

FATHER SEELOS AND SANCTITY

VOLUME XXXII, NUMBER 1

JANUARY, 1993



NINA CHRISTINE

Nina Christine, born with glaucoma, had three eye surgeries before her first birthday. Now four and a half, she travels with her mother from Berlin to San Francisco several times a year to have her eyes examined. Their prayers for the intercession of Father Seelos have been heard. More than five examinations have been made in the last three years and not once has Nina had to have surgery. Thank God.



FAITH

In the first month of the year it is our custom to consider the virtue of faith. Faith is our first step toward God; it is the beginning of our spiritual life. God speaks to us through the universe He created; He has spoken to us through the Scriptures and through His Son. Our response to His word is simply, we believe. Our first act of faith was made for us by our godparents at the baptismal font.

Over 30 years ago the Father Seelos Center was born here in the Irish Channel of New Orleans. Father Seelos' body had been buried in St. Mary's Church since 1867; his cause of canonization had been introduced in Rome in the early 1900's. There had always been those who had sought his intercession in their moments of trial and sickness. The Center came into being with the express purpose of rekindling devotion towards this humble priest whose prayers, even while he was alive on this earth, were visibly heard by the Lord. This purpose is truly an exercise in the virtue of faith: faith in the power of God's grace to mold human creatures more and more into His likeness, faith in the power of prayer, faith in the consoling doctrine of the communion of saints.

This bulletin is called FATHER SEELOS AND SANCTITY precisely to remind us that we are all called to be saints by reason of our incorporation into the Church of Christ by our baptism. The Son of God became man like us and died for us on the cross that we, His brothers and sisters, might be eternally united with His Father.

To promote the cause of canonization of Father Seelos, the Father Seelos Center has published a biography of Father Seelos, THE CHEERFUL ASCETIC, a TV documentary called SEELOS: A CAUSE TO REJOICE, two pamphlets: MEET FATHER SEELOS and FATHER FRANCIS X. SEELOS, C.S.S.R. The Center has distributed literally hundreds of thousands of prayer cards and mementos to all who requested them. This bulletin, FATHER SEELOS AND SANCTITY, is mailed every month to 35,000 people spread throughout the fifty states of the Union. The Center also maintains a museum that houses the memorabilia of Father Seelos (behind the sacristies of St. Mary's Church). The museum also serves as a chapel for daily Masses for the parishioners. The Center has one full-time paid employee. Volunteers furnish over 1000 hours a month of free service.

We thank almighty God for all the favors He has granted us in the past and we beg Him to allow us to realize fully the aims we have set before you.

Joseph Elworthy, C.S.S.R.

SPECIAL NOTES

1. The Father Seelos Center offers the following:
 - a. "The Cheerful Ascetic," a biography of Father Seelos. 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.
 - 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: Mrs. Yvonne Sevin, 888-1250, Mrs. Gerry Heigle, 482-4404, or Mr. Jack Pitkin, 524-6591.
 - g. Pilgrimages to St. Mary's Church, the tomb and museum of Father Seelos. For further details and appointments, call the Center. (504) 525-2495.
 - h. The 11:30 A.M. SUNDAY PARISH MASS IN ST. MARY'S CHURCH IS FOR THE INTENTIONS OF THE FATHER SEELOS CENTER.
Veneration of the mission crucifix of Father Seelos after the Mass.
2. A SUBSCRIPTION TO THE FATHER SEELOS AND SANCTITY BULLETIN IS THREE DOLLARS PER YEAR. Please let us know you want to continue receiving this bulletin. Please use the form below for changes of address, corrections, duplications and renewals. Return the lower portion of this page to us. Include your old address.

NAME _____

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CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

SPECIAL LETTERS

San Antonio, TX

I had put off cataract surgery for a long time because I was so afraid. I prayed to Father Seelos and our Mother of Perpetual Help for the strength and courage to have the surgery. Finally on May 19 I had the surgery and I have had a complete recovery. I am very grateful for this favor. I know without help from above I would never have been able to go through with this operation.

Vacherie, LA

I enjoy receiving and reading FATHER SEELOS AND SANCTITY. Father Seelos has always interceded for me and my daughter and son-in-law. My son-in-law had open heart surgery and it was a great success. He helped my daughter through surgery and chemotherapy. Her cancer is in remission.

Kenner, LA

Approximately four weeks ago my brother suffered a ruptured aneurysm and had to undergo surgery. He was on the very critical list and in ICU for three and a half weeks. We prayed fervently to Father Seelos for his recovery. I feel that the prayers to Father Seelos helped him to recover. He is now in his own room and in stable condition. Our thanks to Father Seelos.

Iota, LA

In July of '92 a relative of mine was involved in an auto accident. A young mother traveling with her husband and two small children was injured. She sustained injuries and was in need of surgery. Because of her critical condition the surgery was postponed. The prognosis was grim. Someone from the Father Seelos Center was contacted and went immediately to Ochsner Hospital's ICU in New Orleans to bless her with the mission crucifix of Father Seelos. An improvement was noted; she had surgery to stop internal bleeding. She is now recovering at home. We thank Father Seelos for his intercession and commend his staff for such dedicated service. God bless you all and keep you in His care.

Baton Rouge, LA

Last year my husband was struck by a very rare disease. Within 24 hours he was totally paralyzed. He remained paralyzed and on a respirator for four months. His future was very uncertain. My aunt encouraged us to pray to Father Seelos. Today my husband has almost completely recovered. His doctor told him he is a walking miracle. We thank you all so much for your prayers for the intercession of Father Seelos.

Mail, September, 1992

Petitions: 634 Thanksgivings: 304 Other: 482 Total: 1420

Dial-a-messages: 775

Volunteer Hours: 1015

FATHER SEELOS AND SANCTITY (USPS 488-660)

is published monthly for \$3.00 per year, by

The Father Seeelos Center

2030 Constance Street

New Orleans, LA 70130-5099

Second class postage paid at New Orleans, LA.

Postmaster: send address changes to FATHER SEELOS AND SANCTITY

2030 Constance St., New Orleans, LA 70130-5099

1/93

Published monthly by the Redemptorists at the Father Seeelos Center, 2030 Constance Street, New Orleans, Louisiana 70130 Telephone 525-2495. Subscription is \$3.00 per year.

In conformity with the decree of Pope Urban VIII all statements contained herein are unreservedly submitted to the judgement of the Holy See and the decision of the Sacred Congregation of the Causes of Saints.

Published with Ecclesiastical Approbation.

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