

NEWS Seelos Center



VOLUME XL • NUMBER 8 • AUGUST 2001

DESPERATELY SEEKING FÜSSEN



“Romantic” and “picturesque” are two of the adjectives that travelers use to describe the town of Füssen, sixty miles southwest of Munich, the capital city of Bavaria. Gracefully straddling the meandering Lech, where that stream escapes from the Alps, Füssen and its surroundings has everything to evoke poetry in minds of a visitor: aged buildings snugly set together, high gabled roofs, narrow streets and still narrower sidewalks, smooth lakes, castles and rolling fields.

— Michael J. Curley, C.Ss.R., Cheerful Ascetic:
The Life of Francis Xavier Seelos, C.Ss.R.



CLARION HERALD PILGRIMAGES

announces its 14-day Pilgrimage

to

GERMANY,

(the birthplace of
Blessed Francis Xavier Seelos)

and to **ITALY**

MAY 3 – 16, 2002



Visit the cities of Munich, Altötting, Füssen,
Venice, Florence, Assisi, Rome

Spiritual Director: Fr. Byron Miller, C.Ss.R.

Director of the National Shrine
of Blessed Francis Seelos in New Orleans

\$3499.⁰⁰

dbl. occ. from New Orleans
\$100 discount if booked by
September 1, 2001

Call Clarion Herald
Pilgrimages for more
information and for a
detailed brochure
(504)835-0324

[www.unitours.com/
clinnet/clarionseelos.html](http://www.unitours.com/clinnet/clarionseelos.html)

- ✿ Round Trip Airfare
- ✿ Hotel accommodations
- ✿ Daily Mass
- ✿ Baggage handling
- ✿ Deluxe air-conditioned motor coach
- ✿ Comprehensive sightseeing
- ✿ Admission to selected sites listed in itinerary
- ✿ English-speaking tour manager/guide throughout
- ✿ Breakfast and dinner



REST IN PEACE Angela Boudreaux (August 26, 1929-June 21, 2001)

Angela's cure from liver cancer in 1966, attributed to the intercession of Francis Seelos, was the miracle accepted by the Vatican for his Beatification in 2000.

A Message FROM THE EDITOR

There is the story of a virtuous man who noticed the miserable conditions in which a poor carpenter lived. The rich man summoned the carpenter and commissioned him to build a beautiful house. "I want this to be an ideal home. Use only the best materials, employ the best workers, and spare no expense." Then he said that he was going on a trip and that he hoped the house would be finished when he returned.

The carpenter saw this as his great opportunity. Therefore, he skimmed on materials, hired inferior workers at low wages, covered their mistakes with paint and cut corners wherever he could. When the rich man returned, the carpenter brought him the key and said, "I have followed your instructions and built your house as you told me to." "I'm glad," said the rich man; and, handing the key back to the builder, he continued, "Here is the key. It is yours. I had you build this house for yourself. You and your family are to have it as my gift."

In the years that followed, the carpenter never ceased to regret the way in which he cheated himself. "Had I only known," he would say to himself, "that I was building this house for myself..."

If we constantly cut corners, "in vain does the builder labor." God does not wish for us to cheat ourselves out of building a solid faith-filled foundation. Father Seelos knew that the Redemptorist seminarians were only cheating themselves in the long run if they were not diligent in their studies. He must also have known how demanding the studies could sometimes be. Perhaps for this reason, there was no paternal tenderness equal to that shown by Father Seelos for his students. He treated them as his own sons. He agreed with his spiritual father, St. Alphonsus Liguori, who used to say: "We are their father and the Congregation is their mother. Since they have left father and mother to give themselves to God, it is right to show them all charity." During this back-to-school month, Redemptorists wish blessings on all students – formal and otherwise – who search for the key to Christian living until we "hand the key back to the Builder."



Fr. Byron Miller, C.S.S.R.

Starving for Real Food

Father Daniel Francis, C.S.S.R. of New York was the preacher at the April 29, 2001 Seelos Memorial Mass in New Orleans. He included the following vignette in his homily:

"On the plane ... two women in my row asked why I was going to New Orleans. When I told them about this celebration, the one on the aisle confessed, 'Father, I consider myself to be spiritual, but not religious; I don't need to go to church.' And I thought to myself: her answer is as ridiculous as the airline's excuse for food. Maybe you know this person. It's your adult child or spouse, a dear friend or co-worker. They've left behind the faith and perhaps the morals, too, and are starving for real food, real presence, even if they don't know it."



