



FATHER SEELOS AND SANCTITY

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St. Mary's Assumption Church — side view from Constance Street.

ANNUAL MEMORIAL MASS

We are pleased to tell you that Bishop Stanley Ott will again be the celebrant of the Memorial Mass honoring Father Seelos on the 113th anniversary of his death.

The Mass will be celebrated on Sunday, October 5, at 11:30 A.M. in St. Mary's Assumption Church. We hope you will make every effort to attend the Mass.

Bishop Ott is very interested in the cause for canonization of Father Seelos and is a great help to us.

Josie Becker

MORTIFICATION KEEPS ONE CLOSE TO GOD AND SECURE IN HIS VOCATION (Father Grangell's Monthly Conference)

The virtue for September: MORTIFICATION

Patron: St. Matthew, Apostle

Text: The man who loves his life loses it (John 12/25) Read also John 12/24

When a young couple marries, they love each other. They promise to love each other til death parts them. It's so good to see elderly couples celebrating their 50th Anniversary of marriage, and so sad to see young couples after one and more years of married life divorcing each other and wrecking their homes. What has happened?

I think the answer is they never learned to make sacrifices, to deny themselves, to practice the virtue of mortification!

September is the month of mortification. Father Seelos should be our model in the way he practiced the virtue. He did so many little things, which are easy to imitate. First of all he was the "CHEERFUL ASCETIC". He was happy and pleasant all the time. He did his big penances.

All Father Seelos' Saturdays were dedicated to the Blessed Mother. They were penitential days. For breakfast he took a cup of coffee, never cream nor sugar, a piece of dry bread, no meat at any meal. He never ate between meals, no occasional snacks. He ate things he did not like. He used no condiments, never salt or pepper. He skipped all sweets. These were all LITTLE things, easy to imitate by anybody, but they kept him close to God and faithful to his vocation. Rather than offend the cook, he ate everything and congratulated the cook on the 'fine dinner'. He never complained about the meals, he was always satisfied, never wasted.

Father Seelos accepted sickness as a time to offer to God a little penance for his sins and for the sins of the world. Remember how he asked the priests and the brothers at his death-bed to sing.

He denied himself sleep, especially if he could assist at an extra Holy Mass. He knelt at prayer with dignity, not half kneeling and half sitting.

A selfish man never denies himself, never gives up anything as an act of love of God. For health's sake he gives up alcohol, tobacco, sweets – not for God's sake.

A constant mortification for all of us is to live and work with disagreeable, selfish, quarrelsome people. Maybe such people are the cause of many divorces and broken homes.

When you perform penance be a CHEERFUL ASCETIC – keep smiling.

MARY, MOTHER OF SORROWS, PRAY FOR ME.

SPECIAL LETTERS

Metairie, La.

"For the last ten years I have had ulcers on my legs. I consulted five different dermatologists but without results. I have prayed day and night for help. One doctor wanted to hospitalize me and cut my leg, but I refused. Finally I found another doctor who treated me for a year. I got along fine for a while, but I have had a lot of trouble. Now I have started with an itch all over my body. I have never stopped praying and never will."

J.B.

New Orleans, La.

"A few weeks ago my brother left his work to go home as he was feeling bad. As he drove home he began to lose his direction and was very lucky to find his way home. When he did he was very weak and passed out. He was rushed to the hospital. The doctor took X-Rays, and tests and had to operate immediately. Everyone was worried. I began to pray immediately asking Father Seelos intercession, as he had a clot on the brain. After the operation the doctor said he did fine and I pinned a cloth memento on him. He improved every day. He is home, but the doctor put him through final tests to determine if he was developing another clot. Now he is getting along fine. I know it was the prayers of Father Seelos which are responsible for him doing so well."

A. LeJ.

Marrero, La.

"Thanks to our Lord for the many blessings he has bestowed on me and my family through the intercession of Father Seelos."

E.G.

Lockport, La.

"I had a bladder and kidney ailment for over a month. I was put to sleep in the clinic and had blind surgery. The doctor removed a stone from my bladder - the first time he had ever done this without one having to be hospitalized for the surgery. I had a cloth memento of Father Seelos in my sock and I thank him for his intercession for my quick recovery. The doctor and nurses were amazed."

R.S.

Baton Rouge, La.

"My niece's husband was in a wreck and hurt seriously. Thank God our prayers were answered. Father Seelos interceded for us. He is home and doing fine."

J.S.

Gulfport, Miss.

"I always carry the cloth memento of Father Seelos. Christmas night as we were driving home from visiting my husband's family where my husband had been drinking heavily all day, I know we could have had a bad accident so I held the cloth in my hand and prayed until we arrived home safely."

P.P.

New Orleans, La.

"I prayed to Father Seelos to take good care of my grandson in his wrestling matches and keep him from harm. Thanks to Father Seelos prayers, he came home safe and sound."

L.E.R.

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SPECIAL NOTES

A lady brought Father Seelos to China. Thanks! Let's introduce him to everybody, everywhere. THANKS!

There are always copies of past months' issues of FATHER SEELOS AND SANCTITY at the tomb of Father Seelos. Take and distribute them. THANKS!

Organize a pilgrimage to the tomb of Father Seelos. Let us know when you are coming. We will meet you and describe beautiful St. Mary's Church for you. Father Seelos is buried in the sanctuary of St. Mary's.

When you make your last will, remember the Father Seelos Center. God will reward you for this.

Join in the perpetual universal Father Seelos novena. Just say daily the prayer on the picture-card of Father Seelos any time of the day, no matter where you are. Pray for all who are making the novena.

The public novena in honor of Our Lady of Fatima for your particular needs and for the canonization of Father Seelos is said on Sundays at 3:30 and on Wednesdays at 4 o'clock in St. Mary's Church. Both are followed by Holy Mass. All the prayers are said by the people. If nobody leads the prayers promptly at 3:30 or at 4, you do so. Follow the novena cards.

Pray constantly for vocations to the PRIESTHOOD – BROTHERHOOD – SISTERHOOD.

Married women and their husbands should read St. Peter 3/1 to 10.

Our bills at the Center have increased, as have everybody's. During the last month the cost of mailing our newsletter has increased by several hundred dollars. The gifts you send us in the gold envelopes help us pay these bills. Thank you for your generosity.

Anyone wishing to have a candle burned for their intention may do so. In the future the offering for such a candle will be \$1.25.

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

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