



FATHER SEELOS AND SANCTITY

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NOVICE MASTER - 1857

While he lay sick in bed, suffering from a hemorrhage of the throat, Father Seelos would receive frequent visits from his provincial, Father Ruland. In fact, so great was the attention, he was embarrassed. The provincial, meanwhile, was judiciously assessing the situation.

Before Seelos could get on his feet again, his major superior had come to the conclusion that it was necessary to remove him from the whirlwind of duties at St. Alphonsus. Accordingly, Father Ruland summoned Father Leingruber from Annapolis, just a few miles away, and installed him as rector and pastor of St. Alphonsus. Father Seelos was appointed novice master.

Father Seelos was overjoyed with the change from the administration of a large city parish to the peaceful life of the novitiate in Annapolis. It appealed to the contemplative in his soul. He wrote to one of his confreres, "Oh, happy sickness that required and received such a cure."

The novices were sad to lose Father Leingruber, but they quickly took to Father Seelos and his kindly ways. On his part, he was delighted with the setting of the novitiate on the bay, and enchanted with the garden that rolled in terraces down to the very edge of the water.

All this peace of soul and natural beauty were too good to last. In a little over a month, he would be called to another important post.

Joseph Elworthy, C.S.S.R.

For copies of THE CHEERFUL ASCETIC by Father Michael Curley, C.S.S.R., write to the FATHER SEELOS CENTER, 2030 Constance Street, New Orleans, La. 70130. The price is \$4.95 per copy.

DOING GOD'S WILL

BY FATHER GRANGELL

The Virtue for July is Obedience.

The Patron is St. Philip, The Apostle.

The Text is the same as the last two months: All that is in the world is the concupiscence of the flesh, the concupiscence of the eyes and the price of life (1 John 1/16). The Price of Life is wilful, sinful independence, disobedience. Lucifer became a devil when he rebelled against God. I will not serve you. The Blessed Virgin Mary became the Mother of God when she said: Be it done unto me according to Thy Word! Let us meditate on Obedience this month.

Some might think we should change these monthly virtues from year to year, get new ones. The answer to this is simple. We would no longer be practicing the asceticism of St. Alphonsus for the imitation of Christ. He gives us these twelve distinctive fundamental virtues as the basis for our spirituality. In fact, every virtue you can think of is a part of each one of the twelve designated virtues. These twelve virtues overlap. Each needs the other for perfection. If you have past editions of 'Father Seelos and Sanctity,' you can check for yourself and see how everyone of the twelve is necessary to practice this month's virtue, Obedience.

OBEDIENCE: To practice Obedience you need all the virtues.

Father Seelos used to say Obedience was the hardest of all the virtues because it demanded that we give up our most precious possession - our free will. Nobody can force anybody to do anything. His will is his own.

Father Seelos made the religious vow to be obedient. He made of himself a holocaust - he gave up everything. Because he kept his vow of Obedience, he was a very holy, saintly man.

There is spiritual disturbance in the Church today. If you analyze the total picture, it's because of disobedience, so many people are disobedient to our Holy Father and the laws of the Church. Many in disobedience do not go to Holy Mass on Sunday. If you look over the twelve monthly virtues, you will see they are sinning against all of them. Do look them over!!

People may be disturbed, but the Church is not disturbed. It is as calm and beautiful and infallible as when Christ instituted it. The Church, the Mystical Body of Christ, is still saying: I am the Way, the Truth and the Life. I am the Light of the World. Obey the Church as you would obey Christ. He says of the Church 'He who hears you, hears Me; he who despises You, despises Me. The Church has authority!

Love the Church and be obedient always to Her. Imitate our Lord of Whom the Bible tells us "He was obedient even unto death."

Ask Father Seelos and our Blessed Mother to help you to be Christ-like.

SPECIAL LETTERS

New Orleans, La.

"My sister kept her mongoloid child at home for 23 years. With the good help and care given her by her mother and myself, she grew up to be a well developed young lady. The Doctor advised the parents the best thing to do was to put her in a school for retarded children. That day finally came and she was admitted to a State School. Her I. Q. was very low. I have asked Father Seelos' intercession for three years, which is the time she has been in the school, to help her to understand so as to be able to help herself, also to have good health. Thanks to the Blessed Virgin Mother, the Sacred Heart and Father Seelos our prayers have been answered - she is now drinking and eating by herself. Before she had to be fed and given her liquids in a nursing bottle. Kindly print in your bulletin so that others may read it."

Mrs. H. B. F.

Houma, La.

"I would like to keep my promise of publication of a favor granted me. I prayed asking Father Seelos' intercessing that my husband would receive his social security disability. Thanks to Father Seelos for his intercession and also thanks to the Infant Jesus of Prague."

L. C.

New Orleans, La.

"I am writing to thank you for your prayers and to let you know Eileen is doing fine. She is back in school and able to continue where she left off. She came out of the coma December 29 after 15 days. The doctors say it was an answer to our prayers. The doctors had very little hope of her recovery and were very much surprised that she had no brain injury because her brain was so swollen. She had hit the base of her skull. I picked up Brother Clement and he brought the crucifix to her. I am thankful to him."

G. L.

No dateline

"I prayed through Father Seelos intercession that I would not have cancer and the doctors found no trace of it during surgery."

Mrs. J. D.

Ironton, Mo.

"Some months ago a man who had been seriously injured in an accident was brought to our hospital in Ironton, Missouri. There was not much prospect that he would recover from his extensive injuries, but we presented our petition for his recovery to Father Seelos. The man left the hospital after a stay of 115 days; for four weeks he was in intensive care and for eleven weeks he was in a coma. Now he is up and about again, although he still carries some of the effects of the injuries sustained in the accident. With gratitude to God and to Father Seelos for his intercession."

Sr. M. C.

Pearlington, Miss.

"Would like to publish my thanks to Father Seelos for a very wonderful favor received through his intercession. I promised publication if I could sell my property for a good price. His prayers in my behalf were certainly answered. Thanks."

R. K.

SPECIAL NOTES

The number of letters of thanksgiving which we receive at the Father Seelos Center is quite large and we are not able to publish but a small percentage of those received. We do try to publish those where publication is requested as soon as possible, however, sometimes it does not work out as we would like it to. If you wish a thanksgiving published and have already acknowledged the favor but have not seen it in the bulletin, please write us again and we will endeavor to publish it within the next two or three months.

July is the month of the Most Precious Blood of Our Lord. Offer it daily in the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass. Receive it daily in Holy Communion. Do you ever make the Way of the Cross and meditate on how Christ shed all His Precious Blood for our salvation?

Thanks for helping us to restore St. Mary's Church. We are still praying for that financial miracle!

Whenever you write to the Seelos Center please give us your full name and address and zip number. Thanks.

We never cease talking about vocations to the priesthood, because there is a need for Priests in God's Holy Church. Parents should not interfere with a child's vocation. It is a call from God. It's sacred.

For blessings with the Mission Crucifix of Father Seelos, please call the Father Seelos Center, 525-2495 or call Miss Addie Buhler, 895-6176. Arrangements will be made.

Anyone wishing to contact us at the Father Seelos Center should call between the hours of 7:30 A.M. and 2:30 P.M. Mrs. Bourg will be glad to take care of any requests for literature, blessings for the sick, etc.

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