HAPPY NEW YEAR & HAPPY BIRTHDAY, BL. SEELOS:

Dear Father Seelos,

Happy 198th birthday! And this year we will celebrate your 150th anniversary of your entering into eternal life.

I just want to thank you for so many things in your long life.

Thank you for your faithfulness during your earthly life. For all the caring you did as a Redemptorist priest.

Thank you for the care and concern for the Redemptorist students whom you watched over as prefect of students. Watch over our students today.

Thank you for the pastoral care you gave so many in Pittsburgh, Baltimore, Cumberland and Annapolis. Help us Redemptorists today to care for the poor and abandoned.

Thank you for the many, many people you led back to Jesus through your preaching and especially through your work in the confessional. Help confessors today to show that same gentleness with sinners, great and small.

Thank you for your ministry in New Orleans where you gave the ultimate in service during the Yellow Fever epidemic of 1867.

Thank you for your continuing presence here at your shrine in New Orleans. You continue to touch so many with peace, with help, with cures. I know they thank you over and over again. I just want to thank you in their behalf in a public way.

Continue to watch over all who come to the shrine and all who invoke your intercession. Remember the young man suffering from cancer and the little boy who is also battling cancer. Remember the mother with her daughter in the wheelchair. And so many more.

Thank you, Father Seelos. Pray for us.

Sincerely, in the Redeemer,
Fr. Harry Grile, C.Ss.R.

Special Healing Mass with Sacrament of Anointing to Commemorate the 198th Birthday of Father Seelos
SUNDAY, January 8, 2017 - 1:00 p.m.
St. Mary’s Assumption Church
Corner of Josephine & Constance, New Orleans
We have been sharing the content of letters Seelos wrote to his family back in Germany, of his missionary experiences and again we share from a long letter to his mother and family. Seelos writes:

“A short time ago, an English mission was given in Philadelphia in the cathedral of Redemptorist Bishop (Saint) John Neumann. There were nearly as many people outside, listening through the open windows, as were inside. There were wonders of conversion of people who formerly retained only the name of Catholic, but otherwise were more heathen than Catholic. The Reverend Bishop himself wrote me the following about it:”

‘For twelve days we had an indescribable crowd in the cathedral chapel for those exercises and although seven priests were constantly hearing confession and were busy in the pulpit, still after 4,000 confessions had been heard, nearly an equal number had to go away unheard. The good results of these missions made such an impression on the priests and the laity that I have been asked again for missions from all sides, etc. and etc.’

“A young father, who was on this mission, wrote me about the most wonderful things that happened during it. Among others, there was a person who had completely renounced the Catholic faith and felt a fierce anger against God, to such a degree that she wanted to sin merely to offend God and to be able to spite him; and many things much worse. This person, however, was so broken up on hearing the sermons that she could hardly go to confession because of her sobbing, and the confessor really began to be afraid that she would choke and die in the confessional.”

Blessed Francis Xavier Seelos intercede for us always, Brother Leo Patin, C.Ss.R

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“The best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the service of others.”

-Mahatma Gandhi
Fr. Seelos has always been very special in our family. My parents told us of him when they lived in Annapolis and shared his story way back in the 70’s. I was fortunate to obtain a First Class Relic many years ago and I carry it with me always. The way Fr. Festus flinched when he was blessed with the relic is what made me believe it was Fr. Seelos that intervened to help a brother priest to be able to minister for a longer time here on this earth. Thank you, Blessed Seelos...

I am so grateful to Blessed Seelos! I have been having chronic pain secondary to cervical and lumbar stenosis. Also, grieving my mother who died five years ago, my energy level had been seriously low such that doing housework without resting at 15 minute intervals had become impossible. After spending some time at the National Shrine of Blessed Francis Xavier Seelos volunteering where needed, I began to feel better immediately...the depression instantly lifted. When I went home after closing, I began the housework needed and after two hours realized I didn’t need to stop for a rest or for pain relief. Thank you Blessed Seelos.

Thank you, Blessed Seelos, for the healing of my eyes! What more can I say?

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On a recent visit to the Seelos shrine with several people from the Legion of Mary, we came for prayer and seeking healing. The blesser at the shrine asked each of us for our petitions. Mine was for relief from back pain.

Once he started the prayer, he mentioned several other intentions that were personal to me but had not been spoken aloud. I felt a warmth suffuse my neck and upper body during the prayer and was hopeful that the back pain would soon be gone. My pain began in my lower back and radiated down my left leg making it very difficult to make it through a workday. Just driving to and from work was also very painful.

Several times during the week after the prayer session, I asked that Blessed Seelos intercede on my behalf for the relief of the pain. I also thought about the other prayers that asked for us to be delivered from anxiety, depression, etc. I have been struggling with depression since the age of five and no one would necessarily have known because I am the “class clown” everywhere I go. Just hearing that someone who is close to God could see my private pain has made a difference in my life and I am ready to write the book of my life and let that pain go.

A week later, on October 16th, I woke with no pain in my back. I was not sure that the

Thank you Blessed Seelos for your intercession. In September, an MRI showed I had two tumors on my right kidney. Two doctors thought I needed to have either the tumors or kidney removed. My husband and I made a trip from Friendswood, Texas, to visit the Blessed Seelos shrine. We were there three days and were prayed over with the crucifix containing the Seelos relic. When we came back home, I made an appointment with a specialist. She found that the tumors were benign! Thank you Blessed Seelos!
Deer Director: In my own way, I want to support the cause of Blessed Francis Seelos in gratitude for Graces Received & Prayers Answered. $_________ to be used for:

- [ ] the ministry & maintenance at the National Seelos Shrine.
- [ ] my 1-year newsletter subscription renewal ($12)
- [ ] I can’t contribute this time, but please keep me on the list
- [ ] other item(s) designated below:

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