

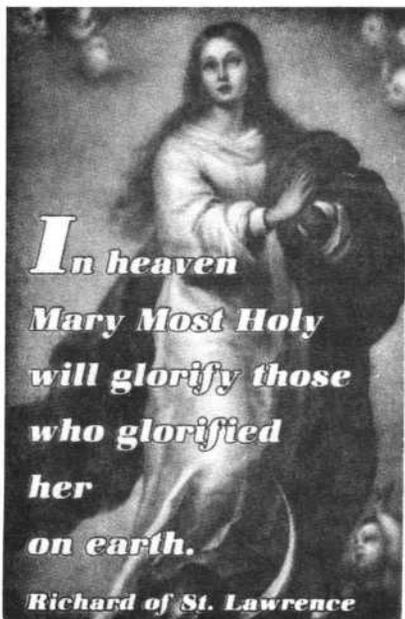


FATHER SEELOS AND SANCTITY

VOLUME XVII, NUMBER 8

AUGUST, 1983

MARY, QUEEN OF HEAVEN AND EARTH



On August 15 we celebrate the feast of the Assumption of Mary into heaven. This is particularly significant to us, since Father Seelos is buried in the Church that bears the name, St. Mary's Assumption Church. His earthly remains lie beneath the beautiful altar depicting Mary's Assumption. He was so dedicated to Mary that it seems only fitting and proper that he should lie so close to her.

Summer vacation is nearing an end. We hope all of you had a happy and safe one. God bless and keep all of you in his care.

Josie M. Becker.

Excerpt from THE CHEERFUL ASCETIC:

"In the schoolroom he was all kindness and gentleness. He explained religious truths very simply, but with so much feeling and earnestness that the most giddy in the crowd would listen with attention. Woe to the unlucky wight that failed in this respect! The reproaches of his young companions would assail him after the class was dismissed, for even the most uncouth regarded it as something very disgraceful to have grieved their good Father by inattention or rudeness. No one who had ever received a rebuke from him could forget it. It was given with so much humility and gentleness, with so heartfelt regret at the good God's having been offended that it remained ever after engraved on the memory."

FATHER SEELOS AND HUMILITY *(Father Grangell's Monthly Conference)*

The Virtue for August: HUMILITY

Patron Saint: St. Bartholomew, Apostle

Text: Learn of Me for I am meek and humble of heart. (St. Matt. 16/24)

When our Divine Savior stood before Pontius Pilate on the world's first Good Friday, He told Pilate "He had come into the world to give testimony to the truth" Pilate asked Him: 'What is TRUTH?' Before Christ could answer him, he turned his back on Christ and walked away. He did not want an answer. The answer is simple: "All that I have, I have from God." There is no such thing as self-sufficiency, being self-made, in its final analysis.

Science and its exploits – the arts and inventions and libraries – come from minds given man by God. Are the mentally retarded proud? No. Why not? They can do nothing, say nothing. St. Paul concluded: What have we that we have not received, and if we have received, why do we glory as though we have not received it?

Look around you today and see the tragedy of errors! Some have a little education – no matter how much they have, it is still a little. No man knows everything, can do everything. And yet, some of these intellectuals do not believe in God, or they practice some sort of make-believe religion – they never say a prayer. They are self-sufficient! They are proud. They do not know the TRUTH.

It's the same with some who have an abundance of the world's riches. So with those who meet with applause, who have authority, who are captains of industry and leaders of thought. If they do not thank God for what they have, they are proud. Father Seelos prayed much – he asked God for what he needed, he thanked God for what he had, and he begged God's pardon for the offenses against the Divine, Infinite Authority and Wisdom of God. Father Seelos realized his nothingness, his helplessness, his dependence, on God and he adored Almighty God, in prayer! Proud people never pray, or do so spasmodically. Humble people pray always.

Father Seelos was always cheerful, happy. He saw God's will in everything.

He never had an enemy. Only proud people have enemies and will not forgive.

