



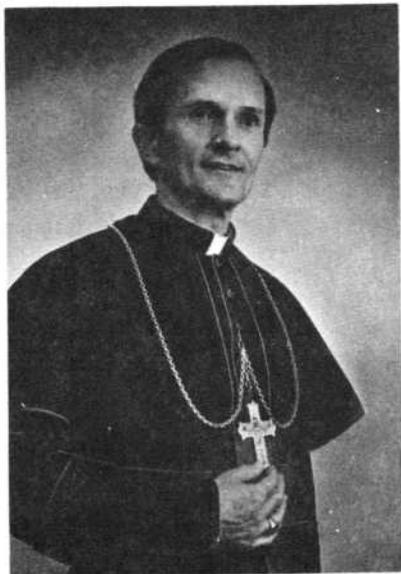
# FATHER SEELOS AND SANCTITY

VOLUME XV, NUMBER 9

SEPTEMBER 1981

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## ANNUAL MEMORIAL MASS - OCTOBER 4, 1981



The annual memorial Mass commemorating the death of Father Seelos will be on October 4 at 11:30 A.M. in St. Mary's Assumption Church. This is the 114th anniversary of his death.

Bishop Stanley Ott will again be with us and will be the main concelebrant of the Mass.

We feel sure all of you will wish to be with us to join us in prayer that the cause for canonization of Father Seelos will progress. For those of you who are not close by and unable to come, join us in prayer in your parish church or at home, for this special intention.

Bishop Ott's annual visit with us has always been an inspirational one and we look forward with much pleasure to seeing him on October 4.

## SUFFER SOMETHING FOR GOD (Father Grangell's Monthly Conference)

The Virtue for September: MORTIFICATION

Patron Saint: St. Matthew, Apostle

Text: He that loveth his life shall lose it. (St. John 12/24-25)

In a leading Catholic magazine a writer gives us in a few paragraphs a most beautiful pen picture of the life of St. Philip Neri. In one sentence he hits the high spot of the saint's life: "Already at 18, Philip was eating and sleeping little and praying much." He lived in the XVI century when the church suffered some big defections and at the same time he gave the world some of her greatest saints. Philip set out to save the faith of the people of Rome. His tools were prayer and mortification. If you read his biography, he was a cheerful, happy, well-met individual. Let's say his outstanding virtues were mortification and cheerfulness.

The author of the life of Father Seelos entitles his book: THE CHEERFUL ASCETIC. The dictionary defines an ascetic as one practicing extreme abstinence, who denies himself severely.

The virtue for September is mortification. Let's do something about it. A few years ago school children were taught to deny themselves during Advent and Lent and on the big feast days of the Blessed Mother. Instead of buying candy on these days, they put their nickels and dimes in a box for the foreign missions. Today? Nobody is asked to practice strict asceticism, but to do many little penitential things out of love of God. Philip Neri sets a good example for all of us. At 18 he was eating and sleeping little and praying much.

Eating! At every meal say to the good God (an example) I will not take sugar in my coffee at this meal. I want every grain of sugar to be a special act of mortification, I want every sugarless drop of coffee to be a distinctive act of mortification. Little things, nothing hard, but thousands of acts of love of God. And so at every meal.

SLEEP. Deny yourself an hour of it to go to early Mass.

PRAY MORE. An extra visit to the Blessed Sacrament.

Offer up the disagreeable things of the day, the humiliations, as interior acts of mortification.

Accept the crosses God sends - bodily pains, aches and mental worries and family troubles as acts of mortification. Never complain. Remember CHEERFULNESS is a part of mortification. Pray as Our Lord prayed in the Garden: LET THIS PASS FROM ME, YET NOT MY WILL BUT THINE BE DONE.

Dear God and my Blessed Mother, I have just one ambition in this world: GIVE ME GRACE TO BE A GREAT SAINT.

## SPECIAL LETTERS

Natchez, Miss.

"My friend asked me to mail this thanksgiving to Father Seelos for his help in selling some property. They have prayed for this favor for a few years."

