



# Celebrate Blessed Seelos' birthday with Birthday Blessings

VOLUME 95

## SEELOS CENTER NEWS

JANUARY 2023

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

Dear Devotees of Blessed Seelos,

It's a New Year—2023! May it be a time of special blessing for all of you.

Funny thing! January 1 is actually just another date on our calendar but it takes on special meaning because of the significance we give to the day. It's a time for beginnings. We make resolutions for our personal improvement or to dedicate ourselves to a special cause. Even though people joke about how often these resolutions are broken, it's not a bad idea to think about them.

*January 1 can be a day to examine our conscience  
and to look at realities in our lives that would be good  
to change. We need only the wisdom of insight  
and the fortitude to stick with our decisions.*

This month, we also celebrate the birthday of Blessed Francis Xavier Seelos. He is certainly one who must have kept his new year's resolutions! This year, we celebrate his birthday with a campaign beginning on his big day—January 11. Those who contribute \$11 between January 11 and March 11, 2023 will enroll themselves or a loved one in our Seelos Mass League for a year. And, of course, this month don't forget our Seelos Healing Mass. We will be gathering on January 15 at 1:00 pm CT at St. Mary's Assumption Church for our prayer service. Don't forget to put that date on your calendars.

It's a good thing to celebrate a new year. May you be greatly blessed in the year ahead through the powerful intercession of Blessed Francis Xavier Seelos.



Fr. Richard Boever, C.Ss.R.  
*Director, National Shrine of Blessed  
Francis Xavier Seelos, C.Ss.R.*

*Fr. Richard Boever, C.Ss.R.*

### JOIN US!



## SEELOS HEALING MASS

Sunday, January 15, 1:00 pm CT  
St. Mary's Assumption Church  
and on Facebook Live



★ To learn how you can  
volunteer for a Seelos Healing  
Mass, call (504) 525-2495. ★

Celebrate Blessed Seelos' birthday with

# Birthday Blessings

January 11 - March 11, 2023

To honor the birth of Blessed Seelos on January 11, 1819, we are excited to announce our "Birthday Blessings" giving campaign. When you make an \$11 offering commemorating the day of Seelos' birth, you'll be blessing the Shrine with much-needed support. You will also receive a "Blessings For You" card with blanks to fill out and send to a loved one in need of Seelos' intercession. This card blesses the recipient with enrollment in the Seelos Mass League for one year.

*"Fr. Seelos was a gift to many people and he continues to comfort and intercede from above. Offering a Birthday Blessing to both the Shrine and to a loved one is a wonderful opportunity to spread his message of faith and hope to others." – Fr. Rich*



To offer your blessings  
and receive a Seelos Mass  
League enrollment card, please  
call (504) 525-2495 or visit  
[seelos.org/birthday-blessings](http://seelos.org/birthday-blessings).

If you wish to make an offering of an  
amount other than \$11 or to add the  
Seelos Shrine to your estate plans, please  
visit [seelos.org](http://seelos.org) for more information.

*Thank you for your support!*



## 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)

Linda DiMaggio (504) 287-8732  
Wendy Whittaker (504) 722-0089

#### OCHSNER (JEFFERSON)

Mark / Monica Surprenant (504) 895-5371  
Norris Plaisance (504) 235-1961  
Marie Giorlando (504) 568-0522

### UPTOWN / ORLEANS PARISH

Dennis Waldron (504) 442-6336

### CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL

Dennis Waldron (504) 442-6336

### WESTBANK

Elaine Freeman (504) 341-2213  
Mary Grace Orsag (504) 367-7515  
Tori Winters (504) 237-2962

### LOUISIANA

#### ABBEVILLE / ERATH / LAFAYETTE

Boniface "Boni" Suire (337) 937-5675

#### ALEXANDRIA

Deacon Bill / Joan Travis (318) 664-7069  
Mary Ann Reddoch (318) 277-0545

#### BALDWIN / FRANKLIN

Patti Ibert (337) 828-0141

#### BATON ROUGE

Gloria Bacqué (225) 753-3800

#### COVINGTON

Dr. Ann Logarbo (985) 886-0218

#### HOUMA / THIBODAUX

Debbie Badeaux (985) 438-4096  
Margo Battaglia Clement (985) 637-6056  
Deacon Rod Fonseca (504) 320-7450  
Sheila Fonseca (504) 320-9807

#### IOTA

Anne Ritter (337) 254-8451

#### LAKE CHARLES

Lisa Verrette (337) 274-4810

#### LULING & SURROUNDING AREA

David Fauchaux (504) 908-4120

#### MANDEVILLE

David Brumfield (985) 234-9355  
Lisa and Eric Johnsen (985) 640-1677  
Kathy Newcomb (225) 978-9284

