



# FATHER SEELOS AND SANCTITY

VOLUME XV, NUMBER 5

MAY 1981

## MOTHER



She's sweeter than the fragrances  
That fill the dell in spring,  
A joy she is above the joys  
That all the years can bring.

She's dearer than the dearest friend  
That I will ever know,  
Her prayers ever guide me on  
No matter where I go.  
Her face is furrowed deep with cares,  
Her hair is streaked with gray,  
And rosary beads slip through the hands  
That first joined mine to pray.

And though the years have dimmed those eyes  
That were so lustrous fair,  
'Tis death alone can take away  
The love-light shining there.

At night when kneeling down to pray  
I thank our Lord above  
Who was so good to give me  
My Mother's deathless love.

Author unknown

We ask God's blessings on all of you mothers. We hope you enjoy great happiness through your children.

Josie M. Becker

## WE ARE RICH IF WE POSSESS GOD *(Monthly Conference of Father Grangell)*

Virtue for May: Poverty

Patron: St. Thomas, Apostle and always Father Seelos.

Text: Blessed are the poor in spirit for theirs is the Kingdom of Heaven. (Matt. 5/3)

Father Seelos made a long afternoon visit with the Blessed Sacrament every day. He used for his inspiration a little book written by St. Alphonsus: DAILY VISITS TO THE BLESSED SACRAMENT AND TO OUR BLESSED LADY, FOR EVERY DAY OF THE MONTH. For each day there is a short meditation and some prayers. The opening prayer is the same, day after day. That prayer is a complete offering of one's self: "I consecrate myself to Thee without reserve; I give Thee and renounce my (1) entire will, (2) my affections and desires, (3) all that I possess." He asks for something in return: "All that I ask of Thee is Thy (4) holy love, (5) final perseverance, (6) the perfect accomplishment of Thy will." Isn't that most beautiful!! Don't you feel good talking with God so intimately, being so generous with Him. Father Seelos renewed his vows of (1) obedience, (2) chastity, (3) poverty.

This is good fundamental Perfection.

You have not made these vows, but you do wish to be great saints. You are following the ascetical system of the twelve monthly virtues.

The virtue for May is Poverty. We ask what is poverty? We heard Father Seelos say: "I give Thee all that I possess." Poverty means to be detached from all worldly things, and the best way to understand this is to study the life of Christ on earth, born in poverty, lived in poverty, died in poverty. Read the four gospels.

One may have all the money he can possess. It's good in itself. It becomes the root of all sins when it gets God out of one's life, no time for God, no time to pray. Some people sell God for money. Judas did. It did not make him happy, he committed suicide.

The young man in the gospel (Matt. 19/21-23) turned down the vocation to the priesthood because he would not give up his possessions. (Maybe that's the reason so many seminaries are half-filled today!)

It was on this occasion that our Lord said some harsh words about riches (Matt. 19/23-26).

We are practicing the virtue of poverty if for the love of God we are satisfied, never complain, don't envy, share the little we have with those who have much less.

You are rich, so very wealthy in having the Catholic Faith. Not all the money in the world can buy the Faith, Holy Communion, Holy Mass and the Blessed Virgin. Faith is a gift from God. Don't lose it. If you do, there will be a minus, a void, a vacuum in your life, which nothing can fill.

I don't think anybody ever loses the Faith. God takes it from those who do not appreciate it and gives it to another. There are always converts to the Catholic Church.

MY DEAR BLESSED MOTHER, YOU KNOW WHAT POVERTY IS! PRAY FOR ME.

## SPECIAL LETTERS

Metarie, La.

"This past year I developed a low blood count and was hospitalized for one and a half months. I had four specialists from Tulane medical hospital. After all the tests were negative, an angiogram was made which showed a tumor on the bottom of my left kidney. They removed the kidney and my blood count has risen to normal. . . My wife has Parkinson disease and it was getting worse. I asked Father Seelos prayers for help. The doctor gave her new medicine which appears to be doing some good."

A.J.B.

San Francisco, Calif.

"I prayed to Father Seelos for recovery from cancer. January 5 was a day of great rejoicing. The doctor informed me that the last blood test showed no trace of cancer. My malignancy is in remission."

Sr. M.R.

New Orleans, La.

"I prayed to our Lord through Father Seelos' intercession, for my mother and my aunt. They were both in the hospital, one for tests and the other for a biopsy. I am happy to say the tests and biopsy were negative."

K.H.L.

Gadsden, Ala.

"For the past year I've been praying to Father Seelos for his help in finding a good permanent job. Yesterday I accepted a position and feel that the good Lord and Father Seelos have guided me to the right place."

E.D.

Houston, Texas

"I am related to a Baptist, born and reared in Louisiana, who had attacks of arthritis, mental disorder and severe abdominal pain due to lack of care of previous surgery. I asked Father Seelos to care for him. The pain in his left arm has discontinued, mental problem has subsided and the pain in his stomach is not as constant."

A.M.J.

Metairie, La.

"In thanksgiving for a favor granted by Father Seelos intercession. He helped me find a high paying job with a good future after six weeks of unemployment."

K.J.L.

White Castle, La.

"I had open heart surgery a month ago and I asked Father Seelos help. My prayers were answered. I am doing just fine."

C.F.

New Orleans, La.

"About two months ago I had a severe pain in my back. I could not stay in bed, had to walk the floor. Tried medication but it did not help. I put the cloth memento of Father Seelos on the pain and it went away. Many thanks."

M.L.M.

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## SPECIAL NOTES

A Redemptorist Father in Fort Oglethorpe, Georgia is working on a first class miracle, the cure of a little girl. He is hopeful. Thanks Father! Pray for his work.

Father Seelos is becoming the patron of lost articles and of expectant mothers, judging by those kinds of letters of petition and thanksgiving.

Had a card from a seaman in China. The top line was MGILY.

An engineer on the new bridge to span the Mississippi River called at the Center just to say "Hello." He told us his favorite prayer is MY GOD I LOVE YOU. Asked how long he had been saying that prayer, he said he learned it in the eighth grade in school. Very good! How about your young people?

Don't forget the Atom prayer. It takes a few seconds, but you are making three million people pray. Let's win the world for God by Prayer.

May is our Blessed Mother's month! Be sure you say the Rosary every day. Some days say the entire Rosary, the 15 decades. Something extra for Our Blessed Mother!
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Pray for vocations to the Priesthood, Brotherhood, Sisterhood. In your prayers offer your children to God for such a calling.

Thanks for using the Gold Envelope.

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

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