



FATHER SEELOS AND SANCTITY

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JUNE, 1990

FATHER SEELOS IN JAPAN

Brother George V. Pope, a Redemptorist from Toronto, Canada, has been a missionary in Japan for 40 years. He is very much interested in the causes of sainthood of his fellow Redemptorists. From a small prayer card with the picture of Father Seeelos on it, he had a Japanese artist paint a portrait of him, took a photo of the rendering and sent it airmail to us at the Center. The package weighed 85 pounds, but it arrived almost at the same split-second as his half-ounce airmail letter. Just recently Brother George spent a few precious hours with us on a short leave from his post in Nagoya, Japan. Thanks, Brother George.



**BRO. GEORGE AND JAPANESE
VERSION OF FR. SEELOS.**

PURITY AND THE SACRED HEART

The month of June is traditionally observed in the Church as the month of the Sacred Heart of Jesus. This devotion to the Sacred Heart, so popular in our younger years, has waned a bit, but it is still capable of reminding us that the Son of God, being divine and rich in all things, did not think it beneath His dignity to become one of us. He assumed our human nature through His birth, born of the Blessed Virgin Mary. He is truly one with us in all things save sin.

Purity for the single and the married, the young as well as the old, is God-commanded in the sixth and ninth commandments of the decalogue. Sex is a God-given power. He created us male and female. Sex is manifested in all the living things of His creation. Only the angels, being pure spirits but very real, are not sexual beings.

In His human nature Jesus lived and died as a man among men, complemented with all the sexual powers of His manhood but free of sin by reason of His divine Person. To combat our human weakness in regard to purity, should we not turn to Him to receive His power and mercy and strength?

May we ever renew our resolution to turn to the good God and His Blessed Mother, to use the practical means to be chaste in mind, in speech and actions. It was Jesus in His apparitions to St. Margaret Mary Alacoque who said, "Behold the heart that has loved men so much." Unfortunately, even St. John was compelled to say that the Lord came to His own, but His own received Him not.

There was in the not too distant past an emphasis on receiving Holy Communion on nine consecutive first Fridays of the month. Some good people may have been induced to play a sort of numbers game. But devotion to the Sacred Heart did unite us more closely with the Savior who gave Himself to us completely as one of us in Bethlehem and Nazareth, as our Redeemer on the cross, and as our food and drink in the Holy Eucharist. The Second Vatican Council in its Constitution on the Liturgy said appropriately, "The renewal in the Eucharist of the covenant between the Lord and man draws the faithful into the compelling love of Christ and sets them afire."

SPECIAL LETTERS

Marrero, LA

My thanks to Father Seelos for the favor of life for my daughter and myself. I needed a pacemaker, but I refused because I thought that was not what God wanted of me. After consultation and prayer to Father Seelos, my eyes were opened. What I needed was courage to undergo the operation. I suffered no pain with it. I can't say I'm feeling great but now I have a chance to get better. I am 80 years old and have to face the fact of my disabilities. I go on with my life because God has a reason for my being here!

My daughter had a 100% blockage of the veins and arteries on the left side of her body and a 90% blockage on the right side. She not only suffered with that but had head, chest and stomach pains most of the time. By-pass surgery was a priority. I prayed that the doctors would be able to relieve the pain of her many ailments. During surgery it was noticed that she had large gall-stones. They removed her gall-bladder as well as doing the by-passes. She is a different person today, no pains, no blockages. Without the surgery she could have been a cripple or even lost her life. I am very grateful for Father Seelos' intercession in her behalf. My God be praised!

Metairie, LA

My husband who is 85 years old developed a blood clot on his lung and was in the hospital for two weeks. When he was sent home he was very weak and for 30 days I had to give him injections of blood thinner twice a day. I pinned a memento of Father Seelos on his pajamas and prayed to Father Seelos for his improvement. He is now well on the road to complete recovery. I'm sure Father Seelos played a big part in his getting well. Thanks be to God.

New Iberia, LA

I am 96 years old. I slipped on my kitchen floor just after it had been waxed. It was a bad fall. I could not stand up, I was in such pain. I was taken to the hospital in an ambulance for x-rays. I suffered a cracked pelvis. I was in bed for almost two months. I could not put one leg forward. I thought I would never be able to walk again. I came home eleven days ago, walking with the aid of a walker. I prayed to Father Seelos that I would be able to walk again. I no longer need the walker and am doing for myself with a little help. Through Father Seelos' intercession this was possible. Thanks be to God.

Mail, February, 1990:

Petitions: 591. Thanksgivings: 341. Other: 449. Total: 1381

Dial-a-message: 621.

Volunteer hours: 647.

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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: \$8.95 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.

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