

SEELOS CENTER

News



2030 Constance Street ❖ New Orleans, LA 70130
(504) 525-2495 ❖ www.seelos.org

National Shrine of Blessed Francis Xavier Seelos Volume XLIV † Number 12
December 2005

Father Seelos was ordained a Redemptorist priest on December 22, 1844. His deep faith was revealed at the very beginning of his priestly life when, a few days later, he was able to celebrate Mass 3 times on Christmas Day:

“So I could celebrate the august Sacrifice three times on one day ... I certainly did include all of you in [the Masses] and recommended you to him whom I had so closely before me and touched with my own hands, and offered and took into my heart. If only you had experienced it. Holy Guardian Angels, tell it to them, so that they can share in the joy, share in my prayers ... as an unworthy dispenser of the mysteries of God.”

The Seelos Center staff extends best wishes and a hope that you experience God's abiding peace and love throughout the Christmas season. The Redemptorists will remember you in our Masses on Christmas Day.

YOU ARE INVITED!

Booksigning at National Shrine of
Blessed Francis Seelos



Sunday
December 11, 2005
1:30 - 3:30 p.m.

St. Mary's Assumption Church & National Seelos Shrine will provide a unique New Orleans setting for Eternal Word Television Network personality and author, Raymond Arroyo, to offer his anticipated biography of Mother Angelica. All are invited to meet the popular EWTN host as he shares insights and anecdotes, and autographs copies of his new book, printed by Doubleday. The hardcover book sells for \$23.95 and will be made available for purchase in the Seelos Museum by the co-sponsor of this event, Garden District Book Shop. If you cannot attend the event, but would like signed or personalized copies of the book please call (504) 895-2266 or email gdkrewe@aol.com

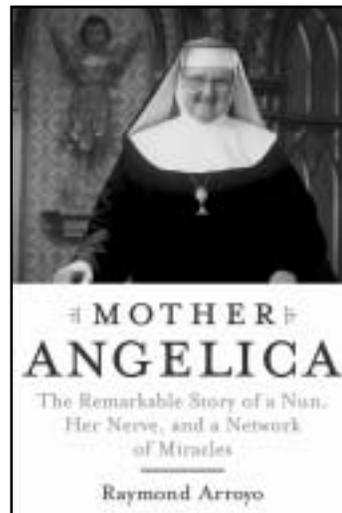
MARK YOUR CALENDARS:

Special Healing Mass & Veneration
to Commemorate the
Birthday of Father Seelos

Saturday, January 14, 2006

11:00 a.m.

St. Mary's Assumption Church
2030 Constance St., New Orleans



Raymond Arroyo

*Francis Seelos, the "Cheerful Ascetic,"
Knows how God Loves a Cheerful Giver*

"The one who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and the one who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that by always having enough for everything, you may share abundantly in every good work. ... You will be enriched in every way for your great generosity, which will produce thanksgiving to God through us; for the rendering of this ministry not only supplies the needs of the saints but also overflows with many thanksgivings to God." (2 Corinthians 9, 6-10)

During this holy season of God's awesome Gift to us, please consider helping "supply the needs of the saints." You will indeed be enriched in every way for your great generosity, for God will not forget or be outdone in your goodness to us. Thank you for kindly remembering our noble canonization cause and ministry during this Grace-filled time of year!

Dear Fathers & Staff,

Thanks for writing about Hurricane Katrina in the *Seelos Center News*. I'm so relieved to know everything & everyone is safe! I waited so long to hear this good news! I had telephoned but could get no answer. When we first heard the storm was going to hit, I prayed that Fr. Seelos would help and protect his shrine and everyone in his beloved city. He surely did all he could with God's Will. Thank God for His mercy! All will be well, even with many changes to the Gulf Coast and the peoples there. Some have relocated here to the Twin City area of Minnesota. Minnesota sent 95 18-wheeler truckloads of needed items to the hard-hit areas. Much love, help and goods continue to come your way. People care! Such tragedy opens hearts and we are a nation better united in care for neighbors and church communities as a result.

I have received the bulletin of Fr. Seelos since 1967! He has always helped when I ask so many times over the years. God is so kind and merciful and Fr. Seelos is such a good friend, too.

-- Shirley Bogardus, Minneapolis

Has it been a long time since you've visited "the old neighborhood"? If you grew up in the Irish Channel but moved elsewhere, or if it has been a number of years since you've prayed before the "tomb" of Father Seelos, much has changed! The neighborhood is quite different; the "tomb" of Father Seelos is now a beautiful reliquary in a shrine at St.



Mary's Assumption Church, and the Seelos Museum has been recently renovated. During this busy time of year please "come home" and stop by for a prayer to stay focused on the true meaning of Christmas.

The Seelos Center offers the following services:

◇ **Pilgrimages** to St. Mary's Assumption Church, Shrine & Museum of Bl. F. Seelos in New Orleans. For details & appointments, call the Center at 504-525-2495.

