



FATHER SEELOS AND SANCTITY

VOLUME XXXII, NUMBER 4

APRIL, 1993

MEMORIAL MASS FOR FATHER SEELOS IN BATON ROUGE

On October 11, 1992, Most Reverend Stanley Joseph Ott, then bishop of Baton Rouge was the main concelebrant at a memorial Mass for Father Seeelos on the 125th anniversary of his death. This Mass was celebrated in St. Gerard's Church in Baton Rouge. After Mass Father Reinhard Stump, C.S.S.R., blessed Bishop Ott with the mission crucifix of Father Seeelos. This was the second last public appearance of Bishop Ott. He died on November 28.



FATHER SEELOS DAY IN NEW ORLEANS ON APRIL 25

The annual Father Seeelos Day in New Orleans will be observed on April 25. A Mass will be celebrated in St. Mary's Church (in the Irish Channel) at 11:30 A.M. A dinner will follow at 1:30 P.M. The price of the dinner is \$20.00. For further details, write the Center or call (504) 525-2495.

"LOVE ONE ANOTHER"

St. John the apostle was known as the beloved disciple of the Lord. According to tradition, he was the last of the apostles to die. As he advanced in years he never grew tired of repeating the great lesson he had learned in his close association with Jesus. "My little children," he would say to his own disciples, "love one another," Weary, perhaps, of this one theme of their leader, they would ask him why he kept repeating "love one another." He replied, "Because it is the precept of the Lord, and if you comply with it, you do enough."

John remembered well the lesson his Master had taught about love for the neighbor. Jesus called it His commandment: "This is My commandment: love one another." But He added a challenge to this precept. He did not say, Love your neighbor as yourself, as we read in other places in the Scriptures, but He dared all of us to love our neighbors as He himself had loved us - even

to death. (John, 15/12).

Indelibly fixed in John's memory was Jesus' famous sermon on the mount. On that occasion Christ said to His hearers, "You have heard the commandment, You shall love your countryman but hate your enemy. My command to you is: love your enemies, pray for your persecutors. This will prove that you are the sons of your heavenly Father, for His sun rises on the bad and the good, he rains on the just and the unjust. If you love those who love you, what merit is there in that? Do not tax collectors do as much? And if you greet your brothers only, what is so praiseworthy about that? Do not pagans do as much? (Matthew, 5/43-47).

John had learned his lessons well from the Master. In his first letter, John would admonish us, "We should not follow the example of Cain who belonged to the evil one and killed his brother." He continues, "No need, brothers, to be surprised if the world hates you. That we have passed from death to life we know because we love the brothers. The man who does not love is among the living dead." In John's mind, hatred is akin to murder, for he says, "Anyone who hates his brother is a murderer, and you know that eternal life abides not in a murderer's heart."

Lest we forget the challenge Jesus made to us to love one another as He loved us, John reminds us, "The way we came to understand love was that He laid down His life us; we too must lay down our lives for our brothers." (I John, 3/11-16).

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 - one half hour long. VHS cassette: \$20.00 (includes postage).
 - c. "Nothing Short of A Miracle," a book on the healing power of the saints, by Patricia Treece. Two of the chapters are on Father Seelos. Price: \$8.95 plus postage.
 - d. Pamphlets, prayer-cards, mementos.
 - e. 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.
 - f. A daily spiritual message: dial (504) 586-1803.
 - 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. Veneration of the mission crucifix every Sunday after the 11:30 A.M. Mass in St. Mary's Assumption Church.
 - i. Every week a Mass is celebrated for the intention of the Father Seelos Center.
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.

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SPECIAL LETTERS

Preston, CT

Recently after applying the cloth memento of F. X. Seelos to my badly infected leg and praying for his intercession, a quick recovery occurred for which I am most grateful. Once before his crucifix was applied to the same leg in New Orleans when the MD almost despaired of saving the leg and I was cured overnight. I pray this holy man will soon be canonized

Rome, Italy

For two years I have been trying to sell my home in Wisconsin and had prayed to Father Seelos. My home was recently sold. Thanks to God and Father Seelos.

Houston, TX

I am so happy to make public my thanks for the intercession of Father Seelos when I had bladder surgery. My latest tests proved negative. No more tumors. I pray to write more letters of thanks.

Baker, LA

About eight years ago I was a coach and teacher at a high school. One day I was showing an athlete how to throw the javelin. Something popped in my neck. I did not think much of it until four days later I lost all use of my right arm. I could not lift even a cup of coffee. The pain was severe in my right arm. I slept for no more than 30 or 45 minutes at a time. That was it.

I tried most everything but to no avail. The doctor prescribed a head brace with traction and after seven days decided I needed neck surgery to repair the damage discs in my neck. Father Stump gave me a cloth memento of Father Seelos. I said my prayers. I went to a chiropractor for a time. But I kept the cloth memento with me. I regained strength in my arm and the pain left me. This is true.

My best friend had fallen asleep at the wheel of his car and flipped four times. He broke the sixth and seventh vertebrae in his neck. He was alive and not paralyzed, but he was in critical condition with paralysis a great possibility. I went to Florida to be with him and I brought Father Seelos' cloth memento. As they wheeled my friend out of the room they had him in a brace to keep his neck straight, I pinned the cloth memento on his bed. The doctors guaranteed nothing. But my friend made it. He is alive, walking, and in another two or three months he will be able to take his brace off.

Monroe Falls, OH

I am just writing to report favors received. Time and again, my prayers to Father Seelos get answered. I've been in hectic situations where things weren't going well, but after prayers to Father Seelos all improved. He also helped me out when my health was failing and it greatly improved.

Mail, December, 1992

Petitions: 636 Thanksgivings: 304 * Other: 529 Total: 1469

Dial-a-messages: 769

Volunteer Hours: 1021

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