



# FATHER SEELOS AND SANCTITY

VOLUME XVI, NUMBER 1

JANUARY 1982

## HAPPY NEW YEAR!!!



It hardly seems possible that it is again time to change our calendars. Let us pray that 1982 will see the dawn of a new era of peace in the world - peace everywhere - in our homes and families - and that it may be a lasting peace.

Each month we will quote a paragraph or two from the CHEERFUL ASCETIC, hoping that it will in some way be an inspiration to you. We thought the following a good one for the new year.

"Francis blended the best influences of both, the manly and genial qualities of his father and the steady-working, prayerful attitudes of his mother. Both Mang and his wife wanted a strong Catholic spirit in their family. One of the Seelos girls related the inside story of their upbringing.

"In our home the daily routine was as follows. The whole family arose early and went to Mass.

After breakfast each one went to his accustomed work and the children went to school. Before meals the Angelus was recited and prayers were said at table. During the meal the children had to relate what they had learned in school, to which father added a few comments. After dinner we all returned to our occupations. No one was allowed to be idle even for a quarter of an hour. When supper was finished, we had spiritual reading, which was always on the life of the saint of the day. Every month we went to Communion.

"All the influences brought to bear on him were Catholic. The whole environment of young Francis-- family, town, and the community-- was Catholic and exercised vital influence on him."

Think about the above and see how you can apply it to your lives.

Josie M. Becker

## FAITH WITHOUT WORKS IS DEAD *(Father Grangell's Monthly Conference)*

Virtue for January: FAITH

Patron Saints: Saints Peter and Paul

Text: "I am the light of the world." (St. John 8/12)

Dear Good Friend of Father Seelos:

My first thought as we begin the New Year: May 1982 be happy, healthy, holy in every second of time for you and all the members of your family, no matter where they live. As you and each one of them awakens in the morning -- every morning of 1982 -- say to the good God: "I am sharing in the infinite value of the Holy Sacrifice of Father Grangell's daily Mass." Keep close to God every second of the day, the 365 of them, and never cease breathing: MY GOD I LOVE YOU (MGILY). Teach the children to say this MGILY prayer. Please keep me in your pious prayers and don't forget to pray for the canonization of Father Seelos. Visit his tomb as a place of pilgrimage from time to time. Make this a resolution for 1982.

Keep the November 1981 FATHER SEELOS AND SANCTITY. Use it as a directory, a spiritual guide for the months of the year. Father Seelos followed the asceticism of the twelve monthly virtues. He practiced all the virtues all the time, but over and above this, he specialized on one particular virtue every month. He made the Way of the Cross every night before retiring. He put the twelve virtues in the twelve Stations of the Cross, as a last examination of his conscience for the day. How he did this was the conference of the November 1981, conference on short monthly meditations.

The virtue for January is FAITH: Our Lord heard Pontius Pilate condemn Him to death. He heard the Will of His Father as Pilate's will. That was Christ's life -- everything was the will of His Father. That must be our way of life - everything the Will of God. If we live like that we are happy. Sometimes things get hard, the cross is heavy, still, if I see God's Will in it I am happy. I must have FAITH, great faith for this. Faith is a gift from God. Don't neglect it! Don't throw it away. It tells us who we are - the children of God. At death we will have to give an account of how we used it. During January think of the Eternal Truths: DEATH, JUDGEMENT, HEAVEN AND HELL. How do we practice our faith, following the laws of the Church? Make resolutions for 1982 - never to miss Mass on Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation. In January check on your Eucharistic life, how often do you go to Holy Communion? How often do you sit before the Blessed Sacrament and talk with the good God about yourselves - what sins do you commit oftenmost, and how do you get along with your neighbor, how often do you say the Rosary, etc., etc., etc.

The patron saints for FAITH are Peter and Paul, veritable giants of Faith, both died as martyrs. Our knowledge of Peter begins in St. Matthew, chapter 4/18 and of Paul's Acts 9/1. You must read the New Testament in January.

Ask the Blessed Mother to pray for you in the practice of your Catholic Faith.

## SPECIAL LETTERS

One of our local bishops writes:

"I invoked the intercession of Father Seelos when beset by recurring mild chest pains, and promised publication of thanks. Tests brought out poor circulation and medication has corrected it. Pain is gone."

What a wonderful letter from a lady in Kaplan, La.

"In 1973 my son was diagnosed as having leukemia and had a 40% chance. It was then I found Father Seelos and we prayed harder and harder. After a while he had a 50% chance and still later a 60% chance, and then a 70% chance and I'll never forget when the doctor said he had an 80% chance. After eight years the doctor gave him 99% chance of never having leukemia again. I do believe that Father Seelos played a big part in child's healing."

A good friend in Los Angeles writes:

"I continually pray to Father Seelos for favors. He has granted me almost every one I asked. My ear problem was cured. My son had a safe trip to New Orleans. He helped me when we had an earthquake last week. My husband had one trauma after another on his job. These traumas were not his doing. He was unjustly victimized. He was commended on a job well done yesterday."

From Calgary, Alberta, Canada, we received the following letter:

"Four years ago my husband had to be hospitalized. He was to have open heart surgery. After the angiogram he was told that there was nothing they could do for him. He came home and I was told he had about a week or so to live. He was very sick for a long time, but then he began to get his strength back and now after four years, he feels good. He can drive his car and has no pains."

And from New Orleans:

"My brother-in-law slipped, fell and hit his head. A month later a blood clot formed on the outside of his brain. It was very serious. He did have a successful operation. He is home and the doctor said he did remarkably well. I know it was Father Seelos' intercession that led to his recovering so fast."

A grateful daughter from Troy, Illinois writes:

"My mom had a brain tumor. She was paralyzed and could not walk, talk and was not normal. I began to pray to Father Seelos and made continuous novenas. I myself began to know and feel God in a new way. We had asked for the crucifix to be brought to the hospital for my mom to receive a blessing. The day she was blessed she began to move her foot and leg and gradually she came to be her normal self again. Her tumor was benign. Praise God and Father Seelos."

From someone in the service:

"When I was single I had no financial problems but since I married I am engulfed with problems. I am a registered nurse and my husband is in the armed service. He was sent to Germany and I could not find employment. This was our problem. My sister sent me the prayer of Father Seelos and I began to pray and asked that I could find employment. I did and now everything financially is okay."

NEW ORLEANS, LA. 70130

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## SPECIAL NOTES

### HEALING BLESSING IMPARTED AT SERVICE IN HONOR OF FATHER SEELOS

Through the prayers of Father Seelos may God heal you in mind, heart, spirit and body. And bless you. In the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Recipient responds AMEN.

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Attend the special service every Sunday afternoon at 3 P.M. in St. Mary's Church.

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Have you thought of something we can use for stamps in our correspondence? Let us in on it. Uncle Sam is hard on the Center. Be sure to use the gold envelope and help us along.

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We have a Healing Service every Sunday at 3 P.M. in St. Mary's. Bring your sick.

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One of your 1982 resolutions should be to pray for vocations to the Priesthood. If you know a teen-ager or college student who seems to be interested, get him in touch with the Center, with Father Grangell.

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Another good resolution for 1982 would be to get one good new member for the Guild of Father Seelos. That sounds meager, but it means an increase of 400,000 members if we succeed, if everybody gets one new member.

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Don't save picture prayer cards and mementoes of Father Seelos. Give them to your neighbors, put them in your letters.

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Take the literature at the tomb of Father Seelos, no matter how old it is. Give it to your neighbor.

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

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