



FATHER SEELOS AND SANCTITY

VOLUME XXXIV, NUMBER 4

APRIL, 1995

FATHER SEELOS DAY APRIL 30



**Rev.
Charles
Landry,
C.S.S.R.**

"The Father Seelos Day in New Orleans," will be observed on Sunday, April 30. A Mass will be concelebrated in St. Mary's Assumption Church (on the corner of Josephine and Constance in the Irish Channel of New Orleans) at 11:30 A.M. Father Charles Landry,

C.S.S.R., pastor of St. Alphonsus parish, will be the principal celebrant of the Mass. St. Patrick's choir, under the direction of Mr. Joe Hoppe, will lead the singing of the liturgy.

The Mass will be followed by a dinner at the Jefferson-Orleans

South, 2536 Edenborn Avenue, Metairie at 1:30 P.M. Mr. William McCrossen, fire-chief emeritus of New Orleans, will be the featured speaker at the dinner. Door prizes will be awarded. Tickets for the dinner are available at the Father Seelos Center, 2030 Constance Street, New Orleans, LA 70130. The telephone number is (504) 525-2495. The price of a ticket is \$20.00.



William McCrossen

AS JESUS LOVES US

As I approach the four score year of of my life, I find that the expression, "the world has become a global village," more and more a reality. A trip to the Amazon jungle in 1993 gave me the proof, if I needed one. In 1943, we Redemptorist missionaries visited a village in the interior of the Brazilian state of Amazonas for the first time. We were met at the river's edge in the dark of the night by people bearing torches, and were ushered into a chapel ablaze with candle light. Outside we saw a merry-go-round, homemade of wood and pushed by the brute strength of four or five young men. Fifty years later we found a store in place of the merry-go-round, selling, of all things, satellite antennas for television. Fifty years ago in the depths of the jungle we thought we were at the end of the earth: no electricity,

(Continued on next page)

no newspaper, no radio, no telephone, no doctor, no hospital, and the only running water was in the river.

These days, without leaving our easy chairs, we have become familiar with all parts of the world and what is most important, with different faces of the humanity that inhabits the earth. In America, the melting pot, we have an advantage that many countries do not.

From all this variety in the human species, a cardinal truth bears down on us. Twenty centuries ago Jesus came to earth to lead us to eternal life. He reminded us of the Ten Commandments given by God to Moses on Mount Sinai. He taught us that these ten commandments rest on two: love God with all our might and love our neighbor as ourselves. And as if we had asked Jesus how much should we love our neighbor, He told us, "love your neighbor as I have loved you."

What a measure He gave us! He was nailed to the cross, and on the cross, as He was lifted up on Calvary, His arms were outstretched to embrace the world. He welcomed all who came to Him, the Israelite as well as the Roman, the Jews as well as the Samaritans, the sick as well as the healthy, the young as well as the old, men as well as women. Gender, race, color meant nothing to Him. He loved us all as only God could do — until death. He was that friend who gave His life for His friends.

Love of neighbor is a challenge that never ceases to oblige us. As long as we are awake and until our dying day, we must show our love for those around us. There is no respite, no lack of opportunity. In loving our neighbor, we have the assurance of Jesus that whatever we do for others, we do to 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.

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SPECIAL LETTERS

Lafayette, LA

In April of 1990, I visited my late, close, personal friend at his office. As I approached his office, he was talking to another close, personal friend, Billy. Billy had been diagnosed several years ago with the blood cancer *mycosis fungoides*. After being treated with everything from total radiation to complete blood cleansing to Interferon, Billy was still getting worse. In fact, this visit was to tell his boss that the doctor gave him six months to live.

Billy and his wife had already visited the Seelos Center in 1988 and prayed for help.

The next weekend my wife and I along with my daughter and her husband went to New Orleans to attend a wedding of my niece. While there, we took advantage of the time to attend Mass at St. Mary's Assumption Church.

We arrived early, allowing me time to pray before Fr. Seelos' tomb for Billy. I knelt before Father Seelos' crypt and recited the prayer for his intercession. I asked Father Seelos to help Billy recover from his near-death situation. When I returned to my pew, I experienced a strong emotional feeling; I was overwhelmed and I had to put my head in my hands. Tears were flowing uncontrollably from my eyes. This was followed by a warm feeling throughout Mass and afterward.

When I returned to Lafayette, I talked to Billy. I was mildly shocked and greatly elated to find that Billy was much improved. He had responded to a manipulation of the dosage of Interferon and another treatment called puva. I waited and kept checking on Billy to see if his improvement was going to hold. Well, it held. Billy went back to work after a few months. At this writing, he's still working and doing very well. He is still taking medication for this vicious disease. It makes him feel uncomfortable but he is alive. I wish to thank Father Seelos for his intercession.

This is one important favor among many others received for which I feel Fr. Seelos has successfully interceded. I continue to pray to Father Seelos every day.

New Orleans, LA

My 19 year old daughter had been on the liver transplant list for approximately ten months. In August, she was blessed with the mission crucifix of Father Seelos. Four days later she received her new liver in a 13 hour surgery. She is presently at home doing really well. We pray that Father Seelos will continue to intercede for her good health. Thanks to all who prayed for her.

New Orleans, LA

I want to express my thanks to a very good friend of mine, Mrs. Millie Swan, for sending me the news of Father Seelos' intercession last fall. I was suffering with my back and had tried everything possible with no success. I have prayed to Father Seelos and up to the present I can assure I have no pain.

Mail, December, 1994

Petitions: 725

Thanksgivings: 259

Others: 382

Total: 1366

Dial-A-Messages: 768

Volunteer Hours: 1067

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