



Seelos *and* Sanctity

SECOND CLASS POSTAGE
PAID AT NEW ORLEANS, LA.

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SEELOS CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION DECEMBER 10

by Father Vaughn

I couldn't begin to count the number of times in the past several months that people have come to me and said, "Father, I was at the Mass when you transferred Father Seelos' remains."

I know that for those who were present on that day they had a spiritual experience which has rarely been duplicated. No one could quite tell you what it was, but indeed something happened within the emotional structure of every individual who was present. Somehow they felt close to God through the presence of the mortal remains of one of His servants.

If God so wishes we hope and trust that this spiritual experience will be duplicated on December 10, 1967 when we celebrate the centennial year of the death of the Servant of God, Francis X. Seelos, C. SS. R.

One hundred years ago Father Seelos left this earth for his eternal reward. It is the conviction of many people that he is a saint in heaven. This celebration represents a gathering of those people to celebrate the 100 years that Father Seelos has spent in heaven. A solemn Mass celebrated by Archbishop Hannan in St. Alphonsus Church will be televised at 9:30 A. M. over WDSU-TV, Channel 6 on Sunday, December 10. You are urged to attend. We recommend that you plan to be here in person rather than stay home and watch it on TV.

There will be a continuous vigil of prayer during the day.

We ask you to pledge to spend 15 minutes of prayer before the tomb of Father Seelos. Elsewhere in this publication you will find a blank to indicate your intention to do so. Please mail it to us. Blessings with the crucifix of Father Seelos will be given every hour on the hour in St. Alphonsus Church from 12 noon till 8 P. M. This crucifix is the one Father Seelos used when he was living. The sick are blessed with this crucifix every Friday evening in the hospitals in the New Orleans area.

St. Mary's Church will be open FOR THIS ONE DAY ONLY. Please spread the word to those devoted to St. Mary's Church, as you know the church has been closed since hurricane Betsy. To many people in the New Orleans area this church brings back many fond memories of their childhood.

Guides will be present to explain the symbolism of St. Mary's Church and the former tomb of Father Seelos will be opened for viewing, as well as the original coffin in which he was buried in 1867. The story of the life of Father Seelos will be narrated. A film of the TV program concerning Father Seelos which was shown several years ago on WDSU-TV may be viewed several times throughout the day. Everyone who attends this celebration will receive a small piece of wood from the coffin of Father Seelos, which was exhumed from his tomb in St. Mary's Church last April.

When his remains were transferred to the sanctuary of St. Mary's Church in 1902 they were removed from the original metal coffin and placed in a wooden box. When the tomb was opened last April most of the wood had disintegrated, however, there were still some pieces left and small bits of this will be distributed on December 10. You must, however, be present on December 10 in order to receive this.

Larger size pictures of Father Seelos and centennial doubloons will be on sale.

We do hope that all of you will begin now to make plans to attend and to bring your friends with you. We feel sure that it will be well worth your while.

Masses in St. Alphonsus Church on Sunday, Dec. 10 will be at 5:30, 7:00, 8:30, 9:30 and 11:30 A. M. and 5:30 and 7:00 P. M.

Please note that the Mass which is usually celebrated at 10 A. M. on Sundays will be celebrated at 9:30 A. M. on Dec. 10. This is in order to have the Mass televised.

I will try to attend the special Mass in honor of the centennial of Father Seelos at 9:30 A. M., Dec. 10, 1967. This does not oblige me if I am unable to make it.

**ANYONE WISHING FATHER VAUGHN TO VISIT
ANYONE IN A LOCAL HOSPITAL TO BE BLESSED
WITH THE CRUCIFIX THAT ONCE BELONGED TO
FATHER SEELOS, PLEASE PHONE 895-6176.**

COMMEMORATIVE DOUBLOONS

It all began at Mardi Gras several years ago. One of the krewes (that's what a Mardi Gras organization is called) decided to strike a special coin commemorating their parade. Since then these coins (called doubloons) have been issued by almost all major Mardi Gras krewes. They became extremely popular among coin collectors all over the country.

Since we have never made a medal of Father Seelos, we decided to issue a special commemorative series of doubloons honoring the 100th year of his death. They are really quite beautiful and are certain to become collector's items -- especially the sets of five (only 1,000 sets will be issued!) We think you will find them very beautiful. In this set you will find doubloons of oxidized silver, verbronz, copper, aluminum, and 99.9% silver. We request a donation of \$15.00 per set.

