



# FATHER SEELOS AND SANCTITY

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## THE HOLY SOULS IN PURGATORY



This picture is a snapshot of the scene below an altar in St Mary's Assumption Church. It has always impressed me, even from my early childhood. It seems to bear out the fact that the Souls in Purgatory need our prayers. In November we dedicate two days to those in heaven and in purgatory. On November 1 we celebrate All Saints Day, which takes in all the canonized and uncanonized saints and on November 2 we cele-

brate the feast of the Souls in Purgatory. Let us not forget to pray for our dead and pray to them. They are our best intercessors with God.

Happy Thanksgiving to all!

Josie M. Becker

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An excerpt from THE CHEERFUL ASCETIC:

"One of Father Seelos finest pastoral achievements as rector of Saint Philomena's was his zeal in promoting vocations to the priesthood and to the religious life. Two well-known Redemptorist priests, Elias F. Schauer and Charles W. Rathke, at least one Visitation nun and the Redemptorist laybrother, Hilary, humanly speaking, owed their vocation directly to him. It is certain that others were aided by him in their desire to dedicate their lives to the service of God though the particular circumstances of their vocations have not come down to us.

## PRAY CEASELESSLY – NEVER STOP – IT'S POSSIBLE *(Father Grangell's Monthly Conference)*

The Virtue for NOVEMBER: PRAYER

Patron Saint: St. Jude Apostle and our good Father Seelos.

Text: We must pray always and never cease (Luke 18/5)

Father Seelos was a man of prayer. He prayed all day long. His every thought, word and action, his every breath day and night was an act of love of God. Make this your life! It's easy.

Like all great saints, Father Seelos loved the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass. He said Mass with edifying devotion and heard as many Masses day after day, as often as he could. He understood the Mass. He knew the Mass was the continuation of the sacrifice of Christ on the Cross. He was on Calvary at every Mass. At the consecration when he saw the White Host and the Sacred Chalice raised over the head of the priest, he would say "Welcome good Jesus Christ for coming to this altar to be the Priest and Victim of my sacrifice, giving me all your merits to be mine." "I offer to God, the Father, INFINITE ADORATION, INFINITE THANKSGIVING, INFINITE ATONEMENT, FOR MY SINS and the sins of the world, INFINITE PETITION, I am praying through Christ, with Christ, in Christ. That's all religion. There is no greater prayer in all the world. If you love God, love the Mass. If you wish to give God something give him the Mass.

Father Seelos used all of St. Alphonsus' vocal prayers as he found them in his books. In the Visit book he would petition God. ALL THAT I ASK AND DESIRE IS THY HOLY LOVE, FINAL PERSEVERANCE AND THE PERFECT ACCOMPLISHMENT OF THY WILL. This is true sanctity.

Father Seelos loved the Passion of our Lord. He made the WAY OF THE CROSS daily. He used the composition of St. Alphonsus. At each Station he prayed "Grant that I may LOVE THEE ALWAYS AND THEN DO WITH ME AS THOU WILT". It was one big act of Love of God.

Father Seelos loved the Blessed Mother. He taught with St. Alphonsus, "A child of Mary is never lost". Devotion to Mary is a sure sign of salvation. He said the fifteen decades of the Rosary daily. He wore the long rosary on his left side. It was a part of his Redemptorist habit. All day long as he moved about, his fingers touched the beads of his rosary.

## SPECIAL LETTERS

From St. Louis, Mo.

"I prayed to Father Seelos for two favors, for a very bad case of arthritis and painful right arm and for a cyst that would require surgery. My arm feels much better and the cyst has almost disappeared. I am so grateful to Father Seelos for his intercession."

From Metairie, La.

"I want to thank Father Seelos for the help my husband received through his intercession. He has come through his illness the fear which he had has left him."

From Marrero, La.

"I was operated on my face three times near the ear. I prayed to Father Seelos for years. I thought of putting the Seelos cloth tape on my bandage and after the third operation when the test came back it was clear. No more skin cancer."

From Harvey, La.

"I would like to publish special thanks to Father Seelos for a very special favor that was granted to me. It is through his help that my family and I are doing much better financially."

From Metairie, La.

"My nephew and his wife asked me to pray that they would find a place to live and the favor was granted. All this through the intercession of Father Seelos."

From Lafayette, La.

"I prayed to Father Seelos to let my breast X-Ray be negative and my prayers were answered. I am very grateful."

From Biloxi, Miss.

"My brother lived alone and was not feeling well. He was seeing a doctor regularly and I would visit him each day. One day when I went to his home I found blood in the carport, bloody finger prints all over the place, kitchen and bedroom all with traces of blood. Then I found my brother in his bed unconscious, everything soaked with blood. What had happened, someone tried to rob him and as he had nothing they hit him on the head and thought they had killed him. It was a miracle he had strength to get to his bed. I got him to a hospital in time and he had a quick recovery. I am very grateful to Father Seelos."

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## SPECIAL NOTES

Welcome and congratulations to all the new members of the Guild of Father Seelos. Everybody who is praying for the canonization of Father Seelos. Invite all the members of your family, your friends and neighbors to join the Guild. It's a holy work. Say the prayer on the reverse side of the picture card and pray for favors, even miracles.

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Let us know of favors received. Let us know if you receive Father Seelos and Sanctity every month. Let us know if you change your address. We must know your zip code. If the Post Office returns your letter we must pay 25¢. It runs as high as \$30.00 a month. We can't afford that.

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When you write your Christmas mail, mention Father Seelos in it.

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Use the yellow envelope monthly. Thanks!!

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Make Thanksgiving a prayerful day. Go to Holy Mass and receive Holy Communion. Thank God that you have the Catholic Faith. Guard it! Don't lose it. Make the Blessed Mother the Mother of your home.

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

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Rev. William Grangell, 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.