



VOLUME 59

SEELOS CENTER NEWS

JANUARY 2020

from the National Shrine of Blessed Francis Xavier Seelos, C.Ss.R.

Dear Friends of Fr. Seelos,

One day, a friend commented to his buddy: "You don't wear glasses!" "No," replied his friend, "I have 20/20 vision." 20/20 vision is a common way of saying that the individual has very wonderful eyesight.

This January, we have entered the year 2020. It may take a bit of time to remember to write the correct year on our checks, but the year has begun nonetheless. My wish to you is that it won't just be a number marking time but that you will have 20/20 vision in the new year of 2020. A vision that will enable you to see God in every moment of your day.



*"Strive to see
the will of God
in everything."*

This seems to have been the kind of vision that Blessed Seelos had. He was never one to scheme or plan things for his own benefit. Rather, he simply approached life with a vision that allowed him to see the will of God in everything that happened, both the good things and the bad. And he embraced that will of God for him in all the circumstances that made up the details of his life. It is this approach to life that makes him saintly.



Fr. Richard Boever, C.Ss.R.

Director, National Shrine of Blessed Francis Xavier Seelos, C.Ss.R.

HEALING MASS

January 12, 2020



**Come celebrate the Sacraments
of Penance and Anointing at a
Healing Mass in commemoration
of the birthday of Blessed Seelos.**

Sunday, January 12

St. Mary's Assumption

Confessions 12:00 pm

Mass 1:00 pm

We are pleased to welcome as our featured celebrant and homilist, **Fr. Francis Gargani, C.Ss.R.** from Washington, DC. Fr. Gargani is part of "The



Mission Team" which hosts parish mission retreats centered on peace and social justice and the spirituality of hospitality and inclusiveness. He was honored in June 2019 with the OneSpirit Learning Alliance's Service to Humanity Award.

RECENT EVENTS AT THE SHRINE

SEELOS BENEFIT BUFFET & CONCERT



OCTOBER 2019 HEALING MASS



The curious case of Carson Coyle: an update from the desk of Fr. Enderle

The Lord has blessed us with many visitors and inquiries at the Seelos Center since the November 14 airing of the **Carson Joseph Coyle** story on WWL-TV (local CBS affiliate), hosted and edited by the gracious and talented **Karen Swensen**.

The story highlighted the sudden recovery of Carson, now about one-year-old, who had suffered very serious brain damage during his difficult birthing process. One of our faithful Seelos Blessers, **Dennis Waldron**, went to the hospital, prayed over the infant Carson, and blessed him with the Seelos relic cross. Shortly afterwards there followed Carson's medically unexplainable return to health. Today, the toddler gives every evidence of seemingly normal growth and health.

As Vice-postulator of the Seelos Cause, **Fr. Gil Enderle** is currently in possession of volumes of pertinent medical records which he has the privilege of carefully examining.



Fr. Rich, The Coyle Family, Fr. Gil and Karen Swensen

Carson's parents have also assured Fr. Gil that they will be available to be interviewed in order to supply other necessary details.

As you, devotees of Blessed Francis Seelos, may imagine, we are bound by some very strict guidelines provided by Vatican authorities regarding the canonization

process. Please continue your own prayer for the guidance of the Holy Spirit throughout the required steps. Together we pray that this "Case of Carson Coyle" may perhaps bring us to the day of the declaration of sainthood of Blessed Francis Xavier Seelos, C.Ss.R.

Blessings for the Sick

Hospital visits with a Seelos Crucifix



Requests for a blessing are available in the following areas. Only a family member may make the request.

EAST JEFFERSON

Gerry Heigle (504) 482-4404
Anne Batt (504) 458-0310
Norris Plaisance (504) 235-1961

OCHSNER (KENNER)

Linda DiMaggio (504) 287-8732

OCHSNER (JEFFERSON)

Mark / Monica Surprenant (504) 895-5371
Norris Plaisance (504) 235-1961

UPTOWN / INNERCITY

Dennis Waldron (504) 442-6336

WESTBANK

Elaine Freeman (504) 341-2213
Mary Grace Orsag (504) 367-7515

ABBEVILLE / ERATH / LAFAYETTE

Boniface "Boni" Suire (337) 937-5675

ALEXANDRIA

Deacon Bill / Joan Travis (318) 664-7069

BALDWIN / FRANKLIN

Patti Ibert (337) 828-0141

BATON ROUGE

Gloria Bacqué (225) 753-3800

COVINGTON

April Mayo (985) 892-1828

DENHAM SPRINGS

Kathy Newcomb (225) 978-9284

IOTA

Anne Ritter (337) 254-8451

LAKE CHARLES

Lisa Verrette (337) 274-4810

MANDEVILLE

David Brumfield (985) 234-9355
Lisa and Eric Johnsen (985) 276-4445

NEW IBERIA / ABBEVILLE / JEANERETTE

Rachel Gonsoulin (337) 224-7855

OPELOUSAS

Suzanne Pitre (337) 351-8489

PONCHATOULA / HAMMOND

Gasper Corpora (225) 294-5938

PRAIRIEVILLE / GONZALES

Deacon Claude Bourgeois (225) 337-0945

SHREVEPORT / BOSSIER CITY

Tom and Marjorie Rivers (318) 797-3116

SLIDELL

Billy Bachemin (985) 288-7006

ST. BERNARD / ARABI

Patricia Noote (504) 460-2340

KATY, TEXAS

Lauren Johnson (218) 851-1321
Donna Johnson (713) 826-4191

GRACES RECEIVED & PRAYERS ANSWERED

GRAND RAPIDS, MI

I think a miracle happened when my son, Scott, recovered from a very serious brain injury. He was brutally beaten and left for dead after a home invasion and robbery. When he didn't show up for work, we went to his house and found him on the bathroom floor barely breathing. There was blood all over the living room and bathroom. We called 911 and he was placed in ICU with 5 skull fractures, bleeding on the brain, several facial fractures, a broken hand and multiple bruises. He was critical for days, as he developed blood clots and pneumonia which sent him back to ICU for a week.

