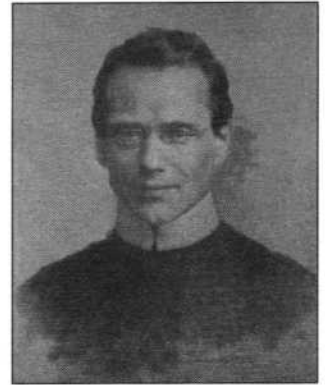
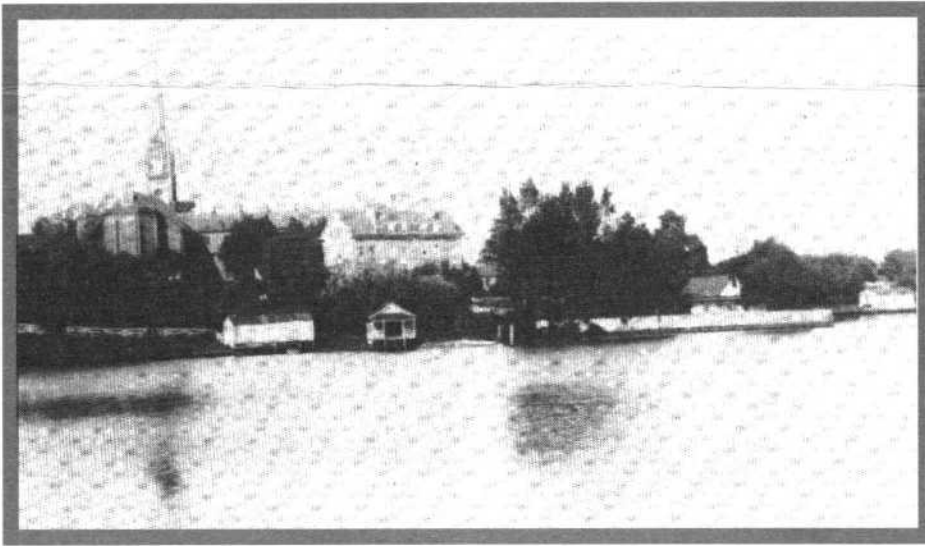


NEWS

Seelos Center



VOLUME XXXIX • NUMBER 11 • NOVEMBER 2000



Historic photo of Saint Mary's viewed from Spa Creek, Charles Carroll's birthplace in center

Spotlight on the Seelos Knights of Columbus Council No. 2878

The Charles Carroll Council of the Knights of Columbus was founded in 1945 by a group of visionary men in the Carrollton area of New Orleans. For its name, the members chose Charles Carroll of Carrollton in honor of the only Catholic signer of the Declaration of Independence, and the

last surviving member of this illustrious group. He died in 1832 at the age of ninety-five. Carrollton was the name of the Charles Carroll estate in Annapolis, Maryland and to distinguish himself from others who bore the same name, he always signed himself *Charles Carroll of Carrollton*.

Two separate Knights of Columbus Councils from other parts of New Orleans, instituted in 1943 and 1950, merged and agreed to name their new Council for a Redemptorist priest, Fr Francis X. Seelos, who spent nearly one-third of his ordained life training seminarians. He died in New Orleans on October 4, 1867.

In 1990, the Charles Carroll Council and the Father Seelos Council became one for mutual benefit. Their chaplain and Director Emeritus of the Seelos Center, Fr. Joseph Elworthy,

C.Ss.R., found this merger most appropriate. After all, it was the Redemptorists who

acquired the birthplace and property of the

famous Catholic signer of the

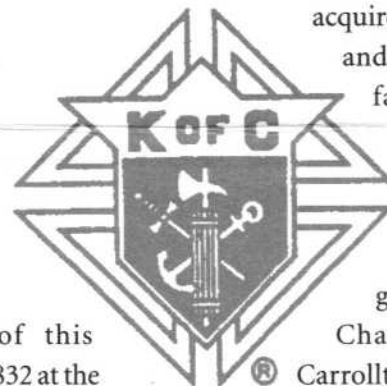
Declaration of Independence

from the granddaughters of

Charles Carroll of

Carrollton in 1853. The property, ideally situated on

the land between the Severn River and Spa Creek was used for the Redemptorist Seminary. Fr. Francis Seelos was provincial consultor at the time of this acquisition.