We regret to announce that our supply of separate 99.9% silver doubloons is exhausted. The only way you can now obtain a silver doubloon is in the set of five.

However, the aluminum doubloon is available for individual distribution at \$1.00 each.

All proceeds from these special commemorative medallions will be used to defray expenses for research in the publication of a definitive biography of Father Seelos.

The manuscript, written by Rev. Michael Curley, C. SS. R. of Brooklyn, N. Y., will be published next year. This biography will contain all known information concerning Father Seelos.

Better hurry. They are going fast -- especially the sets. Once the supply is exhausted positively no more will be available. Fill in the blank below or phone 525-2495.

Please reserve the following for me.

_____ sets of five Seelos commemorative doubloons
@ \$15.00 per set.

_____ aluminum Seelos commemorative doubloons
@ \$1.00 each.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

PHONE _____

Thanks To Father Seelos For.....

....relief from severe pain in my back and leg after twenty years of suffering. I can't thank Father Seelos enough for the help he has given to me.

....helping me find the right partner in life.

....the return to the church of my husband, who has been ill for twelve years. I am continuing my prayers to him as some of my children do not practice their religion and I have confidence Father Seelos will bring them back.

....the return of my daughter and her children to the church. I am eternally grateful to Father Seelos.

....recovery of a dear friend who suffered a brain hemorrhage. There was little hope that she would recover and have the use of her senses. She is able to lead a normal life now.

....helping my husband overcome a drinking problem. I was at the point of leaving him when he came to me for help. I got him to go to A. A. meetings. He is very active and now is trying to help others.

....the return to the Sacraments of my brother, who had been married outside the church for many years. After the death of his wife and after much coaxing, I managed to get him to see a priest. For the remaining two years of his life he received Holy Communion regularly and at his death was permitted a Catholic burial.

....for giving me the courage to drive my car on the highway, for a vacation trip. In spite of the fact that I have driven for many years, I was never able to overcome my fear of driving on long trips.

....the return of my brother from Viet Nam.

....my grandson attending Catholic school. His mother is a non-Catholic and I feared she would object to sending him to Catholic school.

....the recovery of my mother, who suffered a cerebral hemorrhage while in surgery. After about 12 hours had passed a promoter for the cause of Father Seelos gave us a prayer to him and also a cloth memento, which we promptly pinned on mother. Shortly afterwards she showed signs of improvement and has been steadily getting better.

....recovery of my godchild after the handle bars of her bicycle had penetrated her side. Her recovery was so remarkable it has made medical history.

....saving my nephew's teeth. He had fallen and damaged his two front teeth and there was a possibility of nerve damage. After six weeks the dentist reported it would not be necessary to remove the teeth.

....renting my apartment only nine days after it was vacated.

N.B. These reports of "Thanksgiving" are from the statements of our correspondents. Official judgement of the favors granted can be given only by the proper church authorities.

ADORATION BLANK

I hereby pledge to devote 15 minutes of my time on Dec. 10, 1967 in prayer in St. Alphonsus Church, 2030 Constance St., New Orleans, La. before the tomb of Father Seelos. I will be present at the following time:

(Circle one)

In the morning -

6:15	6:30	6:45
7:45	8:00	8:15
10:45	11:00	11:15

In the afternoon -

12:15	12:30	12:45	
1:00	1:15	1:30	1:45
2:00	2:15	2:30	2:45
3:00	3:15	3:30	3:45
4:00	4:15	4:30	4:45
5:00	5:15	:	
	6:15	6:30	6:45
			7:45
8:00	8:15		

(church closes at 8:30 P. M.)

A PRAYER TO FATHER SEELOS

For your own intentions, and all the petitions placed before the tomb of Father Seelos, let us pause and say -

O, MY GOD, I TRULY BELIEVE YOU ARE PRESENT WITH ME, I ADORE YOUR LIMITLESS PERFECTIONS. I THANK YOU FOR THE GRACES AND GIFTS YOU GAVE TO FATHER SEELOS, IF IT IS YOUR HOLY WILL, PLEASE LET HIM BE DECLARED A SAINT OF THE CHURCH SO THAT OTHERS MAY KNOW AND IMITATE HIS HOLY LIFE. THROUGH HIS PRAYERS PLEASE GIVE ME THIS FAVOR . .