



FATHER SEELOS AND SANCTITY

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MEN AND WOMEN FOR ALL SEASONS

The Saints show us the way to eternal happiness. They have come from all walks of life: beggars, kings, soldiers, hermits, youngsters as well as the more mature, the poor, the wealthy, men and women of learning, the uneducated. Each one had his own gift, his own talents, his own measure of God's grace. One thing the Saints all had in common: they persevered in good and received the crown of life.

Joseph Elworthy, C.S.S.R.



The antiquity, the distinctive Bavarian architecture, the Alpine background are all reflected in this street scene of Fussen, Father Seelos' hometown.

FATHER SEELOS LOVED GOD GREATLY

by Father Grangell

Virtue for the month of March — LOVE OF GOD

Patron — St. James Major, Apostle

Text — Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with thy whole heart and with thy whole soul and with thy whole mind and with all thy strength.

(St. Matthew 12:30, Deuteronomy 6: 4 to 9)

If Father Seelos were writing this meditation, I am certain he would insist on your reading Deuteronomy 6: 4 to 9, to see how God wants us to live by the words of our text and to have them *visible* all around us. You must read Deuteronomy 6: 4 to 9.

In the month of March, we think of affective love of God, the love of affection, "My God I Love You!" It is a virtue of God and myself. We live in an atmosphere of love, our every breath is "My God I Love You!" However, we are not satisfied with saying "My God I Love You" as the clock moves, one such act every second. We multiply these acts like this: My God, I offer You as many acts of love as there are atoms, tiniest drops of water, inches of space, movements of animate and inanimate things, and I want this number—whatever it is, God knows^o—multiplied ceaselessly by itself every inch along the way that light moves—light moves 186,000 miles a second, light is diffused—and I want this multiplication to go on as long as God is God for all eternity. If I could think with my human finite mind of a greater number of acts of love of You, my God, I want that number. "My God, I have grown childish with love for You" but You said: Unless one becomes as a little child he shall not enter the Kingdom of Heaven. —Teach the sick to pray like this. YOU PRAY LIKE THIS.

Our love of God prompts us to visit Him often in the Tabernacle and tell Him we love Him—to receive Holy Communion daily and be one with Him—to go to daily Mass and offer Infinite Love to Him through Christ and with Christ and in Christ. Father Seelos loved the Blessed Sacrament. All saints do, today.

St. Alphonsus, the Great Doctor of the Church, teaches that the love of God will grow cold in our hearts and cease to be if it is not grounded on the Passion and Death of our Lord. Father Seelos kept his Crucifix on his desk and often caressed it, praying: May I die for the love of Thy love Who has been so graciously pleased to die for the love of my love. Memorize this prayer.

Father Seelos made the Way of the Cross daily. Do you?

ASK THE BLESSED MOTHER TO OBTAIN FOR YOU A PERFECT LOVE FOR JESUS CHRIST.

SPECIAL LETTERS

Harvey, La.

"Enclosed find offering for favor granted. I have been sick since last Christmas up to June this year. I have been praying to Father Seelos each day for my health and through his intercession my favor was granted. Please publish this letter."

T. R.

Marrero, La.

"I begged Father Seelos' intercession for some time asking that my grandson be sent to us. We had not seen him for 12 years. My son (his father) has since passed away. My prayers were answered. We had a great reunion. I will continue my prayers."

H. L.

Metairie, La.

"I would like to tell the world how Father Seelos' prayers have helped me. I had been smoking for 20 years — about 2½ packs a day and sometimes more. They were getting me sick and short of breath. I tried every way I know but could not quit. Then I asked Father Seelos' intercession for the strength and courage I lacked. I know this favor has been granted me through Father Seelos' intercession. I have not smoked for two months. Please pray that I will have the strength to continue."

W. L.

Crowley, La.

"My daughter was very sick and the doctors could not find the trouble. She was in and out of the hospital and still no results. I asked Father Seelos to intercede for us and they have finally found the trouble and she is feeling better."

F. S. P.

Baton Rouge, La.

"Please publish thanksgiving for many blessings received through the intercession of the Blessed Mother, Father Seelos and other Saints. We have received so many favors we cannot thank God enough. Our daughter broke her ankle in three places necessitating surgery. Two days later her baby was born — perfect. Her husband who had been ill, was given strength by God to take over. Many thanks."

J. P.

Kenner, La.

"I wish to thank Father Seelos for many favors received through his intercession. Thanks for the recovery of my brother who had a heart attack, also for my grandson who had a gland removed from the back of his neck, which was not cancerous."

H. P.

SPECIAL NOTES

We are in the Holy Season of Lent. What are you doing as a personal penance? Be sure to do something. Try to get somebody back to the Church and Sacraments. Make the Way of the Cross daily. Edify people by letting them see you making the Stations. Don't be ashamed to be pious. Write to the Center for our short Way of the Cross.

To know Father Seelos is to love him! Tell everybody about him. Give us the names and addresses of your friends and we will write to them. Drop a picture of Father Seelos in a pew of your church. Write to us for pictures.

St. Teresa of Avila used to say, she did not care if everybody had a higher degree of glory in Heaven than she would have, but she did not want anybody in Heaven who loved God on earth more than she did. This is a challenge to us.

To have the sick blessed with Father Seelos' Crucifix, call Miss Addie Buhler, 895-6176. We thank the ladies who crochet the mementos of Father Seelos. The sick love these mementoes.

We are very happy to let our readers know that there is a great number of Priests and Religious who are devotees of Father Seelos and who are making him known in their respective localities. May God bless them and Father Seelos help them in their needs.

Please report in writing, with dates, names and places all favors received from Father Seelos.

Copies of THE CHEERFUL ASCETIC by Father Michael Curley, C.S.S.R., are available at the Father Seelos Center, 2030 Constance Street, New Orleans, La. 70130, at \$4.95 per copy.

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