



# FATHER SEELOS AND SANCTITY

VOLUME XXVIII, NUMBER 4

APRIL 1989

## FATHER SEELOS DAY IN NEW ORLEANS



"St. Mary's, October 2, 1988"

We are celebrating the second annual FATHER SEELOS DAY IN NEW ORLEANS on Sunday, April 30. There will be a Mass at 11:30 A.M. in St. Mary's Church with Father Joseph Buhler, C.S.S.R., the principal concelebrant and homilist. Father Buhler is the vice-postulator of the cause of Father Seelos with residence in New Orleans. All are invited to attend this Mass.

Following this Mass there will be a dinner at Masson's Restaurant, 7200 Pontchartrain Boulevard, New Orleans. At this dinner, Father Joseph Dustin, C.S.S.R., "The Banjo Priest," will entertain the guests with his special music. Attendance at the dinner will be by ticket only. Tickets are available at the Father Seelos Center, 2030 Constance Street, New Orleans, LA 70130, telephone: (504) 525-2495.

## **“WHO IS MY NEIGHBOR?”**

One day a lawyer approached Jesus and asked Him, “Teacher, what must I do to inherit everlasting life?” The Lord countered with this question: “What is written in the law? How do you read it?” The lawyer replied: “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your strength, and with all your mind; and your neighbor as yourself.” Jesus told the lawyer he had answered correctly. He added, “Do this and live.” When the lawyer asked, perhaps to justify himself, “Who is my neighbor?”, he gave Jesus the opportunity to give to the ages the famous parable of the good Samaritan (Luke, 10/25-37).

The people of Jesus' time had a narrow concept of what or who a neighbor was. We see the attitude of His contemporaries in regard to their, as it were, next door neighbors, the Samaritans. They would have nothing to do with them. So, Jesus, by presenting a despised one as the hero of His story and a model of charity towards the neighbor, struggled to widen their horizons.

As these lines are being written, several catastrophies have taken place that have touched human hearts around the globe. First, it was the earthquake in Armenia with that terrible loss of life, then the sudden explosion aboard an airliner over Scotland with over 260 people blasted into eternity without warning. Then there are the almost perennial heart-wrenching pictures of the starving children of Africa. Not too long ago there were the devastating floods that hit the country of Bangladesh with thousands losing their lives and many more thousands left homeless and starving.

We react to all these tragedies. We send clothes, food, medical supplies, rescue teams, money. A headline in our daily paper read, “Charity is the cover for Americans at Christmas time.” Thank God, we have no difficulty in practising charity in the big moments of life.

It is in the trifling moments of life that the virtue of the love for neighbor can be tried. Every day life can be monotonous. Rubbing elbows with the same people, often our loved ones, can be trying. We become angry with them, utter harsh words often without thinking, even do childish things just for spite. Let us pray to be whole-souled and even magnificent in the little, trying moments of life.

Joseph Elworthy, C.S.S.R.

## SPECIAL LETTERS

Smyrna, GA

My husband and I had the pleasure of visiting St. Mary's and the Father Seelos Center in June. It was a most pleasant and memorable visit. We came to place a petition on Father Seelos' tomb for my father-in-law's recovery from the cancer he had been diagnosed with. My mother-in-law is a long-time devotee of Father Seelos. When surgery was performed on my father-in-law, we were told the cancer had spread further than was first expected and now was inoperable. Radiation therapy was then recommended. Family from Minnesota to Baton Rouge to Florida redoubled their prayers. After radiation tests were made. They indicated a complete remission with no evidence of the tumor.

Some years ago I myself was involved in an auto accident that nearly cost me my life. I was left with a head injury that just recently was causing me problems. A cat-scan showed a gross abnormality. There were two possibilities, both of which would require surgery. Again we doubled our prayers to Father Seelos. A MRI scan was made. I wore the memento of Father Seelos even when I changed into the hospital gown. The report of the scan was that there was no new evidence of further injury, only scar tissue that was previously known to be present. In layman's terms, I was normal. With medicine I am now without symptoms. Thanks to God and the intercession of Father Seelos.

Chalmette, LA

Over the past fifteen years I have been a faithful supporter of the Center. Several times I have written letters of thanksgiving. In October I was told by two doctors that I had cancer of the lymph node under the right arm. On October 12 I had surgery. I did have a tumor but it was not cancerous. I will always pray to Father Seelos and thank him for his intercession for this very special favor granted.

Avondale, LA

Two years ago my son had a fall from a bridge. His hip was broken and he was paralyzed with a broken back and spinal cord damage. The doctors did not think he would walk again.

With lots of hard work and prayers to Father Seelos and St. Jude, he walked out of the hospital in three months. He is doing very well now. He is studying drafting now. I thank God, Father Seelos and St. Jude because all our prayers were answered. Without prayer I don't know what I would have done.

---

Mail, December, 1988:

Petitions: 545      Thanksgivings: 337      Others: 460      Total: 1342  
Volunteer hours: 528      Dial-a-message: 703

Published monthly by the Redemptorists at the Father Seelos Center, 2030 Constance Street, New Orleans, Louisiana 70130. Telephone 525-2495. Subscription is \$2.00 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. Joseph Buhler, C.S.S.R., Vice-Postulator; Rev. Joseph Elworthy, C.S.S.R., Director and Editor; Mrs. Angela Boudreaux and Mr. Cletus Stack, Executive Assistants.

---

## SPECIAL NOTES

1. The Father Seelos Center offers the following:
  - a. "The Cheerful Ascetic," a biography. Price: \$10.00
  - b. "Seelos: A Cause to Rejoice," a TV documentary on Father Seelos.  
VHS cassette only: \$45.00
  - c. "Nothing Short of A Miracle," a book on the healing power of the saints, written by Patricia Treece. In it there are two chapters on Father Seelos. Price: \$7.95 plus postage. Available at the Center.
  - d. Pamphlets, prayer-cards, mementos.
  - e. A daily spiritual message: dial (504) 586-1803.
  - f. Blessings of the sick with the mission crucifix of Father Seelos. Call Miss Addie Buhler: 895-6176.
  - g. Pilgrimages to St. Mary's Church, the tomb and the museum of Father Seelos. For further details and appointments, call the Center: (504) 525-2495.
  - h. PRAYER SERVICE FOR THE CANONIZATION OF FATHER SEELOS: every Sunday morning at 11 A.M. in St. Mary's Church. It is followed by the 11:30 parish Mass.
2. A SUBSCRIPTION TO THE FATHER SEELOS AND SANCTITY IS TWO DOLLARS PER YEAR. We do appreciate your letting us know you want to continue to receive the bulletin. Please use the form below for changes of address, corrections, duplications and renewals. Please return the lower portion of this page to us.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

---

RETURN POSTAGE GUARANTEED

SECOND CLASS POSTAGE  
PAID AT NEW ORLEANS, LA.

4/89

POSTMASTER: SEND ADDRESS CHANGES TO:  
FATHER SEELOS CENTER (USPS 488-660)  
2030 CONSTANCE ST.  
NEW ORLEANS, LA. 70130-5099