C.S.

New York, N.Y.

"Please publish that I have been praying to Father Seelos for help in making a move to Germany. Through his intercession I had a safe trip and numerous problems have been worked out very well."

C.T.

New Iberia, La.

"I have been blessed with more faith, better health, my family is much closer and my financial situation has improved. All this since I have been praying to Father Seelos. I feel so close to him."

M.W.

New Orleans, La.

"For many years I have prayed for my nephew. He had married outside the church, got a divorce and continued to live it up. He got in many scapes with the law, remarried the wrong women and then more problems. I continued to pray for him. He had tried suicide twice and I continued to ask for help for him through Father Seelos. I asked Father Seelos to send someone who could minister to him and bring him back to God. Last Sunday he called to tell me that he had gone to confession and communion, which was the first time in seventeen years."

M.B.J.

Fort Walton Beach, Fla.

"Only recently I started saying the prayer to Father Seelos. He granted me two favors in a very short time."

D.M.M.

Thibodaux, La.

"I would like to acknowledge what I feel a most wonderful favor granted through Father Seelos' intercession. My mother was a fallen away Catholic. She had no faith, but she was wonderful to me. She had several nervous breakdowns and I had to put her in a home. After three years I was able to bring her home. At first she would not pray, but slowly she began going to Mass with me, saying the rosary and reading Father Seelos' pamphlet. After three years staying with me she went to sleep saying her rosary and died the most peaceful and beautiful death. Thank God I brought her home with me. I will always be thankful to Father Seelos for helping my mother."

G.H.

Breaux Bridge, La.

"Two years ago my daughter-in-law was pregnant and I prayed that she would have a perfect, normal, healthy baby, and she did. Last year this baby was very sick and had to be put in the hospital. I prayed again and he got well. Now my daughter-in-law is pregnant again and I am praying for a perfect, normal healthy baby. I know Father Seelos will intercede for me."

P.F.

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**FATHER SEELOS CENTER (USPS 488-660)**  
POSTMASTER: SEND ADDRESS CHANGES TO:

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## SPECIAL NOTES

The Father Seelos Center, an old building used by Father Seelos himself, is really an historic monument. It took a terrific beating from the torrential rains we had in June. It was an expensive job to repair the damage done. We ask you, please use the gold envelope with a little gift to pay our repair bill. God bless you.

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If there is a religious article store in your city, ask the manager to get in touch with the Center for pictures of Father Seelos to be given to the customers.

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Strangers ask you 'Who is Father Seelos?' Tell them to read the mini life of Father Seelos on the reverse side of the picture card. If you know anyone who does not receive Father Seelos and Sanctity monthly, inform us, please.

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If there is a community of cloistered nuns in your city, give them pictures of Father Seelos. Ask them to make Father Seelos known and to pray for his canonization.

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Keep the prayer of Father Seelos close at hand all day long. Join the universal novena at any hour of the day in honor of Father Seelos, for his canonization and for all your personal petitions. During September let's pray for teen-age alcoholics, those who use dope and for those who have given up Sunday Mass and Holy Communion. Thanks from anxious worried parents.

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PRAY FOR VOCATIONS TO THE PRIESTHOOD.

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Make your every breath MY GOD I LOVE YOU.

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In honor of our Lady of Fatima, we have two novenas at the tomb of Father Seelos for his canonization and your particular intentions. On Sundays at 3:30 P.M. and on Wednesdays at 4:00 P.M., both followed by Holy Mass and veneration of the crucifix of Father Seelos.

Read the first page again! Mark your calendar. On Sunday, October 4, we celebrate the anniversary Mass of Father Seelos' death at 11:30 A.M. in St. Mary's Assumption Church. Good Bishop Ott will be the chief celebrant. Bring your neighbors. The color, the lights, the music, the singing will give you a glimpse of heaven. After Holy Mass come to the altar rail to venerate the crucifix of Father Seelos.

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

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Published with Ecclesiastical Approbation.

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