◇ **Daily Spiritual Message.**
Call 504-586-1803.

◇ **Blessings of the Sick** with a Mission Crucifix of Blessed F. Seelos in New Orleans & other area hospitals. Please call:

East Jefferson

Teresa LaCour: 504-887-0214

Uptown/Innecity

Jack Pitkin: 504-524-6591

Baton Rouge

Gloria Bacque: 225-767-8432

Covington

Pam Crutchfield, R.T.: 985-892-6560

Dr. Ann Logarbo, MD: 985-886-0218

Houma/Thibodaux

Dan Montz, L.P.C.: 985-446-1805

Lafayette/Abbeville

Rita King: 337-984-4607

Mandeville

Bill & Sunny Schulz: 985-792-5394

Reserve/LaPlace

Deacon Percy Vicknair: 985-652-0039

Slidell

Carmelie Mancuso: 985-502-7325

Mary Jo Stewart: 985-502-9033

Sulphur/Vinton

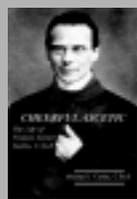
Warren Touchet: 337-527-2607

◇ **Veneration of Blessed F. Seelos' Mission Crucifix** in historic St. Mary's Assumption Church (Josephine & Constance streets). Contact the Seelos Center for details.

◇ **Weekly Mass** celebrated for the intentions of the Seelos benefactors. Please list Special Intentions in the space provided on the enclosed envelope.

*Does your employer have a matching gift program? Please consider the National Shrine of Blessed Francis Seelos
Fed. Tax ID #72-0576253*

The Seelos Center offers the following devotionals:

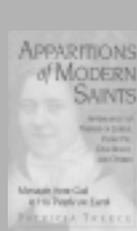


Cheerful Ascetic: Life of F.X. Seelos, a 480-page hardbound biography by Fr. M. Curley that captures Seelos' piety & personality. Index/photos. (Donation: \$22.95 + 6.95 p/h)

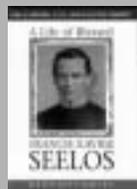
◇ **"Seelos: A Cause to Rejoice,"** an informative documentary on the life of Bl. F. Seelos; 30-min. VHS cassette. (Donation: \$17 - includes p/h)



Nothing Short of a Miracle, a 207-page paperback book by Patricia Treece on the healing power of the saints; two chapters feature Fr. Seelos. (Donation: \$15 - includes p/h)



Apparitions of Modern Saints, a 293-page abridged & updated paperback version of the book formerly entitled *Messengers* by Patricia Treece on the authentic appearances of the holy dead sent as God's messengers. Chapters on Fr. Seelos. (Donation: \$17 - includes p/h)



A Life of Blessed Francis X. Seelos, a 108-page paperback biography by Fr. Carl Hoegerl & Alicia von Stamwitz. (Donation: \$9 - includes p/h)



Seelos Medals: Made of nickel silver, round 3/4" dia. with loop, antique finish, finely crafted in the U.S. (Donation: \$3 each or 2/\$5 + \$1 p/h)



Seelos Perpetual Mass League: A one-of-a-kind lasting remembrance for you or for someone dear, living or deceased. (Donation: \$25, contact Seelos Center for enrollment)

◇ **Pamphlets & Prayer Cards** of Bl. F. Seelos, available in English, Spanish & Vietnamese.

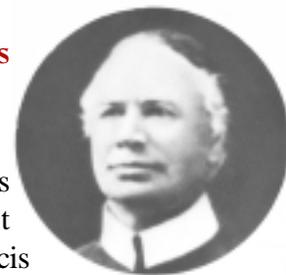
◇ **A Bl. F. Seelos vigil candle** will burn near his sacred resting place in St. Mary's Assumption Church, New Orleans, for an offering of \$3.

◇ **First, Second & Third-Class Relics** of Bl. F. Seelos. Contact the Seelos Center, 504-525-2495.

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



Now on Display in the Seelos Museum!
Chalice of the Superior Who Accepted Francis Seelos Into the Redemptorist Congregation



Father Alexander Czvitkovicz (mercifully known as Father Alexander), Superior of the Redemptorist mission in the United States, formally accepted Francis X. Seelos into the Redemptorist Congregation in 1842.

Father Alexander was present at both the beginning and end of Francis Seelos' life as a Redemptorist. He was a member of the Redemptorist Community in New Orleans when Father Seelos was stationed there. In the last hours before Father Seelos died of yellow fever on October 4, 1867, Father Alexander gave him the indulgence for the dying & general absolution. While the Redemptorists gathered at Father Seelos' bedside were singing two of his favorite hymns, it was Father Alexander who "whispered in his ear some words of confidence and love; and so in this way, Father Seelos slumbered gently and quietly, without convulsions or straining, over into a better life." The private words of Father Alexander, accompanied by the singing of his confreres, were the last words that Father Seelos heard on this side of heaven.



