

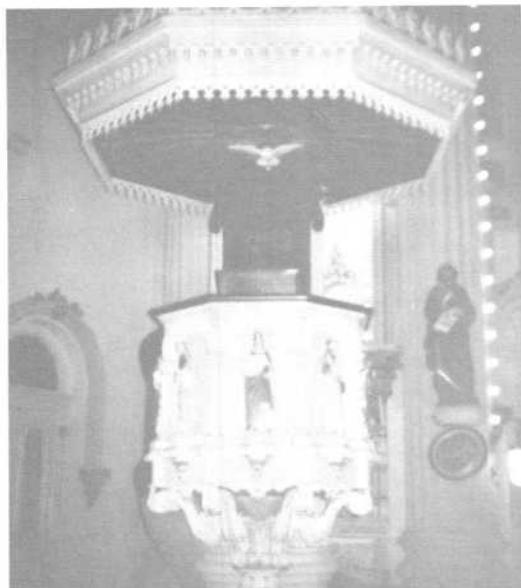


FATHER SEELOS AND SANCTITY

VOLUME XV, NUMBER I

JANUARY, 1976

*Happy New Year
to all of you from all of us at
Father Seelos Center*



This is the pulpit in restored St. Mary's Assumption Church in New Orleans, where Father Seelos preached his last sermons.

Veneration of The Saints

We Catholics venerate the Saints, and in doing so, we have three things in mind. First, we admire the lives of the Saints, and from admiration we are moved to follow their example. Secondly, we realize that while the Saints are no longer visibly with us on earth, they are nonetheless one with us in the enduring bonds of Christ's sanctifying grace. Thirdly, we rely on them for their prayers which they unceasingly pour forth to the Father in heaven.

— Joseph Elworthy, C.S.S.R.

FATHER SEELOS WAS A MAN OF GREAT FAITH

by *Father Grangell*

Virtue for January — Faith

Patrons — St. Peter and St. Paul, Apostles

Text — I am the light of the world (Jno. 8/12)

There is no such thing as being stationary in the Spiritual Life—you either advance in the Love of God or you recede. A man in a boat in a river with a strong current, does not stay in one spot. He either drifts downstream with the current, or he uses his oars and works strenuously and gets to his destination. At the beginning of the New Year let's make up our minds determinately to become saints — great saints. Father Seelos made that resolution in his young years and with vigor and much Love of God in his heart — he succeeded. He had great devotion to St. Teresa of Avila. He signed his letterheads and all his writings J M J T (Jesus, Mary, Joseph, Teresa). She was a voluminous writer. She wrote: I don't care if every saint in heaven will have a higher degree of glory than I will have, but I don't want anybody in heaven who loved God more on earth than I did. That was a challenge to Father Seelos! It must be a challenge to us! Let's be great lovers of Jesus Christ, greater than Teresa! Let's say with St. Paul: "Who shall separate me from the love of God?" Again, "I live now not I, but Christ liveth in me." And, despite our past sinfulness let's say with St. Peter: "Lord, Thou knowest that I love Thee."

Let's work on the twelve monthly virtues! That was Father Seelos' system of asceticism. Introduce this system to others. You know it.

Faith is the virtue for January. We build all the virtues on it. The Bible says: My holy man lives by faith.

Faith is a gift from God. Millions of people do not believe as we do, because God did not give them this great gift. Nobody ever loses the Faith. God takes it away from many because they do not appreciate it. Then they drift. Notice them, you know them.

Scripture says: Faith without works is dead. Practice your Faith.

1. The first thing to do is to thank God for our Faith, ask Him for an increase of Faith, and to give the True Faith to all our dear ones.
2. Study the Religion, know it, read religious books, never doubt.
3. Do everything for the Love of God, see His Will in everything, never complain, be cheerful and happy always, obey the Church, listen to Our Holy Father and never criticize priests.
4. Love prayer! Say MY GOD, I LOVE YOU ceaselessly. Make an effort to go to daily Mass and Holy Communion in 1976.
5. Love our Blessed Mother's Rosary.
6. If possible come to the 4 P.M. Sunday Mass in beautiful St. Mary's Assumption Church. FAITH AND SACRIFICE GO HAND IN HAND.



HAPPY NEW YEAR TO YOU, FILLED WITH ALL THE MONTHLY VIRTUES!

SPECIAL LETTERS

New Orleans, La.

"A favor has been granted me through the prayers of Father Seelos. My daughter has been sick with asthma for 26 years. We feel through Father Seelos' intercession, she has not been sick or in the hospital for almost a year. Many thanks to Father Seelos for his prayers."

F. M.

San Antonio, Texas

"A very dear friend of mine is suffering from cancer. The doctors here told her there was nothing more to be done. She went to another city, had two more operations and was told it would be six months before she could walk comfortably. After seven months she walked to church to give thanks. Many thanks for the unusually quick recovery in answer to many prayers for Father Seelos intercession."

B. J.

Church Point, La.

"Several months ago our oldest daughter was married. She was a good girl and married a fine fellow. I prayed that my husband would understand and be happy about giving her away as he said he would have nothing to do with it. He gave us a very hard time, however, two days before the wedding he consented to give her away and was a perfect host at the wedding. Thanks to Father Seelos for this favor granted through his prayers."

B. L. G.

Chalmette, La.

"Thanks for favor granted through Father Seelos' intercession. My husband was to go out on strike but at the last minute the Company decided not to strike."

C. O.

Metairie, La.

"Two or three months ago my sister was faced with major surgery. She was not sure whether she should have it performed as to what the outcome would be. I prayed to Father Seelos for guidance. My sister had the surgery and is well again. I am grateful for Father Seelos' intercession and your prayers."

B. M. F.

Baton Rouge, La.

"A friend had a virulent eye disease which did not respond to treatment. He was told by the doctor that he would have to quit work. When he gave notice everyone started to pray for him. On a subsequent visit the doctor saw such a surprising improvement, he was told he could continue working. Many thanks for this favor granted through Father Seelos' intercession."

E. R. J.

SPECIAL NOTES

HAPPY NEW YEAR to you from everybody at the Father Seelos Center. Thanks for all you have done for Father Seelos in the past. God love you and reward you. Let's pray for one another.

Give this little paper to a neighbor or send it to a distant city. Spread devotion to Father Seelos in this way. Give us many names and addresses of your relatives and friends—we will send the paper to them monthly.

Congratulations on the way crowds came to the Anniversary Mass of Father Seelos on October 6 and to the transferring of Father Seelos' body back to beautiful, restored St. Mary's on November 9. Now come every Sunday to St. Mary's Church to Holy Mass at 4 P.M. Pray for the canonization of Father Seelos, pray at his tomb for all your own intentions—for miracles for your sick. After Mass, about 4:30 P.M. come to the altar and receive an individual blessing with the mission Crucifix of Father Seelos.

Become an organizer! Gather a group of people from your neighborhood, your parish, your society, your town and come to the tomb of Father Seelos. The best time to come is at 4 P.M. on Sunday—the Church is beautifully lighted and there's enthusiasm in a crowd. TALK MIRACLES!

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

Do you know what "MGILY" means?

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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.