Crucifix of Father Seelos. Make a novena of Sundays and pray for the canonization of Father Seelos and for miracles. Have Faith.

---

Thanks for helping St. Mary's in her financial woes! Put St. Mary's in your last will: "To the St. Mary's Assumption Restoration and Preservation Fund, Inc."

---

When you finish reading this little paper, give it to a friend or neighbor or leave it in a pew in your Church.

---

Help some boy or young man to follow the vocation to the Priesthood or Brotherhood. Write to the Center for information.

---

Send us the name and address of people who would like to receive **FATHER SEELOS AND SANCTITY** every month.

Jesus Christ Himself inaugurated the practice of giving at Christmas when He gave Himself as the Savior and Redeemer of the world as the Babe of Bethlehem! We love Him! We thank Him! We give Him ourselves in return.

At Christmas time you will receive many gifts. I want to give you your best gift — something priceless, something of infinite value — the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass. I promise to remember you and all your dear ones and all your personal, private intentions:

1. In all my Holy Masses on Christmas Day.
2. In all my Masses during Christmas week.
3. On New Year's Day.
4. On every day in 1976.

PRAY FOR ME!

FATHER GRANGELL

Published monthly by the Redemptorists at the Father Seelos Center, 2030 Constance Street, New Orleans, Louisiana 70130. Subscription \$1.00 per year.

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

Published with Ecclesiastical Approbation.

Rev. William Grangell, C.S.S.R., Vice-Postulator and Editor; Miss Josie Becker, Associate Editor; Miss Regina Beck and Rev. Joseph Elworthy, C.S.S.R., Executive Assistants.