

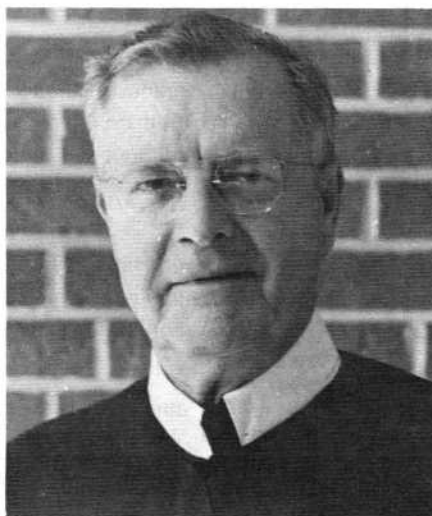


FATHER SEELOS AND SANCTITY

VOLUME XVII, NUMBER 1

JANUARY, 1983

MEET FATHER BUHLER



Father Joseph Buhler, C.S.S.R., who has been named a Vice-Postulator for the cause of Father Seelos, to assist Father Grangell, recently made a trip to Rome to consult with the Postulator-General for the cause, Father Ferrante. He sends you the following message:

Feb. 16, 1981 the testimony drawn up by the notaries for the diocese on the cure of Angela Boudreaux was sent to Rome. The testimony given by the witnesses was likewise sent to Rome. I went over to find out the status of the case. I found that Father Ferrante is waiting for a public announcement on the testimony regarding the cure.

I also wished to find out the status of the cause in general and what we could do from this end to sort of "speed up" things.

We will have to have prepared a documented life of Father Seelos. (The various events in his life must be supported by notarized documents, such as a baptismal certificate, etc.)

Before beatification and canonization, devotion to Father Seelos must be spread. People must experience his help. Through our monthly paper, Father Seelos and Sanctity, we have endeavored to spread this devotion. We have on file many letters showing that people do have this devotion. Our annual Mass on October 3 surely displayed that devotion locally is very much alive. What we ask is your help in distributing literature about him. Just write us at the Center and we'll be glad to supply your needs.

We welcome Father Buhler's help and will from time to time have a word from him in the paper to keep you informed. God love and keep you in the New Year.

Josie M. Becker

FATHER SEELOS AND FAITH (Father Grangell's Monthly Conference)

The Virtue for January: FAITH

Patron Saints: St. Peter and St. Paul

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

We are now beginning another year of personal sanctity, planned after the life of Father Seelos. When this holy man of God made his religious profession in the Redemptorist Family, he promised God very solemnly and seriously that he would imitate the life of Jesus Christ, His Most Holy Redeemer. Every lover of Jesus Christ tries to imitate Him in a general way. Father Seelos, however, had a perfect system. It was his Holy Rule, a particular Virtue for each month.

The first month is the first virtue of all virtues — FAITH.

Our Most Holy Redeemer did not practice the Virtue of Faith. He was the LIGHT OF THE WORLD. He loved those who had Faith in Him. Father Seelos underlined all those incidents of Faith in his Bible, and would read them often and preach them constantly. Father Seelos recited the Act of Faith daily and put into action everything that the "Catholic Church believes and teaches because God has revealed them to us, He can neither deceive nor be deceived."

He saw in the Holy Father the Vicar of Christ on earth, and obeyed Him in every respect, and became impatient with anyone who criticized the Holy Father or objected to anything that he said or did. His religious superior was God in person for him. His Rule in all its details was the Will of God.

He loved the Holy Eucharist, the Mystery of Faith. He was attracted to the Tabernacle in his monastery chapel and would make many visits to his Eucharistic Lord. He would never pass a church without a visit. People who assisted at his Holy Mass used to say one could see he was reliving the Last Supper and Calvary. He used to say he was a millionaire, giving out Holy Communion, giving something that was more precious, more valuable than all the riches of the world.

