



VOLUME 77

SEELOS CENTER NEWS

JULY 2021

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

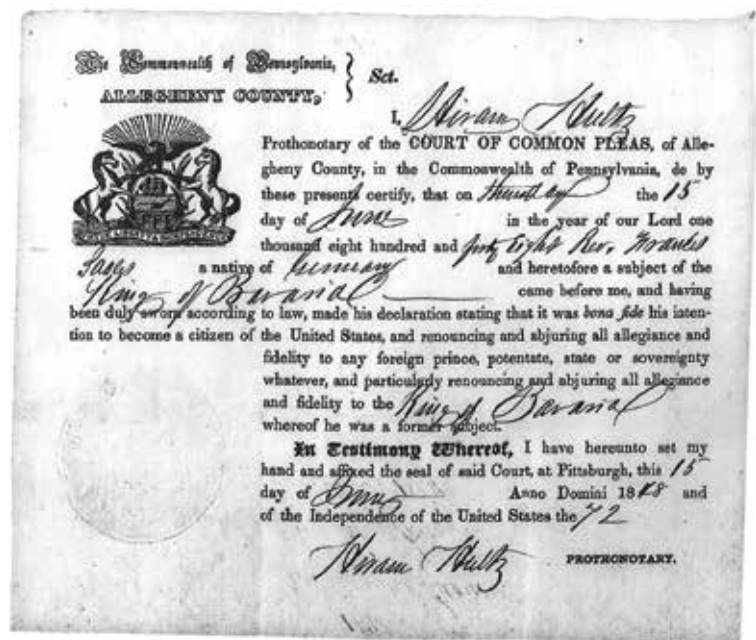
Dear Devotees of Blessed Seelos,

A rather famous song sings “Roll out those lazy, hazy, crazy days of summer...” July is certainly summer. Many will celebrate the days with fireworks, remembering Independence. In the United States, we celebrate that holiday on July 4; in Canada, the day is celebrated on July 1. We remember our great inheritance of our democracy.

Blessed Seelos arrived in the United States on April 20, 1843, and never returned to Europe. He became a citizen of the United States on May 15, 1848, and all his ministry took place within the realities of the country. One such example took place on August 21, 1863. He and the seminarians were of that age when men were being drafted for the army to fight in the Civil War. He wrote to his sister in Bavaria: “I decided then, with permission of the provincial, to go to Washington with another father and to present personally to the president and other officials our situation. President Abraham Lincoln was very friendly and promised to do everything in his power (to help us) ... and that we should come again after the conflict was ended and he would give us a private audience.” They couldn’t, of course, respond to this invitation because Lincoln was assassinated, but neither Seelos nor any of the thirty-six students were drafted.

Theologically, patriotism is listed as a virtue under the general heading of “justice”. In justice, we are called upon to give to another what is his or her due. In patriotism, we are reminded that this also applies to our civil society by paying respect to elected

officials, observing laws, paying taxes, and in short, when we celebrate by being a good citizen. This month when we celebrate our national holidays, let us remember not just to party but to rededicate ourselves to our duties as citizens.



The United States naturalization petition of Fr. Seelos



Fr. Richard Boever, C.Ss.R.

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

Fr. Richard Boever, C.Ss.R.



The City of Rothenburg



Walk in the Footsteps of Blessed Seelos

Join Fr. Rich for a tour of Bavaria ~ September 6 - 16, 2022

A BRIEF ITINERARY

Day 1: Travel to Frankfurt, Germany to begin our pilgrimage.

Day 2: Travel down the Rhine Valley to Heidelberg.

Day 3: On to one of Switzerland's prettiest cities, Lucern.

Day 4: Enter into Bavaria. Travel to Füssen to see the places of Blessed Seelos' childhood including the cloister of St. Mang's featuring the oldest wall paintings in Bavaria.

Day 5: Head to the Alps and the castle of Neuschwanstein.

Day 6: On to Oberammergau for the Passion Play, set against the backdrop of the Alpine Mountains.

Day 7-8: Head to Salzburg, the city famous for The Sound of Music and Mozart's birthplace. Enjoy a tour of the city, visiting famous places including the Old Market.

Day 9: Travel back to Germany, stopping at Altötting and a number of pilgrimage shrines, and then on to Munich.

Day 10: Journey down the Romantic Road, stopping in Augsburg and Rothenburg before continuing to Frankfurt.



A scene from the Oberammergau Passion Play



The City of Salzburg



Download the complete itinerary
at seelos.org/alpine-pilgrimage



To learn more, call (504) 525-2495
or visit seelos.org/alpine-pilgrimage



The Seelos pilgrimage brochure urges participants to register before July 31, 2021 because tickets for the Passion Play are in great demand. You may register for the trip after the suggested date but the best seats will be made available on a first-come, first-served basis and our travel agent can't guarantee the best seats after that date.