CAN YOU NAME THREE PERSONS WHOSE FAITH WOULD BENEFIT FROM KNOWING ABOUT FATHER SEELOS?

Please include names and addresses in the enclosed envelope to receive newsletter and special gift.

NEW DEVOTIONAL AVAILABLE IN MID-AUGUST

NOVENA IN HONOR OF
BLESSED FRANCIS X. SEELOS
32-page Deluxe Pamphlet with
sturdy cover for \$3.⁰⁰ (includes postage)

Send request to:

SEELOS CENTER,
2030 Constance Street,
New Orleans, LA 70130

Seelos Center NEWS

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

Vice-Provincial Superior:

Very Rev. Thomas D. Picton, C.S.S.R.
Vice Provincial - New Orleans

Seelos Center Executive Director / Editor:

Rev. Byron Miller, C.S.S.R.

Seelos Foundation Development Director:

Victor L. Ottenlips

Editorial Staff:

Brenda Massey/Evelyn John

Seelos Center News

One Liguori Drive • Liguori, MO 63057-9999
1-800-464-2555

Seelos Center / Shrine

2030 Constance Street
New Orleans, LA 70130-5099
(504) 525-2495 / FAX (504) 581-9181
Visit our Web site at www.seelos.org

Vice-Postulators:

Rev. John C. Vargas, C.S.S.R.
Rev. Byron Miller, C.S.S.R.

Director Emeritus:

Rev. Joseph Elworthy, C.S.S.R.

Administrative Assistant:

Mr. Jack Guidry

Seelos Center News" (USPS 488-660) published monthly by the Redemptorists at the Seelos Foundation, One Liguori Drive, Liguori, Missouri 63057-9999
Telephone (636) 464-2500 Subscription is \$9.00 per year. Periodical Postage Paid at St. Louis, Missouri.
Postmaster: send address changes to the Seelos Foundation, One Liguori Drive, Liguori, Missouri 63057-9999

St. Louis, Missouri Begins Seelos Novena

Starting on Saturday, August 11th and continuing until its conclusion on October 6th, a novena of nine Saturdays is being planned in preparation for the Feast of Blessed Francis Seelos. His feast has been set for October 5th and may be celebrated throughout the U.S. on that day.

The novena will be held in the St. Mary of Victories church, St. Louis (744 South Third St, 314-231-0141). It was here that Father Seelos and three companions gave a Redemptorist mission from October 1-15, 1865.

Services begin at 3:00 in the afternoon with hymns, homily, prayers and benediction of the Blessed Sacrament. Participants will be able to receive individual blessings and venerate a first-class relic attached to a Redemptorist mission cross. Confessions will be heard until 4:45; Mass will be celebrated at 5:00.

All are welcome to attend!

DID YOU KNOW

That Archbishop Francis B. Schulte of New Orleans established what is believed to be the first of its kind, a new parish named in honor of Blessed Francis Seelos. Acting upon the recommendation of his Priests' Council, the Archbishop announced the closure of three historic churches below the French Quarter, whose congregations merged with two others nearby on July 1, in the hopes of revitalizing those faith communities. Rev. Joe Benson was installed as pastor of the new entity, Blessed Francis Xavier Seelos Parish!

"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 F. 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 F. 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) 504-241-2746
Ethel Kuhn (Ochsner) 504-837-3957
Bill and Sunny Schulz (Mandeville) 985-792-5394
Carmelie Mancuso (Slidell) 985-641-6999
Mary Jo Stewart (Slidell) 985-643-5548
Pam Crutchfield, R.T. (Covington) 985-892-6560
Ethel Gallagher (Reserve) 985-536-0276
Dan Montz, L.P.C. (Houma/Thibodaux) 985-446-1805
- Veneration of Blessed F. 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 F. Seelos; 30-minute VHS cassette. (Suggested donation: \$15 - 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.)
- Messengers: After-Death Appearances of Saints & Mystics*, a 343-page hardbound book on the authentic appearances of the holy dead sent as God's messengers. Chapters on Fr. Seelos; photos included. Autographed by author, P. Treece. (Suggested donation: \$21.50 - includes postage.)
- Seelos Medals: Blessed F. Seelos medal, made of nickel silver. Round (3/4" diameter), with loop, antique finish, finely crafted in the United States. (Suggested donation: \$3 each or 2/\$5(+\$1p/h).
- Pamphlets and prayer cards of Blessed F. Seelos, available in English, Spanish and Vietnamese.
- Audio cassette of a spiritual conference talk on God as Father and Blessed F. Seelos, given by Father Charles Mallen, C.Ss.R. (Suggested donation: \$5 - includes postage.)
- A Blessed F. 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 F. Seelos. Please contact the Seelos Center, 504-525-2495

SPECIAL
PRICE!

