



FATHER SEELOS AND SANCTITY

VOLUME XXXII, NUMBER 8

AUGUST, 1993



A FLAG FOR THE MUSEUM

Just recently we received the flag of Bavaria. When Father Seelos left his home in Fussen, Bavaria was a separate kingdom. It was only in 1870 that Bavaria became a part of the German Empire. This flag was a gift of Lilly Neumaier-Aschenbrenner, the only living relative of Father Seelos with residence in the place of his birth.

HUMILITY AND JUDGMENT

When I speak or write of the virtue of humility, I have the tendency to define it not as what we think of ourselves, or even what others think of us, but what we are in the sight of God. Naturally most of us have a pretty good idea of what we are, but we must admit that our self-testimony can be tainted with prejudice. As to what other people think of us, they too can be prejudiced, for or against us. So what is left is for us to see ourselves as we are in the sight of God, alone and with all our warts (as one Cromwell said to his portraitist).

We were not privileged to see Jesus as He walked this earth so many centuries ago. We will have our meeting with Him when we close our eyes on this earth. Many people did once have the opportunity to meet Jesus, as recorded in the Gospels. In general He met them all with kindness: the weak and the powerless, the sick and the lame, the hungry. He did excoriate the Pharisees and the Sadducees for their blindness and arrogance, but He wel-

comed Nicodemus for spiritual discussions in the dead of night. He foretold that Peter, despite his protestations, would deny Him on the night before He died. One glance of His was sufficient to bring tears of repentance to Peter's eyes. When Judas Iscariot approached Him in the garden to have Him arrested, He greeted him, saying, "Friend, why have you come?"

While the thief on His left cursed Him, He blessed the thief on the right with a promise of paradise. He told the rich Pharisee that the woman who had washed His feet at the banquet was a better person because she loved much. He shamed the elders who wanted death by stoning for the woman taken in adultery: "Let him who is without sin cast the first stone."

Jesus endured a trumped-up judgment scene with Annas and Caiaphas. He was mute before Herod. He talked at some length with the Roman procurator, Pontius Pilate, to no avail. He was condemned to death by him. His heart went out to the widow of Naim and restored her son life. He wept at the grave of Lazarus, the brother of Mary and Martha, and then He called him forth from the grave.

The poet prayed for the gift to see himself as others saw him. For us it is better to pray that we see ourselves as Jesus our judge will see us, human beings, weak, wrong-headed, capable of many sins yet capable of using His grace to repent and do better and love our neighbors as He loved us and thus prove our undying love for Him.

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

Kaplan, LA

I attended the 125th anniversary Mass of Father Seelos' death in New Orleans this past October. And I want you to know that I enjoyed it. I am looking forward to going back some time in the near future.

Metairie, LA

This is to acknowledge a miracle received through Father Seelos' prayers. My daughter-in-law who is in remission from colon cancer developed a lump in her breast which showed up in an x-ray. The doctor said it would have to be removed. I prayed to Father Seelos that she be spared and promised publication. She was admitted to the hospital for breast surgery and another x-ray was taken.

While being prepared for the surgery she was told the lump did not show up in the x-ray and so surgery was not needed. She came home. The lump had apparently dissolved. We pray that it will not reappear. Thanks, Father Seelos.

New Orleans, LA

This is a letter that I promised to write to thank Father Seelos for his intercession for my many requests. The most recent being for the safe operation for our nine-month old grandchild. The surgery went along just fine and I am happy to say that she is now very healthy. It is a wonderful feeling to know that Father Seelos is there to help so many. I am truly grateful.

Metairie, LA

I have prayed to Father Seelos for many years. This time I promised to write. I hope he will be made a saint in the near future. My thanks to all of you for the newsletter. A while back I asked Father Seelos to intercede for an infant grandchild who had trouble with her colon. The pediatrician sent the baby to a surgeon who said the baby could have a disease called congenital mega-colon. To be sure, they would have to run more tests including a barium enema. They couldn't get to the test until a week later. From the first day I heard the disturbing news, I started a prayer every morning to Father Seelos to help this infant. When the results of the tests came back, there was nothing wrong with the colon. That was exactly nine days after we heard the bad news. Baby seems fine now with a change of diet!

Louisiana

I want to thank Father Seelos for his intercession. I was married by a justice of the peace. I always wanted to be married in the church. The other day my husband told me to call a priest and make an appointment in March to see him about our marriage. He is always in my prayers.

Mail, April, 1993

Petitions: 623

Thanksgivings: 297

Other: 524

Total: 1444

Dial-a-messages: 759

Volunteer Hours: 1101

FATHER SEELOS AND SANCTITY (USPS 488-660)

is published monthly for \$3.00 per year, by

The Father Seelos 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

8/93

Published monthly by the Redemptorists at the Father Seelos 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.

Rev. Joseph Buhler, C.S.S.R. Vice-Postulator, Rev. Joseph Elworthy, C.S.S.R. Director and Editor, Mrs. Angela Boudreaux and Mr. Clertus Stack, Executive Assistants