

# FATHER SEELOS AND SANCTITY

**VOLUME XVIII, NUMBER 10** 

OCTOBER 1979

## FATHER FRANCIS X. SEELOS, C.SS.R. SERVANT OF GOD



As has been our practice for quite a few years, we commemorate the anniversary of the death of Father Seelos with the celebration of Holy Mass on the first Sunday of October in St. Mary's Assumption Church, where his mortal remains lie. Our September issue of FATHER SEELOS AND SANCTITY contained information regarding the date, time and celebrant of the Mass this year. Just so you don't forget, the date is October 7, the time 11:30 A.M., and the celebrant of the Mass will be our own Bishop Stanley J. Ott.

We are happy to have Bishop Ott honor us with his presence on this occasion and also appreciate the great interest he has shown in the cause of

Father Seelos. You will have the chance to greet him after the Mass in Liguori Auditorium, where coffee and doughnuts will be served.

In addition to meeting with Bishop Ott, Father Grangell will be with us. We know all of you are anxious to see him again. Continue to pray for him.

Josie Becker

When you come to the Anniversary Mass you may park in either of the two schoolyards on St. Andrew Street, between Magazine and Constance Streets.

#### WALK WITH GOD

(Father Grangell's Monthly Conference)

Virtue for the month of October: RECOLLECTION

Patron Saint: St. Simon, Apostle

Text: And having dismissed the crowd Jesus went up into the mountain to pray. John 12/25

Recollection is twofold: Exterior and interior. On the monastery walls where Father Seelos lived, the word "SILENCE" in big letters was displayed. It was to remind the religious that the less they talked with one another the more they would talk with God. The more we train our tongues, the holier we will be.

Some very pious, devout people offend much with their tongues against the second, sixth and eighth commandments of God and do not realize it.

The second commandment — Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord in vain — yet they do, dotting their conversation with God's name, the name of Jesus, they curse, swear, blaspheme, talk about religious in a mocking, critical way.

The sixth commandment forbids impurity of speech. Yet the tongue is active in telling dirty, immoral, immodest stories and jokes, causing laughter at the filth, and maybe, scandalizing young children who listen in. Maybe you say you never in all your life ever told such a story or joke. GOOD! Did you listen to them — laugh at them? Then you are as guilty as the teller.

The eighth commandment forbids all uncharitable speech. Lying, repeating scandal, revealing secrets, arguing and fighting when angry, etc.

So, we see the tongue can be dangerous to our personal holiness. The best way to keep it holy is to allow our Lord to rest on it in Holy Communion often.

When you get your tongue under control, try to practice living in the presence of God. Live that you can say with St. Paul: "I live now, not I, but Christ liveth in me." All day long say: My God this is for you; thanks for everything - I LOVE YOU.

In recollection, you do not use form prayers — you just talk with God, breathe with God.

Visit the Blessed Sacrament in your parish Church at any time. Just sit — say nothing — no form prayer — just sit. God will talk.

A great meditation book is a flower from the garden or wild. Study it! Count if you can, the many parts of it. Think of the billions of that one kind of flower in the world! Your meditation is the infinite almighty power of God — WHO AM I?

Another great meditation book is a tiny insect, one as small as a grain of black pepper! If a scientist could produce one of these, he would live in history! That little creature is a thing of sex. Our meditation is: HOW INSIGNIFICANT I AM, SO LIMITED IN MY WORKS. STRENGTHEN MY FAITH.

Have reminders of God and the Blessed Mother and the saints all around you. Keep them on the walls of your home, in the kitchen, on the desk. A good last meditation: Have I gone modern, a PAGAN atmosphere in my home!!

### SPECIAL LETTERS

Gretna, La.

"My daughter almost died four years ago when she was 18 from a cyst that ruptured in her body. She became pregnant and was told by the doctor she had another cyst or a tubal pregnancy. We were all so very worried. When she returned to the doctor she was informed the cyst had drained and there was no sign of anything."

M.S.H.

New Sarpy, La.

"We asked for prayers when our baby was born, as the doctor thought he may have some head injury. With your special prayers, he is now fine."

G.B.

Homer, La.

"My son was accepted for the freshman class last week for medical school. This is a special favor I have been praying for for four years. Thanks for Father Seelos' intercession."

V.H.R.

Tallahassee, Florida

"My nephew's son became suddenly ill and went into a coma. Various tests were made to find the cause of the condition but to no avail. He was in a coma for a month and shortly after I was told of this and asked Father Seelos to intercede I was informed that the cause of his condition had been found and he was out of the coma. He is now making good progress toward complete recovery."

H.G.

New Orleans, La.

"I have been granted a favor through Father Seelos' intercession. Every three months my sister had to have blood transfusions, but for the last year the bleeding has stopped and she no longer requires the transfusions."

M.S.

Houston, Texas

"A lady while working in her garden felt a sting in her big toe which caused severe pain. She went to the doctor but he could not find anything and didn't even give her a tetanus shot. Four days later her foot and toe swelled and she went to another doctor and although this doctor did give her a tetanus shot (it was more than a week since the bite) she went into a coma. She could not breathe and she had lockjaw. Doctors worked on her and did a tracheotomy in order that she could breathe. We placed a cloth memento of Father Seelos on her. After a week she started to rally and her jaw was back in place. She began to speak. Thanks to Father Seelos for his prayers."

R.M.

New Orleans, La.

"I have two favors to acknowledge: A lady I know was ill and her daughter had planned a trip, but because of her mother's illness had to cancel her plans. I started to say the Father Seelos prayer and in nine days the lady became better and her daughter was able to make the trip with her husband.

— A girl came into my house and took \$60.00. Again I asked Father Seelos' intercession and in a few days she came back with the money."

L.M.

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FATHER SEELOS CENTER (USPS 488-660)

#### SPECIAL NOTES

The men like Father Seelos. God bless them. They write inspiring letters of petition and thanksgiving to Father Seelos. A man is making a big, a very big business deal. He has put it in the hands of Father Seelos. He asks every-body's prayers. A Moslem's wife gave her husband the prayer of Father Seelos on the picture card. He claims Father Seelos helped him immediately. A golfer thinks Father Seelos should be made the Patron Saint of lost balls. He helps him. This man apparently prays as he plays!!! It's good to see a man alone in the quiet hours of the day at the tomb of Father Seelos. Tell teenagers about Father Seelos. Give them the short life of Father Seelos to read—just 24 pages.

The pamphlet size life of Father Seelos has just come to us. It's tremendous. You will love it. We wish we could send you copies free of charge, but to meet our expenses we must ask you to give to the Center 25¢ for each copy, and please help if you can with the postage.

We are happy to receive letters from priests around the U.S.A. asking for 100-200-1000 pictures, etc. of Father Seelos and the pamphlet life of Father Seelos. They are spreading devotion to Father Seelos. God love them all. All we ask of the good Fathers and everybody is to help us with the postage.

October is the month of the Holy Rosary. Do you have one? Does every member of your family have one? Whatever you do, don't give up the Blessed Mother.

Every Wednesday morning at 10:00 A.M. some good people meet in St. Mary's Church to say the Father Seelos Rosary novena. Everybody is invited to join with them.

October 16 is the feast of St. Gerard Majella, C.SS.R. He is the young mother's saint, expectant mothers, mothers with babies. Write to the Center for prayers and medals of St. Gerard Majella, C.SS.R.

Thanks for the new names and addresses and zips of members for the Guild. Be sure of the spelling of each name and the correct address. God love you.

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

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