



FATHER SEELOS AND SANCTITY

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This is the front of the chapel at Holy Redeemer College, Lacombe, La. Note the statue of the Holy Redeemer.

C.S.S.R.

On the third Sunday of July the Redemptorist Fathers celebrate the feast of the Most Holy Redeemer. Their official name is Congregation of the Most Holy Redeemer.

It is fitting in this issue that we talk of the great men from the Order, whose extraordinary and holy lives have distinguished them by their be-

ing elevated to the ranks of the saints of our Church.

First and foremost of these is St. Alphonsus, who was the founder of the Order. He also bears the title of Doctor of the Church.

St. Clement Hofbauer, St. Gerard Majella and St. John Neumann were all Redemptorists.

We are working hard and praying hard that before too long the cause of Father Seelos will advance and we will see him canonized. What a wonderful thing that would be for the Order and for all of us who are working with such dedication for his cause. But first we must have miracles and they must be accepted in Rome. Please continue to spread literature about him and encourage your families and friends to ask his intercession with God for their many needs, never forgetting to pray for the needs of the Church, particularly for vocations to the priesthood.

Josie Becker

FATHER SEELOS WAS AN OBEDIENT MAN

(Father Grangell's Monthly Conference)

The Virtue for July: OBEDIENCE

Patron: St. Philip, the Apostle

The Text: You are my friends, if you do the things that I command you.
(John 15/14)

Somebody asked Father Seelos why he was always so cheerful, happy, smiling, agreeably met. He was always the same, not moody, cast-down, morose one day, hard to approach on another. The reason he gave was that he was happy in his holy vocation, a Redemptorist priest and Religious. But your vocation is hard! As a matter of fact, he said every good Christian's life is hard. Did not Christ say: If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, take up his cross and follow Me. Father Seelos admitted he had to practice much mortification and self-denial as a religious, a priest, but the hardest thing about his holy vocation was obedience. That was his cross. He said he tried to give a sincere, supernatural, blind, cheerful obedience, hence he was happy; "to give and not to count the cost, to fight and not to heed the wounds, to labor and not seek for rest, to work and ask for no reward except to know that I am doing God's Will."

St. Alphonsus, the Founder of the Redemptorists wrote a booklet "The True Redemptorist" for his confreres through the centuries. In it he states that "One enters the Congregation to obey — for no other purpose." The Rule and the Superiors tell the religious what they are to do.

Father Seelos heard the voice of God, awakening him from his night's sleep to begin a new day — and all day long as the bell rang and his Superior spoke and his work piled up, he heard the voice of God in every detail, he saw God's Will in everything. He gave a sincere, supernatural, blind, cheerful obedience and hence was happy always — hence became a Saint.

I am sure if Father Seelos were living today he would kneel for long minutes before the Blessed Sacrament and tell the good God that he was sorry to see so much disobedience in the world — so much disloyalty — to the Holy Father and the Bishops, so many defections from the priesthood and religious life, so much disregard for all law, ecclesiastical and civil, and he would add some penances to appease the heart of God.

All disobedience comes from selfishness, pride, unwillingness to give.

THE BLESSED MOTHER PROVED HER OBEDIENCE WHEN SHE SAID TO THE ANGEL: BE IT DONE UNTO ME ACCORDING TO THY WORD!

SPECIAL LETTERS

Plaucheville, La.

"Since I'm praying the Father Seelos prayer I was granted two big favors. My son needed financial help to pay for a new truck. He couldn't get over a persistent cough. After praying to Father Seelos and St. Joseph he was helped and cured."

H.L.

Metairie, La.

"After seven months of prayers, my daughter obtained a job which she wanted. Thanks for Father Seelos' intercession."

I.N.M.

New Orleans, La.

"I lost a package containing several thousand dollars of negotiable instruments as well as other valuable records. After a week of praying and using every means I could think of to locate the package my thoughts turned to Father Seelos and the same day I asked him to help me, I had a letter telling me the writer had my package. I picked it up the next day and everything was intact. I believe this is nothing short of miraculous."

E.G.J.

Chalmette, La.

"Several months ago my father was in the hospital with a heart condition. I prayed that he would get better and he has. Many thanks for coming and blessing him with the crucifix."

B.F.

Jeanerette, La.

"My sister had a light stroke and we prayed to Father Seelos for her recovery. She is now doing very well and has no ill effects."

E.B.

Chicago, Illinois

"I had two successful operations, one on my neck and the other a cataract on my right eye. Thanks to Father Seelos for his prayers for the success of these operations."

S.O'M.

Maringouin, La.

"I had to have X-Rays and I prayed to Father Seelos the results would be good. They showed a tiny ulcer. I can be cured with medicine. Thanks to Father Seelos for his prayers."

I.E.

Garyville, La.

"My husband was mentally depressed for three years. I prayed to Father Seelos to help him. He is now well again. I also asked his prayers for a friend with lung cancer. The doctor is amazed at his progress."

F.F.

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SPECIAL NOTES

Father Grangell has asked that I express his appreciation to all of you first for your prayers and then for the many get-well cards and gifts which you have sent him. At this time he is still hospitalized but doing very well. It will be quite a few months before he will be back at the Father Seelos Center. Please continue to pray for him. His general health is excellent and so far there have been no complications. We hope he will hurry back to us. We miss him very much.

In our February issue we told you we were having a new printed life of Father Seelos in pamphlet form and the cost to you would be 25¢. Somewhere along the way the printing has been delayed and to you who have sent us money, please bear with us for a little while and we will mail the pamphlets as soon as they are received at the Father Seelos Center.

I have taken the liberty of repeating a past article written by Father Grangell in this issue rather than skip his message to you.

Wouldn't it be nice if we could show Father Grangell where our mailing list and number of people praying with us for the canonization of Father Seelos had increased when he returns to the office? Send us the names of interested persons, giving their full name, address and zip-code number.

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

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