



FATHER SEELOS AND SANCTITY

VOLUME XVI, NUMBER 4

APRIL 1982

THIS IS THE DAY THE LORD HAS MADE:



There is something so refreshing about Easter — the green grass, the flowers, spring all around us, as if the Lord, newly risen, is beckoning to us to enjoy it all. Of all the holidays Easter is my favorite. There isn't the hustle and bustle of other celebrations which leave you exhausted. You can just relax and enjoy all the wonderful outdoors which only God could give us.

To all a HAPPY EASTER. God bless and keep you.

Josie M. Becker

Excerpt from the Cheerful Ascetic:

Francis Seelos was not alone that fall day when he moved up from his beloved Fussen to Saint Stephen's. Several boys of his hometown were studying there, among them two of his cousins. The journey to Augsburg was nevertheless a turning point in his life, a change destined to have far-reaching consequences for his future.

Golden Augsburg, rich in beauty and historical lore, lies on the gently wooded hills between the Lech and Wertach rivers, ninety miles north of Fussen. To the frail thirteen year old Francis, it opened up a new world. Augsburg, a city fifteen times the size of his native Fussen, can trace its history back to Roman times. A heroic-sized statue of Ceasar Augustus surmounting the fountain opposite the town hall quickly drew one's attention to this fact. The very name of the place in Latin, Augusta Vindelicorum, the Augustian City of the Vindelici, gave unmistakable evidence of its ancient beginnings.

(Due to lack of space this particular thought will be continued in May.)

LOVE ONE ANOTHER (Father Grangell's Monthly Conference)

Virtue for the month of April: BROTHERLY LOVE

Patron Saint: St. John, Apostle – Evangelist

The mere fact that you are in our files and that you receive FATHER SEELOS AND SANCTITY every month, you are a member of the Guild of Father Seelos. Your duties are to pray for the canonization of Father Seelos – to unite yourself privately every day in the perpetual novena of approximately 40,000 people all over the world for Father Seelos' canonization; to say the beautiful prayer on the picture card of Father Seelos for all your personal intentions. The breath of your life must be: MY GOD, I LOVE YOU (MGILY). This prayer may be said any place at any time. The ambition of each one is to be a saint, a perfect lover of Jesus Christ. Father Seelos became a great saint by practicing the asceticism of the twelve monthly virtues, practicing all the virtues always, specializing in a particular given virtue month after month. To help you to practice the particular monthly virtue, the Center sends you a conference, a little sermon on the virtue – something to think about.

Father Seelos made the 'Way of the Cross' every day. This month, April, the fourth virtue is BROTHERLY LOVE, FRATERNAL CHARITY. Some think 'charity' is being good to the poor. It's more than that. If you really sincerely love God, you love your neighbor. The father of a family is a good Catholic. He goes to Holy Mass on Sunday because he loves God. His wife, his children go to Mass because of his good example. Leading people to love and serve God by good example is an Act of Charity. To lead people into sin is causing them to offend God. That's a sin of scandal. Don't drive people into sin! Some people say: Nobody likes me; some do not talk to me; my family is always fighting with me. You ask what you are to do! That's easy. Change your attitude. Be agreeable, learn to smile, talk to everybody, say 'Good morning', be approachable. Read 1st Corinthians 13/- see a few things St. Paul considers virtue – others sin.

Pray for your neighbor – your neighbor is everybody. There are these billion people in the world, counting the members of your family, your next door neighbors. 'My God I offer the thoughts, words and actions of everybody in the world as so many act of love of you.'

St. John, the Apostle and Evangelist is the Patron of this month. He wrote the fourth Gospel. He calls himself 'the Disciple whom Jesus loved'. He seemed to have been Christ's favorite. He was like a young seminarian. He learned his theology from Christ. Ask St. John to pray for our seminarians today. The world needs priests.

We meet the Blessed Mother in this fourth Station. Consecrate yourself everyday, and the whole world to our Blessed Mother. Ask her to walk down the years of life in her protection and with the Son of God, our neighbor in our hearts and lives.

