



FATHER SEELOS AND SANCTITY

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THANK YOU, GOD!



Thank you God for the many blessings you bestow on us every day, all the time.

Thank you, God, for giving us Father Seeelos, to whom we can go to bring our petitions to You. Thank you for giving us such a holy man to try to imitate.

The following struck me as a nice Thanksgiving message for you:

HYMN OF THANKSGIVING

For cupboards full while millions starve
I can only thank you Lord,
If you will teach me how to share and serve
In love's true brotherhood.

For sheltering love and fireside warm
I can only thank you Lord,
If you will teach me how to shield from harm
The friendless and the cold.

For freedom's lofty hymns and shrines
I can only praise you Lord,
If I can still the anguished cries
That in a hateful world are heard.

For I feel I must give back the gifts
On me so plenteous poured
Before I look up and say to you
ACCEPT MY THANKS, GOOD LORD.

Author unknown

HAPPY THANKSGIVING TO ALL OF YOU FROM ALL OF US AT THE CENTER.
GOD BLESS YOU ALWAYS.

Josie M. Becker

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Virtue for November: Prayer

Patron: St. Jude Thaddeus

Text: We ought always to pray and not to faint. (Luke 18/1)

The virtue of recollection of last month prepares us for the virtue of this month: PRAYER. St. Alphonsus defined prayer: PRAYER IS THE RAISING OF THE MIND AND HEART TO GOD, IN ORDER TO OBTAIN SOME GRACE FROM HIM.

To pray properly it is not sufficient to recite mechanically and without attention some formula that is more or less pious. To be true, prayer must be the expression of a sincere desire, and the more ardent this desire is, the more fervently will our prayer come forth from the heart to ascend to God. Words are not necessary when the heart alone presents its petition to God.

Father Seelos, in a letter to his mother, wrote: "Prayer is the best medicine which conquers every pain." To a young lady planning to enter religious life he wrote: "A vocation and perseverance are special favors from God and can be obtained by prayer only." To his seminarians he said "What can console you in times of depression...seeing your own imperfections? ... The immediate application of the holy exercise of prayer. This exercise knows how to cure our daily wounds."

In his biography of Father Seelos, Father Curley writes that the virtue of confidence was in his prayers. In asking God to cure people of bodily disease and especially of moral defects, Seelos seemed to have no doubt that his prayers would be answered. On several occasions in Pittsburg when people brought their sick children to him, he would say a prayer over them before the altar of our Blessed Mother with such calm assurance that the bystanders were struck by it. They were even more surprised when those for whom he prayed were cured of their disorders.

When praying Father Seelos would always kneel erect with his hands folded. However, he did not consider kneeling essential to prayer, and he would quote St. John Chrysostom who said: "Even if you don't bend the knee, nor strike your breast, nor elevate your hands toward heaven, if only you bring to God an inflamed heart, nothing is wanting in your prayer."

Father Seelos said he wanted to be a spiritual man, and he knew that prayer would be his chief strength. He was most regular at all the spiritual exercises mandated by his Redemptorist rule, and even as he moved about the church and rectory and the sidewalks of his parish, he would engage himself in prayer.

SPECIAL LETTERS

From Houston, Texas

"Through a friend I learned about Father Seelos. My brother was in the hospital and I prayed that he would get better. He is doing just fine. Since I have gotten to know Father Seelos, I have been granted many favors through his intercession. Thank you Father Seelos."

From Metairie, La.

"I would like to thank Father Seelos for helping my neighbor who is 88 and recently broke her hip. She felt she would not pull through. I prayed, asking Father Seelos to intercede for her and promised to let everyone know of his aid and intercession. She is doing fine. Many thanks to Father Seelos."

From New Orleans, La.

"I recently had a triple bypass operation. I was blessed with the Father Seelos crucifix. Before entering the operating room I was told that I had only a 10% chance of surviving. I believe it was through the prayers of Father Seelos that I survived this surgery. I sincerely thank all for their prayers and for this living proof of the power of prayer."

From San Antonio, Texas

"My husband had a spot on his lung and also has emphysema. I prayed, asking Father Seelos' intercession. After running some tests and X-rays and scans, the spot was no longer there. Thanks to Father Seelos."

From Belle Chasse, La.

"My daughter had surgery and is doing fine thanks to Father Seelos' intercession. She was to have a small nodule removed from the thyroid, but it turned out to be a tumor as large as an egg and the thyroid had to be removed completely. Many thanks to Father Seelos that she recovered and is doing well."

From New Orleans, La.

"My 28 year old son had a serious case of viral spinal meningitis. He was in the hospital two weeks in May. While my son was in the hospital my husband became ill and manifested some of the same symptoms. I prayed to Father Seelos that he would not have meningitis and that my son would recover and not have after effects. As it turned out, my husband had a bout of influenza and my son is now completely well. Many thanks to Father Seelos"

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SPECIAL NOTES

Please continue to pray for Father Grangell. His condition is much the same. God love him.

November is the month of the poor souls. Please remember to pray for all the souls in Purgatory. Pray for those of our families who have predeceased us and whom we feel are in heaven and may have an "in" with God to help us in our needs.

Do not neglect your patriotic duty to vote for the candidate of your choice. Thank God that we still have the privilege of selecting and electing our leaders.

November seems full of special days. We celebrate Veterans Day. Ask God's blessings on those who have fought for our country and have given their lives that our country may be free.

While you are praying for other intentions this month, please also remember those who give their time that we may bring this message to you each month. Several are not in the best of health.

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