A Message from the Editor

This Thanksgiving, as we put-away the stuffing (perhaps in more ways than one!), may our lips also give praise to God for the many blessings of the season:

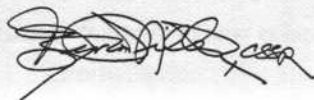
"O taste and see that the Lord is good! ... I will bless the Lord at all times; his praise shall continuously be in my mouth"

(PSALM 34)

"Lord, teach us to pray," asked the disciples of Jesus. Once in a while there is the modern-day disciple of Jesus who gives up on prayer. Not suddenly, but rather slowly. The hunger for holiness and the appetite for Christian enterprise disappear. The disciple makes the mistake of assuming that spending a little time talking about God can be a suitable substitute for talking with God.

Blessed Francis Seelos did not substitute *talking about God* for *talking with God*. He was indeed a man of prayer. After all, he had many prayerful models to inspire him, growing up in his religious family, and spending two years as a newly ordained priest living and working in the company of St. John Neumann, C.Ss.R.

Now that Blessed Francis X. Seelos "sees the face of God," we can be confident that he will continue his prayerful *talking with God* on our behalf. In this season of thanks-giving, may our hands come together in prayer at the family dinner table and at Mass, *to taste and see that the Lord is good!*



Cherub Cards



AVAILABLE
IN TIME
FOR
CHRISTMAS

*Detail, high altar,
St. Mary's Assumption Church,
New Orleans;
mid-nineteenth-century
bas-relief, wooden polychrome.
Photo by Bill Coskrey*



Gift-boxed sets of 20 "Cherub" cards and envelopes. Each card measures 5-1/2" x 4-1/4"; blank on inside; scripture verse on back reads: "From the angel's hand the smoke of the incense went up before God, and with it the prayers of God's people (Rev. 8:4)." Donation of \$12 (plus \$2 p/h) supports the Blessed Seelos cause.

Seelos Center NEWS

A monthly newsletter for friends of Blessed Francis X. Seelos, C.Ss.R.

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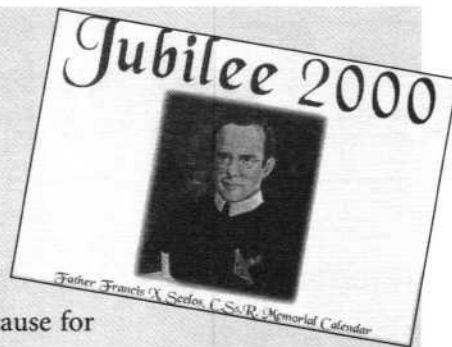
FRANCIS SEELOS 2001 CALENDARS AVAILABLE

Francis Seelos took great delight in the Christmas season. The birth of our Redeemer gave the ever-cheerful Fr. Seelos even more cause for joy, and his "Christmas spirit" was widespread.

It gives us great delight to announce to you the printing of a commemorative calendar for the year 2001, due to the popular appeal of the first Fr. Seelos calendar in 2000. The 13-month calendar will feature informative details about Blessed Francis Seelos and highlights of his Beatification.

The limited edition calendar will again sell for \$10 (+\$2 for p/h) to support the Seelos cause for canonization, and it will make a lasting gift throughout the new year. At your earliest convenience, please reserve your calendar by mailing your request and payment to :

The Seelos Center • 2030 Constance St • New Orleans, LA 70130



OPENING PRAYER

*from the official Mass Proper
of Blessed F. Seelos*

O GOD, WHO MADE YOUR PRIEST,
BLESSED FRANCIS XAVIER SEELOS,
OUTSTANDING IN LOVE,
THAT HE MIGHT PROCLAIM
THE MYSTERIES OF REDEMPTION,
AND COMFORT THOSE IN AFFLICTION,
GRANT, BY HIS INTERCESSION,
THAT WE MAY WORK ZEALOUSLY FOR YOUR
GLORY AND FOR THE SALVATION OF ALL.

