

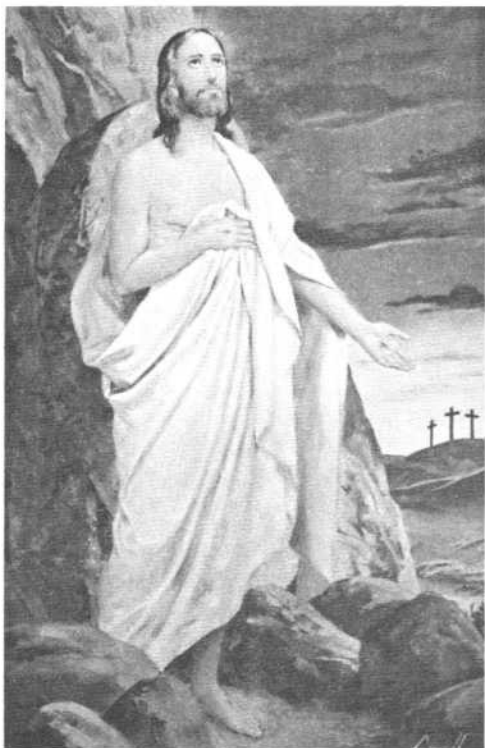


FATHER SEELOS AND SANCTITY

VOLUME XIV, NUMBER 4

APRIL 1980

CHRIST IS RISEN! ALLELUIA!



On behalf of the workers at the Father Seelos Center, I wish you all the blessings of the Easter Season. During Lent we had the opportunity to prepare for this great day. And now, the fresh spring greenery of the trees, the gloriously radiant flowers and the birds on wing all seem to shout the message of the Risen Savior. Let us keep this message in our hearts.

Previously I requested your prayers because of my anticipated cataract surgery. Since then I have undergone the surgery on both eyes and now I ask your continued prayers that God will grant me the necessary patience in dealing with the post-operative healing.

Josie Becker

I KNOW I LOVE GOD, BECAUSE I LOVE MY NEIGHBOR

(Father Grangell's Monthly Conference)

The virtue for the month of April: FRATERNAL CHARITY

Patron Saint: St. John the Evangelist and Apostle

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

If an angel from heaven appeared to you or to me and took us to any big city of the world, or to any small town, or along any country road, he would point out the religious atmosphere of each house, as God sees it. Here is an old home — the fourth generation is living in it. It has been a good Catholic home. There has never been a defection from the True Church in it. Each generation loved the Holy Sunday Sacrifice of the Mass — "Wonderful". Here is another home, where Catholicity has been strong for years, but now there is a High School teen-ager who quit going to Sunday Mass. He has lost his Faith. We call him a sinner — he has left his God. The house is blighted. It is not a home — "Sad". The next house is a spiritual morgue, everybody in it is dead in mortal sin — "Terrifying". The god of many houses is Sex. In most hearts there is no fear of God and all are living on the brink of eternity.

The question is: Can we do anything about all this? We must. It's the month of Fraternal Charity and we must develop the habit of praying for the conversion of sinners, not just an occasional "Our Father" and "Hail Mary", but to sit down with the good God in the Blessed Sacrament and tell Him what we want to do to save souls — All Souls! In the first place, give good example.

1. The greatest prayer of all: The Holy Sacrifice of the Mass, which is of Infinite Value, praying through Christ, with Christ, in Christ. If you cannot go to daily Holy Mass, make it a mental offering several times a day: "My Good God, I offer you all the Masses which are being said ceaselessly around the world, for myself and for those who never go to Holy Mass. Give me the grace to live and to die in Sanctifying Grace which I receive in Holy Communion."
2. The Blessed Sacrament: Kneel at the Tabernacle and pray: "My Good God, I never want you to be alone day or night in this tabernacle or any tabernacle of the world". There are over three billion people in the world. I want everybody — babies just born and the old and the sick who will die within the present hour — multiplied as many times as there are tabernacles in the world. I want everybody saying ceaselessly: "My God I love you, forgive me my sins and everybody his sins". God loves the prayer of Desire. This desire embraces the whole world for God.
3. I want everybody's every breath to be: "My God I love You, forgive me my sins".
4. Dear Blessed Mother! You are the refuge of sinners; pray that all Godless people come back to God before their death and eternal judgment.

SPECIAL LETTERS

New Orleans, La.

"Please print in your paper for me. Father Seelos seems to answer my prayers whenever I call on him. I try to spread devotion to him."

E.L.A.

Metairie, La.

"My wife had been mentally ill for ten months — I was down from cancer and shingles and lost sight in left eye. I was introduced by a friend to Father Seelos. I prayed and prayed, asking him to help us. I can now see — also my wife is home and doing wonderful. Without Father Seelos I could never have made it."

P.L.F.

Chicago, Ill.

About six weeks ago my friend Elizabeth was taken to the hospital, suffering from a very badly inflamed and ulcerated foot due to diabetes. About a week later the doctors decided to amputate. I called on Father Seelos immediately. A few days later I was told the inflammation was subsiding and things looked better. She is now home from the hospital, not cured, but improved."

E.S.M.

New Orleans, La.

"This letter of thanks is a year overdue. Last December my son hurt his knee very badly while playing basketball. For a few months it appeared that the only way for his knee to be normal would be through involved surgery. I prayed so hard to Father Seelos and promised an open letter. My prayers were answered several months ago, because he recovered minus surgery."

J.V.

San Antonio, Texas

"My husband and I have been together eight years and I have always hoped that he would be converted. I am happy to say that he was baptized and received his First Communion on Thanksgiving Day. I and other friends prayed especially through Father Seelos that this would happen. Praise to Father Seelos."

C.T.

Milton, La.

"My daughter had kidney surgery at 16. The doctor said she would be susceptible to complications when she would marry and get pregnant. She is now 24 — she married and became pregnant. I immediately began praying to Father Seelos for his intercession with God, that she would not have kidney complications and have a safe delivery. She had an easy delivery, had a perfect normal baby and no complications from her kidney. We are deeply grateful to Father Seelos."

O.L.M.

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SPECIAL NOTES

If you are disappointed when you see so few people at extra Church services, like novenas, always remember how Our Lord sat with one man and talked with him (St. John, Chapter 3), the one Samaritan woman (St. John, Chapter 4), and the adulteress (St. John, Chapter 8 Verse 9). If you are the only one who comes to the Wednesday and Sunday Novenas in St. Mary's Church, for the canonization of Father Seelos, say the prayers alone, and at the end of the Holy Mass, go to the altar rail and bless yourself with the crucifix of Father Seelos and whisper your own pious prayers to the good God. Thank God you came!

We are in the last days of Lent! Read your Crucifix as a book. Christ is on the Cross for love of me, to save my soul for a happy eternity. Until He died on the Cross, He could do just two things — suffer and pray. You have no body suffering; offer all your mental suffering like uncharitable thoughts and distractions in prayer, maybe impure imaginations, as so much painful scourging.

Happy Easter to you and all the family. You will be remembered in a particular way in my Easter Holy Mass. Pray for me and all who work for Father Seelos. THANKS

A lady writes from Connecticut that she knows of four young people who are alive today because of prayers to Father Seelos. Great! Please send us some details.

All letters to Father Seelos for health and help in different situations are put on the tomb of Father Seelos.

Many thanks for sending names, addresses and zips for the Guild of Father Seelos. Thanks too, for informing us of personal changes of address and of your relatives and neighbors.

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

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