He had to suffer much, mentally and physically, but he united his sufferings with those of Christ and was happy to be one with Christ. He actually made saints of people, especially the sick, having them pray: NOT MY WILL, BUT THINE BE DONE. He taught them to say: "I offer my suffering and my pains in reparation for the sins of the world and for the conversion of sinners."

He loved the Blessed Mother and reminded his people that a child of Mary is never lost.

I think all of us can imitate Father Seelos in his practice of the virtue of FAITH in this first month of the year 1983 and in all the months of our lives. Holy Scripture says: My holy man lives by Faith. (Romans 1/17)

May I wish you a Happy, Holy, Healthy New Year. Let us pray for one another. KEEP MARY IN YOUR EVERY DAY of 1983, every minute of every year to come in your life.

SPECIAL LETTERS

From Metairie, La.

"My favor has been granted. For the past year I had a cancer problem. The doctor says it is in remission now and should continue to be so."

From Raceland, La.

The first favor I received through the intercession of Father Seelos was for my son. He had a business failure and no job, which naturally brought on money problems. After asking the prayers of Father Seelos things turned around. He is now working and able to take care of his family again.

My second favor — I went into the hospital thinking I would need an operation. Again I turned to Father Seelos. I am happy to say I did not need an operation, just medical treatment. Many thanks to God and Father Seelos for his intercession."

From Cherry Hill, New Jersey

"I wish to acknowledge a big favor received: My husband had a commercial building for sale since January. Now nine months later, he sold it only through the prayers of Father Seelos."

From Gretna, La.

"I had asked two favors through the intercession of Father Seelos. One of my sons was threatened with a possible hernia operation and it proved to be something minor. My other son had to have a lump removed from his chest surgically in the doctor's office. It went very nicely. Many thanks to Father Seelos for interceding for me!"

From Greenwell Springs, La.

"Since May I have been saying special prayers to Father Seelos for my grandson's problems with his divorce. I made a promise of publication in thanksgiving if my prayers were answered."

From Carencro, La.

"I wish to thank Father Seelos for his prayers for my petitions. I had taken tests for my stomach and also blood tests. Everything came out normal!"

From Robert, La.

"My younger brother was out of a job and seemed to be going out of his mind. I started praying to Father Seelos and my prayers were answered. My brother is now working and doing well."

PRAYER SERVICE EVERY SUNDAY AFTERNOON AT 3:30 FOLLOWED BY HOLY MASS AT 4:00 P.M.

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NOTE FOR JANUARY — THE NEW YEAR

January is the month of resolutions. We want to do things better for the love of God.

If we do not go to Holy Mass daily, make sacrifices, go as often as you can. Bring somebody with you. We are inspired and edified to see a husband and wife at daily Mass, and also to see a parent with a teen-age child of the family at daily Mass. The greatest thing in all the world is the Holy Mass, Jesus Christ comes to the altar at the Consecration. He says the Mass. WE pray through Him, with Him, in Him. He offers to the Heavenly Father our debts of adoration, thanksgiving, atonement, petitions. This is a terrific meditation. Talk about it at Home. A good time to talk about it is at the dinner table. Bring this issue of FATHER SEELOS AND SANCTITY to the table with you. Say: I see the mail has brought our little paper, Father Postulator's monthly conference. Look what he has to say about the holy Mass!! I wonder why the church is not packed with lovers of Jesus Christ to show Him how much we appreciate His great gift to us — the HOLY MASS. He, the Almighty, cannot give us anything greater!! Just think of that.

So far in this conference it looks like we are making ONE resolution. As a matter of fact you have made many resolutions. Re-read this message to yourself. It's the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass that counts.

There are three billion people in the world. Offer up acts of love for God for each one of them. The breath of your life should be MGILY and love the Blessed Mother much.

SAY THE ROSARY DAILY.

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.

Rev. William Grangel, C.S.S.R., Vice-Postulator and Editor; Rev. Joseph Buhler, C.S.S.R., Vice-Postulator; Miss Josie Becker, Associate Editor; Miss Regina Beck and Warren Gautreau, Executive Assistants.