



FATHER SEELOS AND SANCTITY

VOLUME XVIII, NUMBER 4

APRIL, 1978

THEY COME FROM FAR AND NEAR



To the tomb of Father Francis Xavier Seelos in the recently restored church of St. Mary's on Josephine at Constance Streets in New Orleans, come people of all classes from New Orleans, from all over the state of Louisiana, from many even distant states of the Union. They come to beg the intercession of the Servant of God in their behalf and to thank him for prayers answered.



A client writes her intention at the tomb of Father Seelos.

Twice a week Masses are said for all the intentions of those who recommend themselves to the Father Seelos Center. These Masses are offered also for his beatification and canonization, if such be the will of God.

IF YOU LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR SINCERELY, YOU LOVE GOD TRULY

(Monthly Conference of Father Grangell)

Virtue for April: Charity, Brotherly Love

Text: This is my Commandment that you love one another as I have loved you.
(St. John 15/12)

Patron: St. John, Apostle and Evangelist

Did you ever think of Father Seelos as a Martyr? Well, he was. For the love of God he laid down his life to administer the Sacraments to those dying of yellow fever, a contagious disease. He was not a strong, robust, healthy individual, but as a zealous, holy priest he went among the dying and prepared them to meet their God at the dawn of eternity. He did it all cheerfully, and when he lay dying, a victim of the dread disease, he asked the priests and brothers around his bed to sing. They did, and with a smile he passed from this world to heaven. Our Lord said: Greater love than this no man hath, that a man lay down his life for his friend. (John 15/13) Everybody was Father Seelos' friend.

During the month of April check on how you practice Charity, Brotherly Love. Christ called Charity His commandment. At the Last Supper He called it: "A New Commandment." (Jno. 13/34) Why a "New Commandment?" Because the old law was retaliation, an eye for an eye, a tooth for a tooth, a life for a life. He taught: Love those who hate you, pray for those who persecute you! Forgive everything! It's hard to live with some people, to work with others. You must put up with their peculiarities, eccentricities, annoying hobbies. If you do it for the love of God and cheerfully, you are a martyr.

A big question: ARE YOU AS KIND, HELPFUL, AGREEABLE AT HOME AS AWAY FROM HOME?

Take Father Seelos as a model. His biographer calls him: "THE CHEERFUL ASCETIC," which means the happy saint. You can't imagine Father Seelos as moody, depressed, glum, taciturn. You can't live with that kind of a person. He knew how to laugh, he wore a perpetual smile. He was kind and helpful, always approachable. He did not criticize. He was not jealous or envious. He had no time, no ears, for scandal mongers. Everybody was perfect in his estimation. He was patient in sickness, never talked about his pains and aches and pills. He prayed for the sick and for sinners. He was generous with his words of encouragement, praise and congratulations. He made people happy. He was grateful and appreciative and knew how to say "THANKS." He accepted offenses in silence as Christ did. He was good to the poor, the sick, the old. He loved children. He saw God in everybody. Everybody called him a saint.

IS THIS YOUR LIFE? It could be, it must be, if you love God sincerely.

DEAR BLESSED MOTHER, PRAY FOR US

MGILY

SPECIAL LETTERS

Harahan, La.

"My brother was stricken with leukemia. At the hospital he was placed in an isolated germ-free room for six weeks. While being hospitalized he contracted about every sickness, which kept him there three months. During this time we had a Father Seelos cloth memento pinned on the curtain of the room. Through the intercession of Father Seelos my brother overcame all the infections. Thanks to Father Seelos."

R. C.

New Orleans, La.

"Please publish. I had chronic heart failure and practically lived in the hospital for two years. I went through surgery and am living with a plastic valve in my heart. I am sure it was God's plan to heal me through the intercession of Father Seelos."

A. W.

New Orleans, La.

"My son suffered with chest pains which were diagnosed as a bubble in the lung. Through the prayers of Father Seelos the condition was cleared."

J. F.

Baton Rouge, La.

"My husband began having numbness on his left side. He was hospitalized for brain scan, etc., but doctors found nothing wrong, however the numbness continued. Through X-rays he was found to have a small blood vessel leading to the brain abnormal or kinked. This condition sometimes corrects itself without surgery. Our prayers were answered through the intercession of Father Seelos."

J. H. T.

Baton Rouge, La.

"Many thanks for three favors which I would like to have published: 1) My brother had open heart surgery — blood clot staff infection. We are thankful he is still with us. 2) Two of my sisters had cancer, one three years ago, the other a year and a half ago, and both are doing fine."

L. J. F.

St. Louis, Mo.

"Please publish. A sincere thanksgiving to Father Seelos for saving my right eye. The left is covered by a cataract, cannot be removed because of cancer. The right had a very small lingering cataract but I have been told it has become stationary so that the sight is all right. I had a great fear of losing sight in that eye."

G. T.

A TRIBUTE TO TWO FELLOW WORKERS

We would like to share with you the sadness that has come to us at the Father Seelos Center. In January one of our good and loyal workers died very suddenly — Anthony Palermo. Tony was on hand every morning to open the office and he worked very diligently for the cause. In February Maurice Abadie died, also very suddenly. Maurice worked quietly and did so many things not only for the Seelos Center but for St. Alphonsus Parish. Both are missed by us very much. Please remember them in your prayers.

SPECIAL NOTES

In 1952 some ladies of St. Alphonsus Parish, New Orleans, began a Fatima Block Rosary. As of today they meet in 15 different homes on Monday nights at 7 p.m. In 1960 they embraced Father Seelos in their Rosary and called their gathering: "The Father Seelos Fatima Rosary." They meet also every Wednesday morning at 10 o'clock in St. Mary's Assumption Church where Father Seelos is buried. How about imitating them in your parish?

Tell your friends about Father Seelos. Ask them to join the Father Seelos Guild. When you send a name, make it Mr. or Mrs. or Miss, not just a first name, and give the zip code number. A Guild member has just two easy obligations: 1. Pray for the canonization of Father Seelos, and 2. Spread devotion to him. In return, the members receive many spiritual graces.

In your personal, private prayers to Father Seelos, include the intentions of all who are praying to him all over the world.

Organize a group of people and come to the tomb of Father Seelos as pilgrims. Let the Center know in advance the day and hour of your coming and we will meet you and pray with you and bless you with the crucifix of Father Seelos.

From time to time use the small gold envelope and let us know the favors you are receiving through Father Seelos, and how you are spreading devotion to him. Keep in touch with the Center. Use the gold envelope.

Published monthly by the Redemptorists at the Father Seelos Center, 2030 Constance Street, New Orleans, Louisiana 70130. Telephone 525-2495. 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.

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