Testimonials

New Orleans, LA

I had my surgery on May 21. It went very well. I prayed to Father Seelos because I believe in him and asked him to grant me this favor for a successful operation and to keep my heart healthy and strong. I feel in my heart he did. I love him and all who helped pray for me.

Mandeville, LA

My father was blessed twice by a Father Seelos cross. Mr. Jack Pitkin was wonderful. Both times my family and I saw changes in my father's condition. He is in the hospital suffering from two strokes, one that paralyzed his right side a year ago and this one that affected his speech. He also had a bleed on the brain from the fall. My family believes Father Seelos helped us get my father where he needed to be. My father is just beginning to work with all the therapists. He has a long way to go before he can become the man he once was, but we feel Father Seelos is the one who brought my father to this point.

The doctors were not very optimistic when he first came into the hospital. They said with his heart problems, diabetes and a previous stroke he had a lot going against him and they believed he would not make it out alive. My family is eternally grateful to Father Seelos for answering our prayers and letting my father recover in such a short time. The doctors are baffled. They come into his room daily and just beam with delight at how well he is now doing.

Metairie, LA

I had an accident in early March. I suffered a broken rib and damage to my lung. I was told by the doctors that the fluid had hardened and only a serious operation of cutting off the hardened fluid could relieve me. I prayed for two months to Blessed Seelos to ask God for the miracle I needed to find a way to heal this condition without surgery. After two months of x-rays and CT scans the doctor told me the fluid started to flow and they could drain the lung without going through surgery.

Lake Charles, LA

My daughter is a cancer survivor who goes to M.D. Anderson [in Houston] every three months for check-ups. On the last visit she received a phone call telling her to return because her chest x-rays revealed something. When she went back for more testing, all the results came back clear! All concerned just couldn't understand. ... I understood! I had prayed to Blessed Seelos and I received what I had asked for. My daughter is okay!

Metairie, LA

When I was about six years old, I was accidentally shot in my left eye by my next-door neighbor. I am now seventy-four years old and a few years ago my doctor told me I had cataracts and my cornea was in bad condition and in need of surgery. I previously had surgery on my good eye about thirty years ago and was hesitant about doing surgery again, since I had already lost one eye. I prayed to Father Seelos and God and asked them for a sign to give me courage to have the surgery. I had it done and I knew it was going to be a success. It was. Thanks for Father Seelos' intercession and God's help. I am praying for Father Seelos' sainthood and hope it's soon. This letter is to let others have faith and love for God and Father Seelos.

New Orleans, LA

I am writing this letter twenty-one years after my close friend was diagnosed with Metastasis Breast Cancer that had also spread to the lymph nodes. The doctor ordered Radical Mastectomy, which was performed. Along with my sister (now deceased), we suggested that maybe she would like for us to take her to the Father Seelos tomb. When we arrived at St. Mary's, our friend proceeded to the altar and lay upon his tomb and she prayed for what seemed like a very long time. Now here's where I think it gets interesting. For the last twenty-one years, she has not received nor taken any treatments or medications for her condition.



HAVE YOU RECENTLY MOVED?

Are you Receiving
Duplicate copies?

Please notify us if changes are needed in the way you currently receive our newsletter

WRITE TO: Seelos Foundation • The Redemptorists
New Orleans Vice Province • One Liguori Drive • Liguori, MO 63057-9999

OR CALL: 800-464-2555 Ext. 425 (Please allow a minimum of 30 days to process your changes.)

The Seelos Museum, Shrine and Gift Shop are now open on Saturdays!
New Hours of Operation: Monday - Friday 9 AM - 3 PM • Saturday - 10 AM - 3:30 PM
Tours available during the hours of operation - Other times by appointment. (504) 525-2495