SPECIAL LETTERS

The following letter was received from a lady in Jeanerette, La.:

"A friend of mine who has epilepsy was at my house and when in the bathroom had a seizure. He was locked in. He was on one side of the door and me on the other side. I could hear him with convulsion. I became terrified and Father Seelos came to my mind. I began to pray hard and all of a sudden the door came open and no one knew how my friend opened it. It was a mild seizure. I am now praying to Father Seelos to help my friend to be cured."

From Jefferson, La.:

"My mother was in the hospital with cancer and thanks to the nice man for bringing the crucifix of Father Seelos to her. The doctor told her that the cancer has not spread and that all her illness is caused by the treatment she took after surgery. We thank Father Seelos for his intercession for this favor."

From Greina, La.:

"My grandson was in a very bad auto accident. I immediately began praying to Father Seelos. It was miraculous that he was not seriously injured as his head went through the windshield. After Xrays and hours at the hospital he was told he was shaken up but not injured. I always turn to Father Seelos when I have trouble and my prayers are always answered."

From Thibodaux, La.:

"My husband has a real good job and about two weeks ago he had to go to school for a week. He has only an eighth grade education and the job he holds calls for higher education. He know his work. Well I prayed to Father Seelos and made promises that he would pass and thanks to good Father Seelos he did. They had twelve who took the test and only five passed. My husband was one of the five."

From New Orleans, La.:

"The most recent favor I obtained was for my 16 month old grandson. He was very sick with high fever. This was the fourth time he had contracted pneumonia in a period of nine months. I said the prayer of Father Seelos and placed the cloth memento on his back. The fever dropped and he was able to breathe better. I have placed him under the care of Father Seelos."

Layton, Utah:

"My brother was out of work and had a lot of family trouble. He applied for a job and was told he had the job and then they told him funds were low and he couldn't have it. I said to myself, here is a job for Father Seelos. I started to pray and when I returned home from work my mother told me they hired my brother. I knew it was Father Seelos testing our faith. Thanks."

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POSTMASTER: SEND ADDRESS CHANGES TO:

SPECIAL NOTES

As of February 7, the healing service in honor of Father Seelos was changed to 3:30 P.M. There is a direct relationship between the healing and the Mass. We strongly recommend attendance at both devotions. Some come a great distance and cannot spend two hours with the Lord and Father Seelos. Under the new structure the service and Mass take one hour and fifteen minutes.

Some have expressed concern about the neighborhood. To our knowledge, no one has been molested at the service. Father Seelos himself is the guardian angel. Without taking anything away from St. Anthony, more and more Father Seelos is becoming the patron of lost possessions. If the case seems hopeless invoke the aid of both.

You are invited to make a novena on Sundays. Start at will. Attend for nine consecutive weeks. We think you will bless the day you began. Father Seelos.

Welcome to all who are devotees of Father Seelos. Read the conference in this issue of FATHER SEELOS AND SANCTITY to understand the meaning of the Father Seelos Guild.

Become a Prefect of the Guild in your neighborhood. Tell everybody about Father Seelos. If you or anybody you know does not receive the monthly FATHER SEELOS AND SANCTITY, let the Center know about it.

Lent began on Ash Wednesday, February 24th. Be sure to perform some penance, no matter how small, and say an extra prayer and check on how devoutly you pray.

HAPPY EASTER TO ALL! I wish I had a pretty colored card to send you. I send you and all your families Easter Greetings and ask God's love and protection for you.

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

Published monthly by the Redemptorists at the Father Seelos Center, 2030 Constance Street, New Orleans, Louisiana 70130. Telephone 525-2495. Subscription is \$1.00 per year.

In conformity with the decree of Pope Urban VIII all statements contained herein are unreservedly submitted to the judgment of the Holy See and the decision of the Sacred Congregation of the Causes of Saints.

Published with Ecclesiastical Approbation.

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