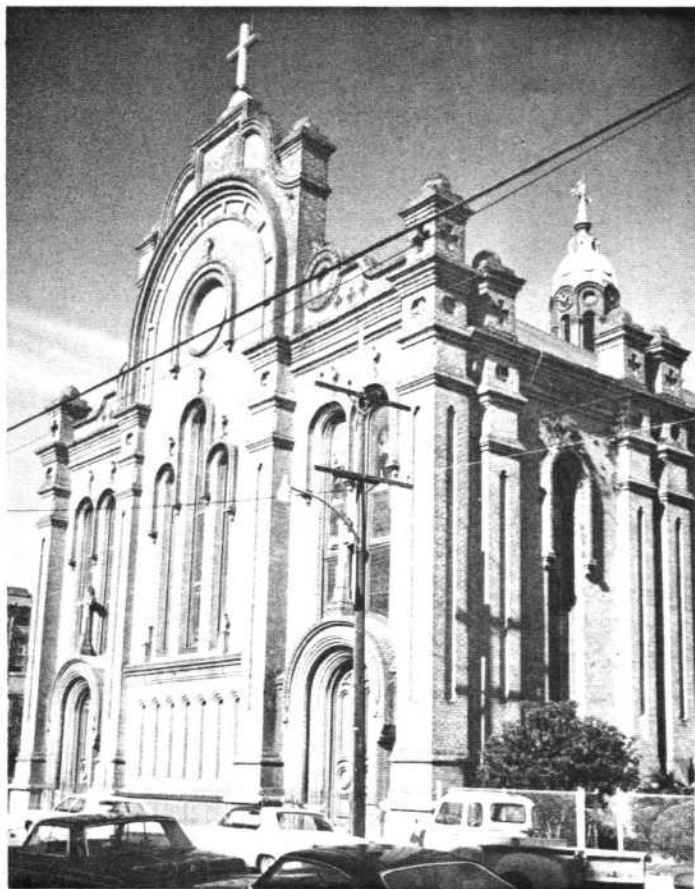




# FATHER SEELOS AND SANCTITY

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AUGUST, 1975



St. Mary's Assumption Church on the corner of Josephine and Constance Streets, New Orleans, was heavily damaged by Hurricane Betsy in 1965. It has finally been restored through the generosity of many benefactors. The restored church will have its inaugural ceremony on August 15 of this year. Archbishop Hannan of New Orleans will be the principal concelebrant at Mass at 5:30 P.M.

## FATHER SELOS WAS A HUMBLE MAN

by Father Grangell

Virtue for August: Meekness and Humility

Patron: St. Bartholomew, Apostle

Text: Learn of Me, for I am meek and humble of heart. (Mt. 6/29)

A few Scripture texts give us the correct idea of the meaning of Humility! "I am what I am in the eyes of God and nothing more." — "All that I have, I have from God." — "Without the grace of God, I can do nothing." — "What have we that we have not received, and if we have received it, why glory as though we have not received it?" Meditate on these texts for a few moments and be convinced of your nothingness. These texts will bring you to your knees in prayer. You will say "Thanks" to God when success and a little praise come your way! You will never become despondent and despair if you fail. Read the Gospels and see how Christ was humble from the Crib to the Cross. He suffered many humiliations, especially in His Passion on the Cross. Read the story of the Passion as told by the four Evangelists.

Our Lord says to us: Learn of Me for I am meek and humble of heart. Friends want to be alike! Meekness, according to the dictionary, means gentleness, long-suffering, submissive, lowly. Our Lord was all this; so was Father Seelos.

St. Alphonsus, the Founder of the Redemptorists, tells us the end of the Order is the perfect imitation of Jesus Christ, but the humble and despised Jesus Christ. He asked the more devout and fervent members to pray to be despised. Father Seelos prayed for that grace and suffered much mentally for the love of Jesus Christ.

We feel we are despised sometimes — we are not wanted in some company, all are silent in our presence. That's humiliating. They speak harshly to us, they manifest a lack of courtesy, everything we do is wrong. They are envious and jealous of us, they misinterpret our words and actions. If we can take all this in silence for the love of God, we are Christ-like.

If we are humble, we pray, we have no enemies, we forgive, we smile, we are cheerful, we are not eccentric, singular, different, we are never sad, we love our daily Mass and the Blessed Mother.

Mary was most humble. When the Angel announced to her that she was chosen to be the Mother of God, the First Lady of the world, the greatest Woman of history, she told the Angel who she was: "Behold the handmaid of the Lord." She is saying: Look who I am! A little servant girl in the household of the Lord. I live in an unknown village of the world; nobody knows me. Yet, God wants me to be His Mother. "Be it done unto me according to Thy Word!" That's HUMILITY in all its glory.

## SPECIAL LETTERS

Waveland, Miss.

"I was hemorrhaging badly for three months. The medication did not help. I asked Father Seelos to pray that I would get well and not require further treatment or surgery. The doctor changed my medicine. Thank God my prayer was answered through Father Seelos' intercession. I wear the cloth memento and am doing fine."

M. H. B.

New Iberia, La.

"I want to thank our Lord, the Blessed Mother and Father Seelos for a favor granted through his intercession. My daughter had a thyroidectomy one year ago. It was found to be a malignant tumor in the thyroid gland. Fortunately, it was removed and she was well, however, one month ago another lump appeared in her throat and she was told that surgery would be necessary again, but through prayers it turned out to be tissue growth. The doctor said she will not be bothered with this problem again. All thanks to prayers."

E. G.

New Orleans, La.

"I promised a letter of thanks if I would be able to buy a house which I needed so badly. Everything went just fine, we are waiting for the act of sale to be passed. I also prayed for my son to be promoted in service which he needed to keep his job. He received the promotion yesterday. Thanks to all for their prayer and to Father Seelos for his intercession."

W. H.

Opelousas, La.

"I prayed the Father Seelos prayer daily asking that my grandson find employment here in Opelousas so that he could reside with me as I am a widower and living alone. He received his degree in December and was employed in January. I am most grateful for this favor granted me."

R. J. G.

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## SPECIAL NOTES

For blessings with the crucifix of Father Seelos, call Miss Addie Buhler, 895-6176.

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Don't forget to whisper ceaselessly: "MY GOD! I LOVE YOU!"

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Send Father Grangell the name of a boy or young man who wishes to go to a seminary in September.

## *An Invitation To You*

St. Mary's restored church will be opened to the public on Friday, August 15, at 5:30 with a con-celebrated Mass. Archbishop Philip Hannan will be the principal celebrant.

Park your car on the streets between Constance and St. Charles Ave. August 15 is the feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Mother to Heaven. It is a Holy Day of Obligation. If the crowd is big and you cannot get into the Church, you can hear Holy Mass on the street. Constance Street will be blocked to all traffic from St. Andrew to Jackson Avenue.

**YOU ARE INVITED TO THE GRAND OPENING OF OUR BEAUTIFUL CHURCH. BRING YOUR FRIENDS AND NEIGHBORS.**

### **A MEMORIAL TO YOUR FAMILY**

Memorialize your Family Name on a Plaque in St. Mary's Assumption Church and help to pay off the cost of restoring St. Mary's to its beautiful and original German Baroque Architecture.

**ST. MARY'S IS A NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARK.**

Send \$500.00 or more in one payment (or over two years time) for each family name to:

**FATHER SEELOS CENTER  
2030 Constance Street  
New Orleans, La. 70130**

Your family will be included in all Masses said in the restored church.  
**ST. MARY'S IS FATHER SEELOS' CHURCH.**

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Published with Ecclesiastical Approbation.

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