This chalice was presented to Father Alexander on the occasion of his 50th year as a Redemptorist priest. The inscription in Latin underneath reads:

Reverend Father Alexander Czvitkovicz, C.S.S.R.
1830 Jubilee 1880
Church of Saint Alphonsus
Baltimore, Maryland

Father Alexander died in 1883 and is buried in a sanctuary crypt near the altar in Saint Mary's Assumption Church, New Orleans.

KEEP CHRIST
IN CHRISTMAS!



Make a Self-Guided
Advent Retreat

Befriended
A Guided Retreat with
Blessed Francis X. Seelos
By Byron Miller, C.Ss.R.

Let Mr. Philip Antoni, a personal friend of Father Seelos, guide you through the 8 meditations in this 48-page booklet on a spiritual journey that fosters your own heavenly friendship with this holy Redemptorist priest. \$5 (incl. p/h).

Seelos
Center
News



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

Denver Provincial Superior:
Very Rev. Thomas D. Picton, C.Ss.R.

Seelos Center Executive Director / Editor:
Rev. Byron Miller, C.Ss.R.

Seelos Center Administrator: Joyce Bourgeois

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

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Subscription is \$9 per year.

TESTIMONIALS

Denver, CO

My daughter suffered brain trauma in August. I visited her at a Nashville, TN hospital. She was not making much progress on the stroke-like symptoms of her right arm and in particular to her hand and fingers. I took the Seelos relic with me and I placed it in the palm of her distorted hand, told her about Bl. Seelos and prayed silently for his intercession. The next day she had noticeable movement in that arm at least. I left it at that coming back to Denver. The following week she was moved to a rehabilitation center for neurological patients in Kentucky. A week later she was able to at least make a fist with her right hand, but the fingers "were not cooperating" she said. Another week and she was slightly able to move her fingers. She said the hospital staff calls her a miracle because of the bad shape she was in when admitted and how she has progressed so fast. She tells them about the Blessed Seelos relic I brought to her. So God has the credit through Seelos!

Новна, LA

Praise the Lord that the Seelos Center is up & running after Hurricane Katrina. Father Seelos is such a special friend. I always keep a 3rd class relic in my car pinned to the sun visor with the understanding that Father Seelos will guide me as needed. Several years ago, I hit a pothole in the highway. I lost control of my steering and flipped the car several times, landing about a foot from a concrete culvert. Had I hit the culvert I surely would have been talking to St. Peter. The top of the car was smashed in and I had to crawl out through a window. Before I crawled out of the car I looked down and Father Seelos' 3rd class relic was in my lap. Standing on the side of the highway after the crash a man came to my aid. Not knowing I was involved in the accident he said, "Surely whoever is in that car is dead." Half in shock I replied, "No. We are alive and well, thanks." I will never forget those words. I know Father Seelos was with me every minute of the way.

PLEASE VISIT OUR WWW.SEELOS.ORG WEBSITE!

Baton Rouge, LA

I needed desperately to sell my house. The financial burden was becoming unbearable. After six months of unsuccessful showings with a real estate agent, I decided to sell it myself. I took over that responsibility on June 1 and prayed to Blessed Seelos that I would have the closing by August 31. I received a buyer and the closing was actually scheduled for August 31. Due to Hurricane Katrina, it was postponed until September 13; my request was granted through prayer all the same! This may not be considered a miracle, but it was for me!

**Available in time
for Christmas!**

CHERUB MARBLE PAPERWEIGHTS

Made from 100% natural marble. Feel the quality! "Old World" look depicting "Praying Cherub" and "Pious Cherub" from St. Mary's Assumption Church High Altar, New Orleans. Each approx. 4" x 4". \$26.00 (includes p/h).



CHERUB CARDS BOXED SET

Detail of St. Mary's Assumption Church High Altar. Gift-boxed set of 20 cards/envelopes. Each card measures 5-1/2" x 4-1/4"; blank on inside; scripture verse on back. \$10.00 (includes p/h).



(1) 24-pg. "People Ask His Prayers" \$2 (includes p/h)	(2) 27-pg. "The Blessed Immigrant" \$2 (includes p/h)	(3) 24-pg. "Bl. Francis X. Seelos, Redemptorist" \$2 (includes p/h)	(4) 36-pg. "Meet Bl. Francis Seelos" \$2 (includes p/h)	(5) 48-page Guided Retreat with Bl. Francis Seelos \$5 (includes p/h)	(6) 32-page sturdy cover Seelos Novena \$3 (includes p/h)

I've moved!

Please delete me from your mailing list.

Please delete multiple mailings to this address.

Please return in the enclosed envelope with any corrections or CALL 504-525-2495. Allow a minimum of 30 days to process your request.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____

STATE _____ ZIP _____