Father Seelos was humbly obedient to all lawful authority. He saw the Church as the Mystical Body of Christ. He saw the Holy Father as Christ's Vicar on earth, he saw God's will in his religious superiors. His great FAITH made him most humble. He was meek and always approachable.

NOBODY WAS EVER AS HUMBLE AS THE BLESSED MOTHER.
ASK HER TO HELP YOU TO BE MEEK AND HUMBLE.

SPECIAL LETTERS

From New Orleans, La.

"My brother had a four inch aneurysm of the abdominal aorta, complicated by emphysema and a heart condition. He was in Intensive Care for two and a half weeks and is home now convalescing and doing well. The most important factor is that during this illness he came back to the Church and a priest brings him Holy Communion weekly."

White Castle, La.

"I wish to thank Father Seelos for helping to make my leg well again and for all the other favors granted me."

From Church Point, La.

"I was upset about a business matter which had been going on for too long a period, which could have caused problems. I prayed to Father Seelos to shorten the time of this transaction. He granted my petition above my expectations. Thanks to Father Seelos for his intercession."

From Baton Rouge, La.

"I had cashed my pay check and as it was raining when I got into my car I dropped the envelope with the money and also my checkbook. I made one stop and then went to the food store. I was sick - no money. Not only did someone turn in the money and checkbook but they left no name or address. I prayed to Father Seelos all the way to the bank. How many people would return \$400.00 cash. I ask Father Seelos to help reward that person and want to thank that person whomever he may be."

From Terre Haute, Ind.

"Earlier this summer my father-in-law was in a desperate frame of mind. He wanted to see his imprisoned son and visit with me, but didn't have the money to make the trip from Louisiana to Indiana. I turned to Father Seelos and asked that the trip be made possible and soon my prayers were answered. I know that the intercession of Father Seelos was responsible for the answer to my prayers."

From Houston, Texas

"My grandson, a teenager, has myasthenia gravis. The disease progressed to where he could hardly talk and was unable to climb one step. He had an operation for removal of the thymus gland. He got over the operation in short time and now can swim and goes to college. I feel that this improvement is largely due to the intercession of Father Seelos."

PAID AT NEW ORLEANS, LA.
SECOND CLASS POSTAGE

NEW ORLEANS, LA 70130
2030 CONSTANCE ST.
FATHER SEELOS CENTER (USPS 488-660)
POSTMASTER: SEND ADDRESS CHANGES TO:

SPECIAL NOTES

August is the month of St. Alphonsus Liguori, August 1. He is the founder of the Redemptorists. The Church recognizes him as the patron of vocations, the Doctor of Prayer, the Prince of Moral Theologians and a voluminous writer. He loved the Blessed Mother. He headed all his letters J.M.J. His followers today use J.M.J.A. - Jesus Mary, Joseph, Alphonsus. Father Seelos was a true follower of Alphonsus.

I met a little boy the other day who told me he was a Catholic. He said he never went to Holy Mass on Sunday. I asked him if his father went to Mass, he said 'NO, my father does not love God. 'How sad!' That's what you call SCANDAL. In this case leading a child into sin. In St. Luke's chapter 17/2, Christ says 'Woe to him through whom come SCANDAL. He would be better off thrown into the sea with a mill stone around his neck than give scandal to one of these little ones.

If you change your address or if you know someone in the Father Seelos Guild who has changed his address, ask him to send his new address to the Center.

Father Seelos made the Way of the Cross every night just before he retired. He put the 12 monthly virtues in the first 12 stations and meditated on how he was advancing in the love of God. The 8th station is the 8th monthly virtue. He hears Christ saying to the women: 'Weep not for me, but for yourselves and your children.' Father Seelos must keep the children close to God. People who do not go to Sunday Mass had a bad childhood. They were not kept close to God.

Thanks for using the gold envelopes which come to you in Father Seelos and Sanctity. Get new members for the Guild of Father Seelos

For blessings of your sick with 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.

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.