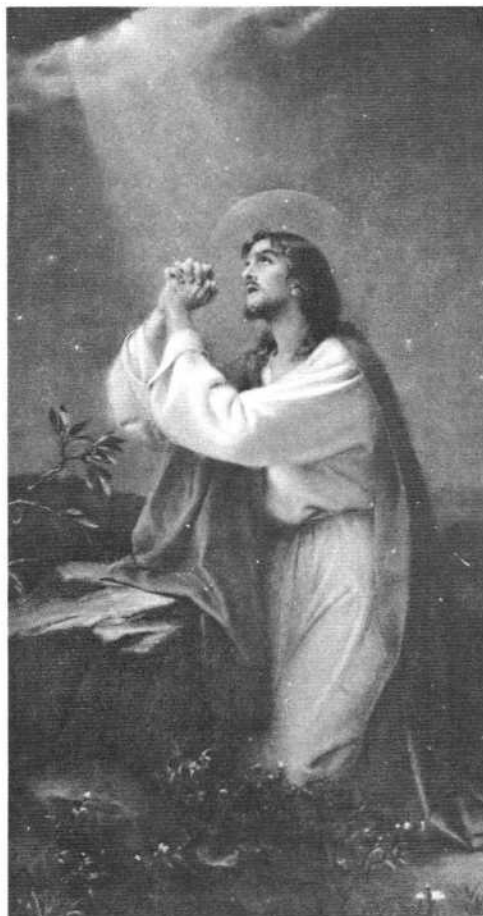




FATHER SEELOS AND SANCTITY

VOLUME XIV, NUMBER 3

MARCH 1980



NOT MY WILL, BUT THINE . . .

It hardly seems possible that March is here. We are well into the Lenten season and should be taking advantage of all opportunities offered to us to improve our prayer life. Nature is preparing for Easter Sunday — the grass is new-green and the flowers are abloom.

A little reminder of three feast days in this month: St. Clement (a Redemptorist), St. Patrick, and last but not least, St. Joseph, spouse of Mary, foster father of Jesus, guardian of the Holy Family, patron of The Christian Family, patron of A Happy death.

Josie Becker

LOVE OF GOD! THE GREATEST OF ALL VIRTUES

(Father Grangell's Monthly Conference)

The Virtue for March: Love of God.

The Patron Saint: St. James the Great.

The Text: Thou shalt love the Lord Thy God with thy whole heart, with thy whole soul, with thy whole mind and with all thy strength.

St. Peter denied his God and Master. It was a serious sin. It happened a few hours after his First Holy Communion and Ordination to the Priesthood. It happened after he had bragged and boasted that he would never deny his God. When he heard the cock crow on Holy Thursday at midnight, he became submerged in a sea of tears till Easter Sunday. He must have sobbed a million times 'My God I love You.' He dreaded meeting Christ. What would Christ say to him? What would he say to Christ? When they actually met, Christ said "Peter, lovest thou Me?" "Peter, lovest thou Me?" "Peter, lovest thou Me?" — not a word about sin. And it was on this occasion that Christ appointed Peter the Head of His Church, the First Pope of History. (Read Luke, Chapter 23/54 to 62, St. John 21/15/17.)

God wants our love. If He were to appear before you and say: "Lovest thou Me?" you would say automatically: "My God I love You." That's the breath of my life.

The proof of our love of God: Prayer, Holy Mass and Holy Communion, avoid the occasions of sin — which Peter did not — love your neighbor and the Blessed Mother.

The Little Flower of Jesus offered herself to God daily in these words: "In order that my life may be one act of perfect love, I offer myself as a victim of holocaust to Thy merciful love, imploring Thee to consume me unceasingly." Study this act of oblation and make it your own.

In your prayer for the canonization of Father Seelos, you say: "Oh my God, I truly believe you are present within me" — add: "Give me the grace so to appreciate my oneness with You that I will seek for no greater joy than Your Love and the privilege of bringing it to others. Always pray for sinners.

Here's something to imitate: Father Seelos had a small Crucifix at his door, over the holy water font. Every time he left or entered his room, he kissed it and said, "May I die for the love of Thy love, who wast so graciously pleased to die for the love of my love."

As you look at your crucifix, meditate on how Christ could do just two things on the cross till He died — suffer and pray. Many people live that kind of life — they suffer much and pray much. They are saints.

MARY, MOTHER OF SORROW, PRAY FOR ME.

SPECIAL LETTERS

Baton Rouge, La.

"I have been praying to Father Seelos for my neighbor. In June he underwent surgery and was found to have an inoperable cancer of the lung. Because of emphysema which affects his breathing, the surgeon said he could not stand to lose any portion of his lung. Thus nothing could be done about the cancer. Instead, he was given 32 radiation treatments. He has been back for three check-ups since then and the doctors have found his lung clear. I have used the Father Seelos cloth memento as I prayed — I feel that through Father Seelos' intercession, this gentleman's cancer has been cured or at least arrested."

Mrs. M.O.B.

Thibodaux, La.

"In August I prayed to Father Seelos for a special favor regarding my biopsy. Thanks to Father Seelos, the results were negative."

Mrs. G.E.F.

Harvey, La.

"My husband had to undergo surgery for the removal of a lump in his neck. Through the prayers of Father Seelos, the surgery was successful — test showed no sign of cancer."

Mrs. P.H.

Theriot, La.

"My husband had surgery twice in one month and, thanks to Father Seelos, he is doing fine — no complications. I know that this successful operation and recovery is due to Father Seelos' intercession."

Mrs. A.V.

Louisville, Ky.

"After an examination I was told by my physician that I had an ovarian cyst and that possibly it was malignant. Being pregnant, this naturally upset me greatly. I prayed to Father Seelos and my prayers were definitely answered. Hospital tests proved that my bladder was enlarged and that I was retaining urine. My prayers continued and, after draining, the urologist decided that other tests, which I feared, were not necessary — my pregnancy is progressing normally and my baby will be healthy. My thanks to Father Seelos."

Mrs. D.L.S.

Springfield, Tenn.

"My daughter's nose was broken in an automobile accident. Her doctor said today he wanted to check x-rays in four days but he thought there was no need to anticipate nose surgery. Just last week I had given her a Father Seelos memento to place on her nose and the prayer card to ask for his intercession."

Mrs. R.M.W.

"I prayed that my husband would find a job to cover our expenses, especially the note on our new home. He has found work and, although it is only temporary, I feel that, with a little struggle, we will be able to cover our house note. With Father Seelos' help I know everything will work out for the best."

Mrs. A.H.R.

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2030 CONSTANCE ST.
NEW ORLEANS, LA. 70130

SPECIAL NOTES

In January, we sent out 33,910 copies of "FATHER SEELOS AND SANCTITY." We are so well pleased. If everybody would send us three new names, addresses and zips, we would have 100,000 plus.

If you know of anybody who does not receive this monthly conference regularly, please inform us.

March 19th is the Feast of St. Joseph. A few extra prayers for the welfare of the Church!

Please report to us all extraordinary, unusual cures. Try to get the charts from the hospital. We need a miracle -- you might have it.

Lent begins with Ash Wednesday, February 20th -- and continues through the month of March.

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

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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.

Rev. William Grangell, C.S.S.R., Vice-Postulator and Editor; Miss Josie Becker, Associate Editor; Miss Regina Beck and Warren Gautreau, Executive Assistants.