

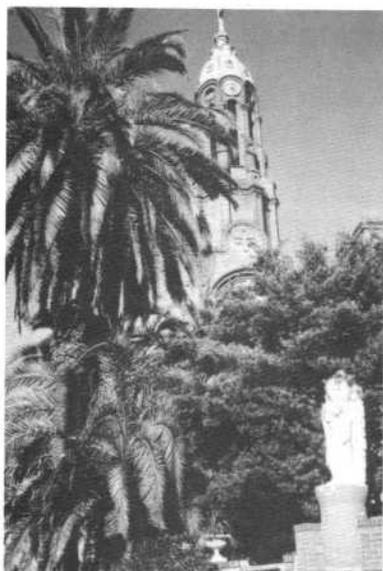


# FATHER SEELOS AND SANCTITY

VOLUME XXXIII, NUMBER 12

DECEMBER, 1994

## ST. MARY'S ASSUMPTION CHURCH



ST. MARY'S ASSUMPTION CHURCH  
IN THE IRISH CHANNEL

St. Mary's Assumption Church was begun in 1843 in what was then known as Lafayette, Louisiana. Only in 1852 would the area become incorporated into the city of New Orleans. When Father Peter Chakert returned from Baltimore, Bishop Anthony Blanc installed him as pastor of the Catholics of all nations resident in the city of Lafayette. When the present St. Mary's was open for use, the first St. Mary's was moved to St. Joseph Cemetery and became the mortuary chapel and still is. On the day St. Alphonsus Church across the street was consecrated in 1858, the German congregation broke ground for the construction of the new St. Mary's. It was ready for use in 1860.



### "IT AIN'T FAIR"

"*It ain't fair*" is an expression often heard these days. It comes to one's lips, perhaps more often to one's mind, when the troubles of this life in the modern world begin to weigh us down. "*It ain't fair*" is often said in a whining fashion by persons still learning the ways of a perverse earth, by those who have been sheltered from the uncertainties that are unfortunately a part of the fabric of our lives.

On reflection, we all know the answer. I remember the interview the new coach of a professional football team gave after his team had suffered yet another loss. His reply to the question why his team had lost was, "*It isn't a perfect world.*"

For most of us it does not take too long to realize that in this life we do not always get our way no matter how much we think we deserve it. The breaks do not always come our way, and few people, if any, feel sorry for us. An American poet of the last century wrote a sentimental poem about the young girl who won the spelling-bee in class and then apologized to the boy who was runner-up. She said, "*I hated to spell that word, I hated to go above you, because — because*

(Continued on next page)

you see, *I love you.*" Of that kind of people, there are, sadly, entirely too few in a hard-bitten world.

Speaking of unfairness, we cannot forget the plight of our Divine Savior. On Holy Thursday night His captors took Him to the high priests, Annas and Caiaphaz, to the Sanhedrin, then to Pilate, the Roman governor. He, it seemed, was to be the fall guy.

Pilate was perturbed. His wife had already warned him not to have anything to do with the Nazarene because of a dream she had had. Pilate was looking for a way out of his problem. He questioned Jesus for some time and then concluded, *"I find no fault in Him."* But the mob outside his palace would have none of that. They insisted that Pilate condemn Him. Pilate capitulated. He said, *"He is innocent; I will have Him scourged and let Him go."*

After He was scourged, Pilate presented Him to the mob, thinking they would feel sorry for Him. He offered them a choice between Jesus and Barabbas, a murderer. They chose Barabbas. As for Jesus, the mob shouted, *"Crucify Him."* So Pilate, still confused and perturbed, condemned Jesus to death, innocent though He was!

Will anyone in their worst frustrations ever be able to say, *"It ain't fair"?*



Joseph Elworthy, C.S.S.R.

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### 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

New Orleans, LA

For several years, I have had eye problems. This year my condition got worse and I had to consider surgery. On May 17, I had a corneal transplant, cataract removal, and lens implant in my right eye. The left eye will also require surgery. I prayed to Father Seelos that my surgery would be successful and that I would be calm. I also visited the Father Seelos Center and received the blessing with his mission cross.

The surgery was successful and the doctor is pleased with the results. It will take one year for the healing process; then I will be given prescription glasses. I am able to see better at this time and I am very hopeful my sight will improve daily.

I wish to publicly thank Father Seelos, because I know he gave me the calmness and peace I had during surgery. I thank him also for the success of my surgery. I thank all at the Father Seelos Center for their prayers and blessings.

New Orleans, LA

I am writing this letter that is long overdue, to thank everyone at the Father Seelos Center for their prayers to Father Seelos. I am grateful to almighty God and the intercession of Father Seelos for the healing of my daughter. It was discovered she had a lump in her breast before the Thanksgiving holiday. Naturally, it was very upsetting for the whole family, especially having to wait through the Christmas and New Year's holidays. When the surgery was performed, it was a tumor, and the tests were negative. I had given her the cross that had been touched to the cross of Father Seelos, also a memento which she wore and the prayer card and booklet.

Also, I would like to thank everyone for the prayers for my granddaughter who was nine months old at the time when it was discovered she had a lump on the side of her head. X-rays showed it was a tumor. I had given her the memento and her mother pinned it on her. With all the prayers, the surgery was a success, and the tests proved negative. My very special prayers to the good Lord and the intercession of Father Seelos.

Houston, TX

Please publish my letter of thanksgiving for two favors. My recent exam for tumors proved negative. My brother was not expected to live but made a miraculous recovery through prayers to Father Seelos. We are all most grateful.

River Ridge, LA

My sister died — she was a great devotee of Father Seelos for as long as I can remember. Please pray for her and keep the bulletin coming to me. Because of her I am also praying to Father Seelos.

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Mail, August, 1994

Petitions: 549

Thanksgivings: 251

Others: 694

Total: 1494

Dial-A-Messages: 738

Volunteer Hours: 1031

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