Scott was anointed by a priest. We continued to pray for Scott and asked everyone we knew to pray for him. Our pastor brought us a Blessed Seelos prayer card. We prayed and prayed to him for a miracle. We feel that our prayers were answered as Scott started to come out of his drugged coma and began talking. Over the next 3 months, he went from the hospital to rehab and then home, and was able to go back to work part time.

We thank God, our parish priest, family and friends who prayed for Scott's recovery. We feel that Blessed Seelos truly interceded and gave us a miracle.

METAIRIE, LA

After a routine check-up with my physician, my lab work showed one elevated liver enzyme. A MRI showed 9-10 lesions in the liver, two lesions in the lung and a mass in the pancreas. A biopsy of one of the liver lesions confirmed a diagnosis of Stage 4 Metastatic Carcinoma. The prognosis was dismal. If left untreated, I would have 6 weeks to 3 months to live. I started chemotherapy the next day.

The details of my diagnosis spread quickly. We experienced an outpouring of prayers and support. I was given a first class relic of Blessed Seelos which I put against my chest and near my heart. Through this journey I have learned much about Blessed

Seelos and his wonderful life. We visited the Seelos Center, received a blessing, and attended a Healing Mass. Every day during prayer, I think of Blessed Seelos. I feel that he has been instrumental in helping me through his journey.

My spiritual growth has helped me while going through medical treatment. After 8 rounds of chemo, a scan showed I was in complete remission! No active cancer cells were seen in my body. It is medically unheard of to have these results. We praise God and thank Blessed Seelos for his intercession and all those who prayed for me.



Share Your Testimonial! Click, Mail or Visit

Your words offer encouragement to others in need of Seelos' intercession.

www.seelos.org - 919 Josephine St., New Orleans, LA 70130

SHRINE, MUSEUM & WELCOME CENTER HOURS

Monday-Friday 9am-3pm & Saturday 10am-3:30pm



Volunteers Needed



Calling all Seelos devotees! **We have an urgent need for volunteers to work in the Welcome Center and Gift Shop on Saturdays.**

No experience is necessary, but volunteers should be able to greet guests at the front door, stock small items, and check out customers at the register.

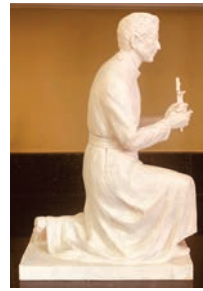
To volunteer, please call (504) 525-2495.



HOT IN THE SHOP – NEW ITEMS!



**BEAUTIFUL 2ND CLASS BLACKWOOD & PEARL RELIC ROSARIES
STRETCH PEARL RING • NIGHT LIGHTS • KNEELING SEELOS STATUE**



Other popular items include pieces handcrafted by New Orleans artists such as **Heidi Groat's Heaven Sent jewelry, prayer candles, rosaries, rosary boxes and crucifixes**, and **Marina Reed's watercolors on miniature canvases, blank note cards, or matted and ready for framing.** In addition, our **newly expanded children's gifts** include jewelry, colorful rosaries, bibles and books.



We're on Facebook! facebook.com/SeelosShrine

Stay up-to-date on Shrine events, Blessed Seelos' canonization status, volunteer and service hours opportunities, Gift Shop sales and more!

SUPPORT THE MISSION OF THE SHRINE



LIGHT A CANDLE: A vigil candle will burn near Seelos' sacred resting place for an offering of \$3.



REQUEST A RELIC: 3rd Class Relics are available in either laminated prayer cards or as a crocheted memento for an offering of \$2.50 each.



SHOP ONLINE: Many items in the Gift Shop are now available for purchase at www.seelos.org/gift-shop. Visit today!

VISIT SEELOS.ORG OR CALL (504) 525-2495 TO ORDER

DONATION & CONTACT INFORMATION FORM

I would like to support the Seelos cause by donating \$_____ to be used for:

- The ministry and maintenance of the Shrine
- My 1-year newsletter subscription renewal (\$12)
- Other items: _____

Make checks payable to "National Shrine of Blessed Francis Seelos".

Please remove change my name and address as follows:

Name: _____

Address: _____

A Friendly Reminder

Newsletter Renewal Donation



If you would like to continue to receive "Seelos Center News" and have not submitted your yearly renewal, please fill out this form and mail it and a \$12 donation in the enclosed envelope. Your contribution is tax deductible and helps to defray the cost of printing.

If you would like to remove or change an address, please fill out and mail this form or call (504) 525-2495.

Please allow a minimum of 30 days to process your request.

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Seelos Center Administrators: Jan Brown, Dawn Dawson, Maureen Vicknair
Denver Provincial Superior: Very Rev. Stephen Rehrauer, C.Ss.R.

The National Shrine of Blessed Francis Xavier Seelos, C.Ss.R. is a member of the National Association of Shrine and Pilgrimage Apostolate