



FATHER SEELOS AND SANCTITY

VOLUME XXVIII, NUMBER 7

JULY 1989

LETTERS FROM A MOTHER

Peekskill, N.Y.

Sept. 21, 1988: "A week or two prior to your letter I was advised that my Alfa Protein blood test was low. This would indicate that the baby had a trisomy or a defect in the replication of a gene most likely resulting in mongolism . . . The doctor advised me to pray and have faith.

"She did not have to tell me. I was already praying to Jesus, Mary, and Father Seelos."

December 24, 1988: "Father Seelos is, as you so aptly put it, a family friend . . . My baby is due in January on the feast of the Epiphany. My doctor decided



that would be a perfect day to do a Caesarean after all my troubles . . . I have been confined to bed with gestational diabetes, necessitating insulin injections. Father Seelos' intervention has helped me throughout. I am also sure that this baby has been touched by the Holy Spirit . . ."

January 22, 1989: "Thanks for the mementos of Father Seelos. They are in the baby's bassinette now. What a true miracle he is! Perfect in every way . . ."

"I am enclosing a photo . . . I'd like you to see how perfect he is. His name is Joseph George Galella . . . I named him after two saints, as Father Solanus Casey recommends. I'm sure of their intercession as well as St. Gerard's, who is a relative on my husband's side of the family. St. Gerard Majella's mother was a Galella, so our family tree claims . . ."

JOSEPH GEORGE GALELLA

THE WILL OF THE FATHER

How often in His lifetime did not Jesus refer to the will of His Father? The very purpose of His life was to do the Father's will. "It is not to do My own will that I have come down from heaven, but to do the will of Him who sent Me" (John, 6/39). The Father's will was most important to Him, it was His very life. "Doing the will of Him who sent Me and bringing His work to completion is My food" (John, 3/34). His Father's will was paramount in His life, above all other considerations. "Whoever does the will of God is brother and sister and mother to Me" (Matt., 3/35). The day He rose from the dead and was journeying with two of His disciples (although they did not recognize Him), He recounted to them all that the scriptures had said about the Savior. He ended His talk with this question, "Did not the Messiah have to undergo all this so as to enter His glory?" (Luke, 24, 25).

Having given us the example, Jesus taught us to pray. "Our Father . . . Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven" (Matt., 6/10). St. Paul, disciple of Jesus that he was, urged his converts in Ephesus, "Try to discern the will of the Lord" (Eph., 5/17).

What is God's will for us? There are certain things that are unchangeable as far as we are concerned. For example, our birth. We come into this world in God's own good time. We are born into a family that He has chosen for us. He gave us our fathers and mothers, our brothers and sisters. We can choose our friends, but we cannot choose our relatives.

God brought us into the world of today, not the past century nor the one to come. We live in the nuclear age, the post WWII world, the post Korea and Vietnam era, the post Vatican II age of the Church. These facts we cannot change. It was God's will that we live at this time of history. We should not mourn for days long past nor the ideal times our dreams create. We live today, and the beautiful fact is that this is exactly God's will for us.

A spiritual writer, Archbishop Goodier, has written a prayer for wisdom. In it he prays, "O God, I want to be always what You want me to be, to do always what You want me to do, to make Your will my will. This is wisdom and is worth more than learning."

Joseph Elworthy, C.S.S.R.

SPECIAL LETTERS

Seattle, WA

It is good to know that the unborn have another champion in Father Seelos. I promise to continue to pray to him.

Pensacola, FL

I prayed to Father Seelos to help us sell our son's house. It was sold two weeks ago. Thanks to Father Seelos for this favor granted.

Independence, MO

I want you to know that I asked Father Seelos to intercede for our son's wife who had a massive stroke. Thanks to God, Father Seelos and all who prayed for Dorothy. She is now at home. With help she is doing fine. The doctors did not expect her to live. It's really something what prayer will do.

New Berlin, WI

I have been granted many favors through the intercession of Father Seelos, and I pray that he will soon be rewarded with sainthood. I thank God for giving us Father Seelos.

New York, NY

I wrote to you several weeks ago, asking you to pray before the tomb of Father Seelos for my daughter, who was born on April 14, 1988, with congenital glaucoma. She had to go to San Francisco for a possible surgery on February 8, 1989. She has had three eye surgeries. On February 8 the baby was put under anesthesia, but did not need surgery. I just wanted to say thank you for praying. We will have to go back to San Francisco in July for another check-up. Keep her in your prayers at the tomb.

Port Arthur, TX

I recently underwent tests which I thought could possibly reveal a malignancy and I'd promised public thanks if such were not the case. The results were negative and I am indeed grateful to Father Seelos.

Delhi, LA

This is in response to prayers said for a friend of ours who was hit by a car in May. There was little hope that the child would live much less completely recover. He had extensive brain surgery and leg surgery, but is reported now doing very well with no brain damage and is to be released from the hospital soon. I started saying the prayer to Father Seelos about the middle of May. It is really a miracle that the child is going to recover completely from this accident.

Mail for March 1989:

Petitions: 546 Thanksgivings: 298 Other: 762 Total: 1606
Volunteer hours: 823 Dial-a-message: 623

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 of the life of 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
ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

NEW ORLEANS, LA. 70130-5099
2030 CONSTANCE ST.

FATHER SEELOS CENTER (USPS 488-660)

SECOND CLASS POSTAGE
PAID AT NEW ORLEANS, LA.

7/89