



# FATHER SEELOS AND SANCTITY

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## THE FATHER SEELOS CENTER

Perhaps, dear reader, you have wondered what the Father Seelos Center looks like. The center occupies the upper story of this building pictured below. As far as we know, the structure is at least 100 years old. It is located behind, or more precisely, to the side of St. Alphonsus rectory. At the Center the activities of some 80 volunteers are coordinated. From it the bulletin, FATHER SEELOS AND SANCTITY, is mailed to nearly 30,000 subscribers in all states of the Union and in 25 foreign countries. Thousands of letters are received from you each year and thousands of pictures, mementoes and booklets of Father Seelos are sent to those who request them. Have you received a special favor through the prayers of Father Seelos? Do you want to know more about his life? Do you want to make him known to others? Write to The Father Seelos Center: 2030 Constance Street, New Orleans, Louisiana 70130.

Joseph Elworthy, C.S.S.R.



# FATHER SEELOS THOUGHT MUCH ON ETERNITY! AND YOU?

by *Father Grangell*

Virtue for June: Purity of Heart

Patron: St. James, the Less, Apostle

Text: Blessed are the clean of heart, for they shall see God (Matt. 5/8)

Father Seelos made a private Day of Retreat every month and ten consecutive days every year. It was his Redemptorist Rule. He spent the day in prayer and meditation. He would think seriously as he knelt before the Blessed Sacrament or in the privacy of his room, alone with God.

He thought much of these texts:

"It is appointed unto man once to die, and after death, the judgment." (Hebr 9/27) "Think of thy last end and thou shalt never sin." (Sirach 7/40) Everybody must die. I must die. Death is the most certain and yet the most uncertain thing in the world. I don't know when, nor where, nor how, I will die! Am I always ready to meet my God? I must get sin and all imperfections out of my life today — now! Tomorrow is too late. I may not have a tomorrow! I can't take a chance, I can't gamble on tomorrow. I may have a fatal heart attack, a stroke, an accident, today. If I die in sin, I will meet an angry Judge in eternity who will say to me: Depart from Me you cursed one into everlasting fire (Matt. 25/41). I am lost forever! Forever! Never another chance! Thank God I am living. I can make an act of Perfect Contrition now, and go to confession as soon as possible.

Father Seelos made the resolution repeatedly to be a saint. He preached on all his Missions: The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom (Proverb 1/7). Nobody is afraid of God, as a tyrant, cruel, unmerciful, unloving, but everybody must fear to offend God. That's wisdom.

You must make a private day of recollection once a month, be alone with God for some serious thinking. Reread the foregoing paragraphs. Imagine Father Seelos talking to you.

Think about this month's virtue — Purity! The abuse of sex will cause many souls to be lost. Read St. Paul, 6/9, 10 and Proverbs 1/2-25.

To be pure, we must pray to have clean holy hearts. We must control our thoughts, words and actions and our bodily senses of sight, speech, hearing and touch. We must watch our company.

One thing is certain; if one receives Holy Communion daily, he will be strong with the strength of God and ready to conquer every temptation. Many teen-agers have given up Holy Communion — and where are they?

Say your Rosary daily! A Child of Mary is never lost.

## SPECIAL LETTERS

Metairie, La.

"I would like to thank Father Seelos for two favors granted through his intercession. One is that my son-in-law sold his business, the other, my grandson, a student in law school, had six very difficult examinations and he passed them all."

I. L. M.

Houston, Texas

"My husband was losing his vision for two years. The doctors made tests and discovered a brain tumor. He was operated on under microscope and the tumor was found to be the size of an orange. After surgery he spent three days in intensive care and only twelve days in the hospital. The doctor was at a loss to explain the rapid recovers. We always said the Father Seelos prayer and thank him for his intercession for this wonderful recovery."

J. F. H.

Hopedale, La.

"My grandson was very sick for almost two years. We prayed to Father Seelos and he has been able to finish school and is now working. Many thanks to Father Seelos for his intercession."

T. T.

Brooklyn, N. Y.

"My brother had open heart surgery and came through the operation fairly well, however, the following day he had a set-back and was in critical condition for a week. We stormed heaven asking Father Seelos' prayers. He now seems to be on the road to recovery for which we are grateful to Father Seelos."

E. C.

Nesbitt, Miss.

"Last spring when only six months married, the doctor discovered that I had a very large ovarian cyst. This meant that I would have surgery and probably a hysterectomy. I felt very bad about this and my family and I prayed very hard to Father Seelos. I was scheduled for surgery, however, the doctor prescribed treatment before surgery. Upon the following examination I was told the cyst was smaller and continued treatment. Two months later I became pregnant and it was found that the cyst was gone. During the sixth month of pregnancy I lost the baby and began to worry that perhaps the cyst had returned but thank God it had not. We are extremely grateful to Father Seelos for his intercession for this wonderful favor."

A. McN.

## SPECIAL NOTES

June is the month of the Sacred Heart. When and why did you quit receiving Holy Communion on the First Fridays? Ask the teen-agers! Why and when?

Let's have a contest! Get in it. We want to send FATHER SEELOS AND SANCTITY to 100,000 people monthly. Give us the names and addresses and zip codes of all your relatives and friends and neighbors. In the August issue we will announce the winner — the one who sent us the most names. Cut a piece of paper or card the size of the gold envelope, 5 inches by 3½ inches. PRINT your last name on the top line, then your first name, then the number of new names you are sending — 6 or 60 or ? — on the second line your address (print).

Then PRINT on individual pieces of paper or cards, same size as above, the LAST NAME of the new person on first line, then his FIRST NAME, his address on the second and third lines (PRINT). Make all the same size for our files. Print Mr. or Mrs. or Miss for each name.

Whenever you write to a relative or friend, enclose a few pictures of Father Seelos. Spread devotion to him in this way.

There are two Masses offered each week for those who recommend themselves to our prayers at the Father Seelos Center. One is said each Wednesday in St. Alphonsus Church, 2030 Constance Street at 4:30 P.M. The other is said each Sunday in St. Mary's Church at Josephine and Constance Streets at 4:00 P.M.

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

Plans are being made for the canonization of Blessed John Neumann, C.S.S.R. His brother, Brother Wenceslas Neumann, C.S.S.R., is buried in St. Mary's Church, near the tomb of Father Seelos. We will have further information probably in our next publication.

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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.