



FATHER SEELOS AND SANCTITY

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Memorial Mass for Father Seelos on October 3rd

The annual memorial Mass of the death of Father Seelos will take place on October 3 at 11:30 A.M. in St. Mary's Assumption Church on the corners of Josephine and Constance Streets in New Orleans. One hundred and nine years have passed since Father Francis Xavier Seelos gave up his life in a yellow fever epidemic on October 4, 1867. Last year on November 9, the remains of Father Seelos were brought back to St. Mary's Church after its restoration.

Most Rev. Clarence J. Duhart, C. SS. R., a veteran missionary in Thailand for 28 years and former bishop of the diocese of Udonthani, will be the principal concelebrant at this memorial Mass and also will give the homily.

All are invited to attend this memorial Mass.

Joseph Elworthy, C. SS. R.



Most Rev. L. Abel Caillouet celebrates the Mass at the reburial of the remains of Father Seelos on November 9, 1975 in St. Mary's Assumption Church.

FATHER SEELOS WAS NOT A MINI SAINT

by Father Grangell

Virtue for October: Recollection and Silence

Patron: St. Simon, Apostle

Text: When He had dismissed the crowd, He went up the mountain by Himself to pray (Matthew 14/23)

Before Father Seelos made his final vows as a Religious, kneeling before the Blessed Sacrament, he read a **formula**, a short preamble, telling God why he wanted to make the vows. Listen! "BURNING WITH THE DESIRE OF CONSECRATING MYSELF ENTIRELY TO THY HOLY LOVE, I BIND MYSELF TO SERVE THEE HENCEFORTH WITH ALL MY STRENGTH BY IMITATING THE LIFE OF THY DIVINE SON, JESUS CHRIST, WHICH IS THE ONLY WAY TO PLEASE THEE, AND TO LABOR FOR THE SALVATION OF THE MOST ABANDONED SOULS!" The vows followed.

Take this little paper to church with you and sit alone with the Blessed Sacrament and make these words your life. All perfection is in them.

The first step in true holiness is a sincere **desire** to love God and to **consecrate** one's life to God's love. Father Seelos uses the word ENTIRELY. There is nothing mini about his love of God. He wishes to be a great saint, nothing less. He will imitate the life of Christ **with all his strength**. Everything is superlative, the maximum. Every Christian must be an IMITATOR OF CHRIST. Father Seelos wants perfection. He will have a tried system in his imitation. It will be that of the twelve monthly virtues, not something haphazard, hit and miss, but a daily well-regulated prayerful check in his imitation.

His life-work will be to save the most abandoned souls. When St. Alphonsus founded the Redemptorists, the most abandoned souls were the poor shepherds in the hills - mountains of Italy - who never saw a priest. The Saint sent his missionaries to these poor people to preach the word of God to them and to administer the Sacraments.

Now-a-days, the most abandoned souls are people who have personally abandoned God in the cities and towns, where everybody can find Priests and Churches to help them. These are the people you and I must save with our prayers and good example. There may be one in your family?

This is the month of the twin virtues of Recollection and Silence. They mean nothing to many people. We live in an atmosphere of noise and distraction. Turn off your TV and radio and go to your quiet church, alone, and think how **your life can be the life of the Formula** of Father Seelos profession. BE ERNEST, SINCERE. DESIRE IT!

MAY THE BLESSED MOTHER CONTROL YOUR THINKING.

SPECIAL LETTERS

Los Angeles, Calif.

"My daughter was an asthmatic from the age of 2. She is now 8 and in addition to asthma has had pneumonia several times. Through a friend I heard of the many favors being received through Father Seelos' intercession. So my daughter and I began praying to him and promised if she was cured in one year I would bring her to New Orleans to make this wonderful blessing known to the world if this would be what God wanted. I am happy to say we received the answer to our prayer. I will continue to pray and spread the devotion whenever and wherever I can."

L. D.

New Orleans, La.

"Last November I broke my leg in four places. Through Father Seelos prayers I am beginning to walk without a walker or cane."

M. C. M.

White Castle, La.

"My husband had a heart attack and was in the state of deep depression. I asked Father Seelos to intercede for his recovery. My prayer was answered."

E. B.

Metairie, La.

"I have received many favors through Father Seelos prayers which I thought would be impossible to obtain. He has never failed me."

G. M. H.

Jefferson, La.

"My daughter had a lump removed from her breast and the biopsy proved negative. I know it was through my prayers to Father Seelos that I received this favor."

K. H.

Bourg, La.

"On March 9 at 2:30 A.M. the offshore supply boat on which my husband was working sank in the Gulf of Mexico. I immediately prayed to Father Seelos that his life would be saved. He and one of the crew members were in 16 feet of water for nine hours and managed to stay afloat with one life jacket and one life ring between them. After 9 hours they were picked up by a tug boat. One man drowned and his body still remains missing. Thanks to Father Seelos for his intercession for saving the lives of my husband and the crew member."

A. G.

SPECIAL NOTES

When you send us your change of address, please give us your old as well as your new address, complete with zip code. In view of the fact that postage due is so high please inform us by phone or letter whether you wish to discontinue receiving the newsletter.

October is a great month! It's ROSARY month. Do you say your Rosary daily? It's the month of the LITTLE FLOWER OF JESUS, October 1. Her favorite prayer was: MY GOD, I LOVE YOU! It's the month of ST. GERARD MAJELLA, C. SS.R., the expectant mother's saint, the baby's saint, October 16. Write to the Center for his medal. It's the month of the GUARDIAN ANGEL, October 2. Keep in touch with him. Father Seelos went to heaven on October 4.

Notice the "GOLD BOOK" on the tomb of Father Seelos! It is filled with the names of people who contributed and are still contributing toward the restoration of St. Mary's Church. Have your name put in it and the names of your beloved departed. All share in Holy Masses.

Somebody wants to know why Father Seelos is called the CHEERFUL ASCETIC by his biographer. Father Seelos denied himself much for the love of God in a cheerful, happy, smiling way and his life was set to rules for religious perfection. You should be a Cheerful Ascetic; your rules are the Ten Commandments of God, your helps for perfection are your Holy Mass and Holy Communion and love for the Blessed Mother. There is much self-denial in practicing the twelve monthly virtues, but much HAPPINESS.

Thanks, again, for sending us new names and addresses and zip numbers for FATHER SEELOS & SANCTITY. We keep our paper small - like a letter - so that you will read everything in it.

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

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