



FATHER SEELOS AND SANCTITY

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DEATH AND RESURRECTION OF CHRIST

Father Seelos grew up in the fantastically beautiful country of Bavaria. Once in the United States he came to know the mountains of Pennsylvania, quaint Baltimore, colonial Annapolis. As his life was coming to an end, he saw the bayou country of Louisiana and the vast salt marshes of the Mississippi delta surrounding New Orleans.

One surmises he never forgot the beauty of his native land. Certainly the lessons of faith brought home to him such wayside shrines as the one pictured above never left him. He came to America to preach to his fellow immigrants the lesson of the Cross and to bring to them the hope that flooded his own soul from his contemplation of the risen Savior.

May the peace of Christ be with you all!

Joseph Elworthy, C.S.S.R.

"LORD, THOU KNOWEST THAT I LOVE THEE"—St. Peter

(*Monthly Conference of Father Grangell*)

Virtue for March: Love of God

Patron: St. James, the Greater Apostle

Text: Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with thy whole being. (Matt. 12/30)

When the Holy Father declared John Neumann a Saint, he said: This canonization is the celebration of holiness and holiness is human love raised to its highest level in Christ, in God! That's what we want — our humanity raised to the apex of personal perfect love of God.

First of all, let's check on how we are keeping the Ten Commandments and obeying the Church. Love of God and habits of serious sin cannot exist in the individual heart at the same time.

Next, we love to pray. We sit quietly at home or in the church and let our imagination, our will, our desires run wild as we talk with God in our own way and express our love for Him. Because we love God, we want everybody to love Him. Remember the "Spiritual Banks" in the 1977 May Conference?

1. Every morning consecrate to God (a) your every thought of the new day as so many acts of love of God, (b) your every word as so many acts of sorrow for having offended God, (c) your every action as so many petitions for the grace to save your soul. Offer everybody's day and night to God in the same way. Read the 1976 November Conference.

2. A BIG WISH! My God, my body becomes a living Eucharistic Tabernacle when I receive Holy Communion. I wish the Blessed Sacrament would stay with me all day and all night. This is impossible. Come then spiritually and remain with me always. Good God, do the same for everybody. I invite all Guardian Angels of all men to whisper without ceasing, acts of love of You, spiritually present in the bodies of their respective proteges.

3. A MIGHTY DESIRE! My God I wish I could multiply the souls of the billions of people living today as many times as there are Eucharistic Tabernacles and have every one in every tabernacle praying perpetually: MY GOD I LOVE YOU.

4. Read the "Atoms Prayer" in the March, 1977, "Father Seelos and Sanctity".

5. Love your Holy Sacrifice of the Mass. Often during the day, no matter where you are or what you are doing, whisper to God: I offer to You all the Holy Masses that are being said now, somewhere, to give you INFINITE LOVE through Christ, with Christ, in Christ, for myself and for everybody in the world.

6. Pray often to the Blessed Mother as Father Seelos did: "OBTAIN FOR ME A PERFECT LOVE FOR JESUS CHRIST!" There is no greater favor you can ask of the Mother of God.

MGILY

SPECIAL LETTERS

New Orleans, La.

"I had a stroke and my family thought I would never get well, however, with all the prayers to Father Seelos and the blessing with his crucifix, I am now able to walk. Thanks very much for his intercession."

V. L.

Clearwater, Fla.

"My son was in a traffic accident and we were unable to have a lawyer defend him. I asked Father Seelos' intercession for the Judge to be understanding and my prayer was answered."

H. K. L.

St. Martinville, La.

"My granddaughter was born with an open back and was not expected to live. She is now 3½ years old. She wears a brace, can walk and speak. Thanks to Father Seelos for his prayers."

H. R.

Metairie, La.

"Eight years ago I was operated on and found to have cancer. Recently I went to the hospital for a check-up and prayed to Father Seelos that there would be no recurrence. After ten days in the hospital all tests were negative. Thank God and Father Seelos. Please publish."

L. M. Z.

Donaldsonville, La.

"In thanksgiving for a good report on medical tests and for finding something I had thought was lost."

R. H.

Edgard, La.

"My husband had a court case to be settled and the settlement was made by the insurance company. Thanks to Father Seelos for his intercession."

L. S.

Palestine, Texas

"My son had a severe attack of kidney stones. We said the Father Seelos prayer and thanks to his intercession, no surgery was required."

C. P. W.

SPECIAL NOTES

A lady on a bus going to Denver interested four people, strangers to her, in Father Seelos. One lived in Union Beach, N. J., another in Astoria, N. Y., and two in Tempe, Arizona. Imitate her! Spread devotion to Father Seelos in the far-away places.

This came in the mail: "Just a note to say Father Seelos is the greatest. I couldn't live without his unfailing help." M. K., Texas (Similar notes come to us daily.)

We are now in the last weeks of Lent. Meditate on your crucifix. It's the story of love. If you desire a short "Way of the Cross" write to the Center.

We are looking for youth to spread devotion to Father Seelos in every state of America. Tell some young people of your state to write to us for a working program.

All the petitions that you send to the Center are put on the tomb of Father Seelos in St. Mary's Church in New Orleans and prayed for at the weekly novena. Please let us know of all favors received.

If you desire copies of the Conferences referred to in this present Conference of March, 1978, write to us and we will happily oblige you.

All gifts sent to the Center to further the cause of canonization of Father Seelos are acknowledged within a few days. If you do not receive a thank you note, we did not receive your gift—your letter was lost.

If you know a teenage boy or college student who is thinking of the Priesthood as his vocation, ask him to write to the Center and we will send him a short interesting pamphlet on the Priesthood.

**HAPPY, JOYOUS EASTER TO ALL.
GOD LOVE YOU.**

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