



# FATHER SEELOS AND SANCTITY

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## REDEMPTORIST NOVICES 1979 - 1980 OCONOMOWOC, WISCONSIN



These young men in the picture average in age from 18 to 25 years. Some have just finished their novitiate, have made their commitment to God and will move on to higher studies. Some are just beginning their novitiate.

You will notice that some have white collars and some not. Those with white collars will go on to the Priesthood.

You will notice all are laughing. They are happy because they now belong to God after the novitiate, or because they are entering the novitiate, to give themselves to God. As long as they keep laughing they are giving themselves entirely to God.

They are practicing two fundamental virtues — generosity and cheerfulness. God loves a cheerful giver.

Pray that these young men persevere in their God-given vocations and pray that many, very many young men will follow the vocation to the religious life.

## FATHER SEELOS' EVERY BREATH WAS A PRAYER

*(Father Grangell's Monthly Conference)*

Virtue for November: PRAYER

Patron Saint: St. Jude, the Apostle

Text: They must always pray and not lose heart. (St. Luke 18/1)

This is a repeat Conference of November 1976. The reason we repeat it is that we do not want you to forget how Father Seelos makes it easy to pray ceaselessly day and night.

He said a short night prayer before retiring every night. It shows us how close he was to God: "Oh Lord my God, I thank You for having preserved me during this day and I ask you to preserve me during this night. I take this repose in order to please You and I wish to love and please You each moment that I breathe, as the Angels and Saints love and please You in heaven. Mary, my Mother, bless me and protect me under your mantle. My Guardian Angel and all my patron Saints, intercede for me." How beautiful, how simple, how all comprehensive it is. Like all good prayers, Father begins with thanks for favors received before he asks for favors to come. He gives God something — everything — his life. We live by breathing. He gives God his every breath as an act of love, as perfect as the Angels and Saints love and please God in eternity.

We begin life breathing, we never cease to breathe until we die. We pay no attention to our breathing. We think and say and do a thousand things a day — never give a thought to our breathing. Isn't that a fact? Let's offer God our every breath as a prayer. Since we breathe ceaselessly, we will pray ceaselessly, we will live the above Scripture text! Read it (Luke 18/1)

Recollect yourself for a few seconds; now talk to God: My God, I offer You my every breath of life as an act of love of You and sorrow for having ever offended You. I wish never to cease loving You, never to cease praying. If I should become unconscious in sickness, or from a heart attack, or an accident, or an operation, or live to be mentally incapable to pray, I offer all my breathing at that time as a continuation of my present acts of love and sorrow for my sins. And, good God, at the moment of death, when I gasp my last breath, which will be my last act of love of You in this world. I hope to awake in eternity hearing You say, calling me by name. I LOVE YOU!

Ask all the members of your family, your friends, your neighbors, to say this last prayer privately, devoutly and often.

## SPECIAL LETTERS

Thibodaux, La.

"My godfather had a massive heart attack and the doctors gave us very little hope. I asked Father Seelos to intercede to the Lord for my Parrain's recovery. He is out of the hospital and recovering slowly, but surely."

P.T.

Jefferson, La.

"During a recent physical examination the doctor discovered that my liver was enlarged. I underwent several medical procedures, including a liver scan and the results were all negative. I had prayed several times to Father Seelos and touched the cloth memento to my side. I feel sure it was through his intercession with God for me that I am O.K."

C.W.P.

Carencro, La.

"My son has gone back to work to his old job he had before and he and his boss are working out well again. All are happy."

J.G.

New Iberia, La.

"We were having a family disagreement, I prayed to Father Seelos and everything is all fine now."

E.M.D.

Church Point, La.

"I entered the hospital for tests and was sure I would need surgery. I prayed to Father Seelos that I would not and much to my surprise all tests proved negative."

A.B.S.

Hiderfille, N.Y.

"Our son was so ill with a malignant brain tumor in January 1966. On April 25 he was 21 and is a beautiful, handsome, very kind man. He graduated from high school but didn't want to go to college. He took up mechanics in school and at present is learning machinists. He is not satisfied. I guess he'll find the job that was destined for him. There are two things I have to tell which happened while he was in the hospital. The morning of the operation my husband and I and my mother and father were standing next to his bed praying and you could feel sorrow in the room because the doctors gave us no hope (only two months to live). All of a sudden there was a loud crack in the room sounding like something had fallen. My husband searched the small room but could find nothing. To this day I have felt it was a sign. The other thing, after his operation when he was in the recovery room, he was very alert and they let us stay with him. He made a statement "Now I know how Jesus suffered on the cross". Wasn't that a strange thing for a seven year old boy to say. I'm sure without Father Seelos' intercession Jimmy would not be with us today."

G.&J.P.

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## SPECIAL NOTES

Patron Saints. If once upon a time you used to say prayers, mostly at night, to 25 or 50 saints, for favors received or for present or future help, and now you have dropped them, I would like to make a suggestion. Never drop a good friend in heaven. Make a litany of the saints you loved through the years, write their names on a card and every night for two or three minutes ask them to pray for you. St. Anthony, pray for me, St. Joseph, pray for me, St. Jude, pray for me, etc., etc. Add new saints, never drop one. Add FATHER SEELOS.

If ever you want extra copies of any month's FATHER SEELOS AND SANCTITY, write to us and we will send them to you.

Send us the names, addresses, zips of as many people as you know in different states of the union, far western states, northern states, down the middle states, the east from Maine to Florida. Thanks — God bless you for your cooperation in a great and holy work.

How do you like the pamphlet LIFE OF FATHER SEELOS!! Scatter it amongst your friends.

This is the month of the Poor Souls in Purgatory. We call them "Poor" because they cannot merit for themselves. Pray for them, especially at Holy Mass and the Rosary.

Father Grangell is still on a walker, but he says, walker or no walker, he will celebrate his (60th) Anniversary of Priesthood on Sunday, December 2, 1979, in St. Alphonsus Church at 11:30, and will meet all the "Father Seelos People" at the reception after Holy Mass in the Liguori Auditorium, next to the Church. Mark your calendar!!

Daily we bless all members of the Guild at approximately 9 A.M. - 12 Noon - 9 P.M. Think of these hours and bless yourself. MGILY

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

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