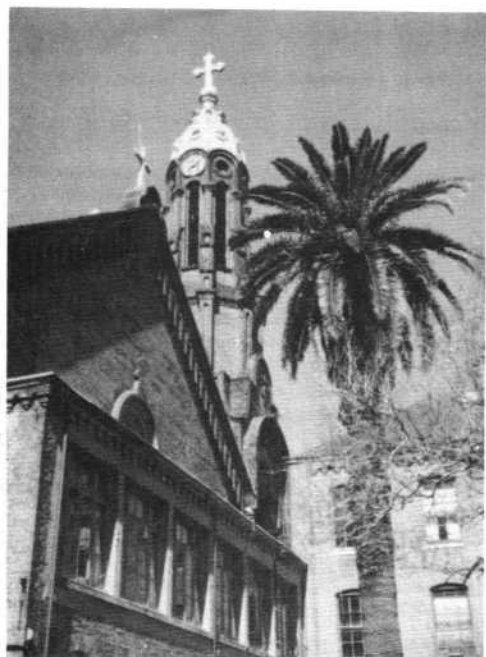




FATHER SEELOS AND SANCTITY

VOLUME XXXII, NUMBER 7

JULY, 1993



TIMEPIECE OF THE IRISH CHANNEL

There was a time when the clock in St. Mary's Assumption tower rang every fifteen minutes and it wasn't necessary for the people to look at their own watches and clocks to tell the time. For a number of years the clock did not function. Now it rings at the Angelus time and before the weekend Masses.

This view of the tower must have been familiar to Father Seeelos. The rectory where he lived and died was in the center of the garden where this picture was taken.

OBEDIENCE

When we think of the month of July in America, it is almost a foregone conclusion that the great family holiday of mid-summer will come to mind, the Fourth of July. We duly celebrate our day of independence with fireworks, speeches and picnics and rejoice in the fact that we are a free people. Only those who have lived under oppressive governments remember what it is to live under eyes and yoke of Big Brother.

Freedom to live where we want, to move about without carrying identity papers and to cross state borders without question is a boon we Americans enjoy. With all its imperfections our government has endured for over 200 years. Much as we at times deplore its weaknesses, we are at liberty to speak and do pretty much as we please.

Freedom, however, must never be confused with license. For the individual freedom must always be thought of in relation to the rights of others.

For every right we possess everyone else has the obligation to respect them, and vice versa.

Freedom we learn too soon in our imperfect world does not do away with laws. We are a nation of laws. Imagine, if you can, how many bookshelves it would take to hold the bound volumes of laws that almost ceaselessly emanate forth from the halls of Congress, the state legislatures, the county (in Louisiana read parish) boards, town and city assemblies!

Seeing the minuteness and diffusiveness of the mind of man, we are consoled with the thought that our Creator is so different. When God revealed the Ten Commandments to Moses on Mount Sinai they were engraved on two tablets of stone. St. Paul later remarked that they were written on the fleshy tablets of the human heart.

God expects us to obey the Ten Commandments, but He does not force us to do what He commands. It is to our eternal advantage to do so. In the first three commandments God bids us to adore Him alone, to respect His holy name, to observe His day of rest. In the next seven commandments He asks us to respect our parents, co-creators with God, to respect human life, to respect the virtue which is the guardian of human life, to respect the material goods of others, as well as to respect their spiritual goods, their good name. What must I do to attain eternal life, the young man asked Jesus. He replied, "Keep the commandments."

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.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

SPECIAL LETTERS

Gretna, LA

To my beloved family at the Center:

Thanks for the prayers, love and support during my recent illness. I received the results of my biopsy Thursday — all negative, not one trace of cancer! I'll know in a couple of months if the surgery was a success.

God is so good to me! I can't thank Him enough for making all of you a part of my life and for our heavenly friend, Father Seelos. I am ready now to help with the work of the Center.

Metairie, LA

I want to thank you for your prayers for my sister-in-law, who has a rare disease called Wegener's granulomatosis which ultimately has led to leukemia. For 21 days of this month she was in University Hospital taking her second treatment of chemotherapy.

Things did not seem to be going so well. My sister-in-law's white cells and platelets were about at rock bottom. I called the Seelos Center and asked that she be blessed with the mission crucifix of Father Seelos. In two days she received a visitor with the cross. She was blessed and they prayed. Several days later she began to improve. Now her blood cells are almost normal and her platelets are up. She can walk now; something she hadn't had the strength to do for months and months.

In my heart I know Father Seelos has interceded in her behalf. She has to undergo a third chemotherapy session after Easter. Please keep her in your prayers. She feels like she may have a future after all. We thank Father Seelos.

Lafayette, LA

At the end of last December I contacted the Center. I called to ask for prayers for our daughter who had been transferred to Ochsner Hospital. The doctors there were trying to save the twin boys she was carrying. The babies were delivered on January 23. One was still-born and the other lived only five hours. It was very difficult for all of us but we have accepted the will of God.

I am writing to thank all of you for your prayers and kindness to all of us during that time. I do not know the name of the lady who came to the hospital with the Father Seelos crucifix, but please let her know that we are very grateful. I feel that through the intercession of Father Seelos and through the many prayers, God gave great graces to the mother and her husband to have the courage to accept His will.

Sykesville, PA

I enjoy receiving the FATHER SEELOS AND SANCTITY. I know that Father Seelos and other saints were in there interceding to Jesus every time I asked for favors, and I received many. Thanks, Father Seelos.

Mail, March, 1993

Petitions: 655 Thanksgivings: 292 Other: 581 Total: 1528

Dial-a-messages: 749

Volunteer Hours: 1098

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