Blessings for the Sick

Hospital visits with a Seelos Crucifix

(Only family members may request)

JEFFERSON / ORLEANS

EAST JEFFERSON GENERAL HOSPITAL

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

OCHSNER (KENNER)

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Wendy Whittaker (504) 722-0089

OCHSNER (JEFFERSON)

Mark / Monica Surprenant (504) 895-5371
Norris Plaisance (504) 235-1961
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Mary Grace Orsag (504) 367-7515
Tori Winters (504) 237-2962

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Mary Ann Reddoch (318) 277-0545

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Suzanne Pitre (337) 351-8489

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Gasper Corpora (225) 294-5938

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Deacon Claude Bourgeois (225) 337-0945

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SLIDELL

Billy Bachemin (985) 288-7006

ST. BERNARD / ARABI

Patricia Noote (504) 460-2340

OUTSIDE OF LOUISIANA

KATY, TEXAS

Lauren Johnson (281) 851-1321
Donna Johnson (713) 826-4191

GRACES RECEIVED & PRAYERS ANSWERED

GOLDEN, CO

My brother was in ICU due to an infection from surgery that resulted in sepsis. He had several complications and developed acute respiratory distress syndrome and had to be intubated. His wife, children and siblings were with him every day praying to Blessed Seelos. We placed a Seelos relic in the wrappings that covered his arm. After a lengthy stay

in the hospital, he was sent home with antibiotic treatment as he waited for an infection to pass so he could have his final surgery. Once cleared for surgery, his surgeon told him he could not believe that he had made it through his ordeal and was alive. He was truly blessed by Father Seelos.

HOUSTON, TX

I prayed to Fr. Seelos that the enlarged lymph nodes that were found under my daughter's arm would go away. After a second exam several weeks later the

doctor reported there was no sign of the swelling of the lymph nodes that was originally detected. Thank you so much, Fr. Seelos and Jesus Christ!

CINCINNATI, OH

For the past year, I have been praying to Blessed Francis Seelos for the healing of my mother-in-law who is battling stage IV breast cancer. Last week she received

the news that her scans are clear. It is a miracle, and we are grateful to Blessed Seelos and God.

From the desk of Fr. Enderle: The Grant Rechen story

On February 19, 2021, Edward and Paula Rechen came to the Shrine with their 14-year-old son, Grant, from Luling, Louisiana. Grant had been diagnosed with Galen Malformation, a rare blood vessel abnormality of misshapen arteries which connect directly with veins instead of connecting, as is normal, with capillaries. The capillaries help slow blood activity within the brain. With this condition, there results a rush of high-pressure blood into the veins.

When the Rechen family arrived, they met with me for over an hour. They explained that Grant had already undergone 16 surgeries and had suffered two small strokes. I led the

family in prayer with a first-class relic of Blessed Seelos. I also blessed Grant and his family with the mission cross which Father Seelos carried in his ministry through the U.S. Our prayer was for a successful result in Grant's upcoming surgery to be performed by specialists in New York City.

Two weeks later, Grant was due to have his delicate brain surgery. On the day of the surgery, a phone call to the Shrine informed us that **the surgery team had assembled for Grant's surgery and discovered, to their amazement, that there was no need for surgery. There was no longer any evidence of the vein disorder.** Praise God and Blessed Seelos!

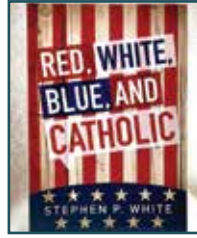
HOT IN THE SHOP ~ REMEMBERING INDEPENDENCE

Visit SEELOS.org to view all of the items available for sale in the Gift Shop.



SEELOS REDWOOD ROSARY – \$22

Rosary of redwood beads featuring an image of Seelos and a silver crucifix.



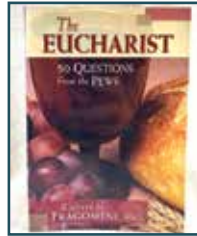
“RED, WHITE, BLUE, AND CATHOLIC” BOOK – \$13.50

This book is a Catholic guide to faithful citizenship for every day of the year – not just Election Day.



SEELOS CRYSTAL ROSARY – \$16

Rosary of iridescent crystal beads featuring an image of Seelos and a silver crucifix.



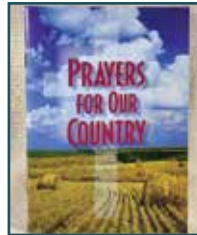
“THE EUCHARIST (50 QUESTIONS FROM THE PEWS)” BOOK – \$15

Designed to bring a better understanding of the Eucharist and the rituals involved in Mass, devotion, and prayer, this book helps the reader participate more fully and richly in the Eucharist.



SEELOS BLUE ROSARY – \$16

Rosary of iridescent blue beads featuring an image of Seelos and a silver crucifix.



“PRAYERS FOR OUR COUNTRY” BOOKLET – \$6

Prayers during times of tragedy, war and peace.

Quantities are limited. Prices listed above **include** shipping / handling. Prices online and in the Welcome Center Gift Shop may vary.

SUPPORT THE MISSION OF THE SHRINE



LIGHT A CANDLE: A vigil candle will burn near Seelos’ sacred resting place for an offering of \$3-\$4. Please visit SEELOS.org/light-a-votive-candle.



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. 2nd Class Relics are available in small envelopes for an offering of \$2.50 each.



SHOP ONLINE: Items in the Gift Shop are available at SEELOS.org/gift-shop.

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

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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: _____

Make checks payable to “National Shrine of Blessed Francis Seelos”.

Please remove change my name and address as follows:

Name: _____

Address: _____