#### NEW IBERIA / ABBEVILLE / JEANERETTE

Rachel Gonsoulin (337) 224-7855

#### OPELOUSAS

Suzanne Pitre (337) 351-8489

#### PRAIRIEVILLE / GONZALES

Deacon Claude Bourgeois (225) 337-0945

#### SHREVEPORT / BOSSIER CITY

Tom and Marjorie Rivers (318) 797-3116

### OUTSIDE OF LOUISIANA

#### KATY, TEXAS

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

## GRACES RECEIVED & PRAYERS ANSWERED

### SPANISH FORT, AL

I prayed for a successful rotator cuff repair. The recovery has been quick and I am responding well to the therapies with minimal discomfort or pain medication. The swelling and bruising have rapidly disappeared. I asked Fr. Seelos to quicken the imagery in my

mind how this relates to the power of grace conferred during Mass and Holy Communion. Certainly, Jesus desires to restore every area of my life's connectivity to Him. I am grateful for prayers to aid my recovery. More than a simple shoulder is being restored. Amen!

### PINE GROVE, LA

My daughter Josey Angelica was 10 months old when diagnosed with an ultra-rare kidney disease called Atypical Hemolytic Uremic Syndrome. She was rushed in an air ambulance to Children's Hospital in New Orleans and we were told her medication would likely be lifelong and that in most cases, her diagnosis is genetic. While in the hospital, our parish priest visited with some prayer cards, one of which was Blessed Seelos. After our discharge, we had to make regular visits to New Orleans for blood work. During one of our visits, I found St. Mary's Assumption close by, not even realizing that it was the Shrine of Blessed Seelos. We began visiting often and had several people pray over my sweet daughter. She has now been off her medication for almost a year and no genetic abnormalities have been found! She is a thriving, healthy, happy two year old.

There were more "coincidences" that I believe are signs from the Lord that Blessed Seelos has been interceding for us for longer than I even knew. He and my mother share a birthday, and he passed away on my birthday. He requested to be buried under the beautiful Mater Dolorosa statue – we are parishioners of Mater Dolorosa in Independence, LA. My childhood parish was St. Alphonsus Liguori, who founded the Redemptorists. To top all of this off, my mother recently sent me a picture she had taped in her laundry room cabinet. She would look at it and pray for me when I was away from the church – it was a picture of me kissing a relic of Bl. Seelos when I was a young child. Thank you for your intercession, Blessed Seelos! We feel your love and prayers!



### Submit Your Testimonial Online!

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

[www.SEELOS.org/submit-a-healing-or-favor](http://www.SEELOS.org/submit-a-healing-or-favor)

### SHRINE, MUSEUM & WELCOME CENTER HOURS

Monday-Saturday 10am-2pm | Please see SEELOS.org for visiting guidelines.

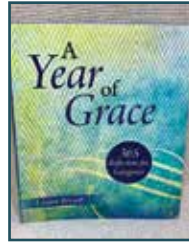


## A Moment of Reflection with Blessed Seelos



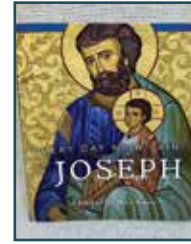
“Before all else, Happy New Year! – that we may gather many treasures for eternal life during it, treasures of daily self-denial, treasures in the way of the cross and in the following of Christ, treasures of prayer and the holy sacraments. We Catholics would be immeasurably rich if we only knew how to use our riches properly.” – *Blessed Seelos*

## HOT IN THE SHOP



**“A YEAR OF GRACE:  
365 REFLECTIONS  
FOR CAREGIVERS”  
BOOK – \$22**

*This 384-page paperback offers daily respite for the weary caregiver, a chance to recharge and refresh the mind and spirit, and to look anew, with gratitude and hope, at the value of every human life. Each brief daily reflection includes a Scripture reading or quote, and a reflection for the day.*



**“EVERY DAY WITH  
SAINT JOSEPH”  
BOOK – \$24**

*This daily devotional is divided into twelve months, with each month highlighting a spiritual gift St. Joseph exhibited as the husband of Mary and the foster father of Jesus. Begin each day with Scripture, a brief reflection, a question to consider, and a short prayer to St. Joseph to carry through your day.*



**SEELOS GARDEN  
FLAG – \$16**

*This 12” x 17” white flag is made of outdoor-grade fabric and features an image of Blessed Seelos. Stake not included.*



**GOLD-TONED  
SEELOS MEDAL  
NECKLACE – \$29**

*This 16” adjustable necklace features tiny gold-toned beads and a gold-toned Seelos medal.*

*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](http://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](http://SEELOS.org/gift-shop).

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



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

## 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: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_