"With Him is Plentiful Redemption"

(Psalm 130:7)

The Seelos Center offers the following services:

- Pilgrimages to St. Mary's Assumption Church, the Shrine and Museum of Blessed Seelos in New Orleans. For details and appointments, call the Center at 504-525-2495.
- A Daily Spiritual Message. Call 504-586-1803.
- Blessings of the Sick with a Mission Crucifix of Blessed Seelos in the Greater New Orleans area, please call:
Gerry Heigle (E. Jefferson) 504-482-4404
Jack Pitkin (Uptown/Innecity) 504-524-6591
Teresa LaCour (E. Jefferson) 504-887-0214
Rita Kaul (Arabi) 504-271-4520
Rosary Stoltman (Westbank) 504-393-9423
Jim Howard (St. Bernard) 504-277-7949
Elaine Freeman (Westbank) 504-341-2213
Peter Lukinovich (N.O. East) 504-679-3317
Ethel Kuhn (Ochsner) 504-837-3957
Bill and Sunny Schulz (Northshore) 504-792-5394
- Veneration of Blessed Seelos' Mission Crucifix every Sunday after the 11:30 am Mass in the historic St. Mary's Assumption Church (Josephine and Constance Streets).
- Weekly Mass celebrated for the intentions of the Seelos Center. If you have Special Intentions, please list them in the space provided on the enclosed envelope.

The Seelos Center / Seelos Foundation Office offers the following devotionals:

(Please allow up to 2 weeks for delivery of item(s) requested):

- "Seelos: A Cause to Rejoice," an informative documentary on the life of Blessed Seelos; 30-minute VHS cassette. (Suggested donation: \$20 - includes postage.)
- "A Life of Blessed Francis Xavier Seelos," a new 108-page paperback biography by Carl Hoegerl, C.Ss.R. & Alicia von Stamwitz. (Suggested donation: \$8.50 - includes postage.)
- Nothing Short of a Miracle*, a 207-page paperback book by Patricia Treece on the healing power of the saints; two of the chapters feature Father Seelos. (Suggested donation: \$12.50 - includes postage.)
- Pamphlets and prayer cards of Blessed Seelos, available in English, Spanish and Vietnamese.
- Audio cassette of a spiritual conference talk on God as Father and Blessed Seelos, given by Father Charles Mallen, C.Ss.R. (Suggested donation: \$6 - includes postage.)
- A Blessed Seelos vigil candle will burn near his tomb or in the Seelos Museum at St. Mary's Assumption Church, New Orleans for an offering of \$3.00.
- First, Second and Third-Class relics of Blessed Seelos. Please contact the Seelos Center, 504-525-2495

Testimonials

From the www.seelos.org Guestbook

[Fr. Seelos] Thank you, thank you for granting me the second part of my request. Just got home from the hospital and with your intervention they were able to save my kidney and they found no other cancer. And, as I prayed to you to shrink this tumor before the operation, it was a third smaller. Thank you. You will always be in my prayers and I will tell anyone who is ill about you.

Metairie, LA

In January the doctors did tests and diagnosed our son with non-Hodgkin's lymphoma. He had six months of chemotherapy, terrible times for all of us. We did our crying, then asked Father Seelos to pray with us and intercede with God on our son's behalf. He had another M.R.I. in August and was told he was cured of his cancer. We feel that without God, Father Seelos, and all other saints we prayed with, this miracle would not have been granted.

Lacombe, LA

I must write this letter in thanksgiving for the safety of my son and his wife. It is a blessing that they are alive. They were returning from a trip to North Carolina when an 18-wheeler truck ran the car off the road. They turned over twice before the car came to a stop on the side of the road. Both crawled out of the car unharmed. The miracle is that they survived such trauma without severe injuries.

My son had been at my house in June when our whole family was blessed with a cross of Blessed Francis Seelos. I believe this is what saved him and his wife.

Nashville, TN

I have been a deacon for twenty-seven years - among the first ordained in the United States! Born of German descent, I owe my vocation to Fr. Francis X. Seelos. I always felt a close connection to him, first hearing of him in 1961 when I was given a third-class relic of him and a brief history of his life.

When I was a coach at Tulane University, I visited Fr. Seelos' tomb in St. Mary's Church once a week! For all these years, I've desired for him to become a saint. We need his example for our priests.

Houston, TX

Hi, my name is Erik. I am fourteen years old. I am very interested in Bl. Seelos. Could you tell me more about him and what he did. Also, if you could, please send some devotional items.

New Orleans, LA

My husband was rushed to the hospital due to spinal cord compression on the neck. Surgery was performed to correct this problem, after which he was unable to eat or drink anything by mouth. A stomach tube was inserted for five months. We are very happy to announce his miraculous recovery since July. We want to thank Father Seelos for this favor that has been received through him. We called a member of the Seelos Center and the Fr. Seelos cross was brought to the hospital to bless my husband twice. With our strong faith and our prayers he has been miraculously healed through Father Seelos. Thank you very much.

Have YOU visited our
www.seelos.org website lately?