



# FATHER SEELOS AND SANCTITY

VOLUME XIV, NUMBER 7

JULY 1980

## GOD BLESS AMERICA !



This month may we recommend that you ask Father Seelos to intercede for us the many needs of our country. . . . .

That the hostages held in Iran may soon be freed to return to their homes and families.

That those bereaved and otherwise suffering loss due to the devastating effects of the recent eruption of Mount St. Helens volcano may find consolation and help.

That the people in the Miami area may soon return to normal living and the unemployed will find work.

That God will look mercifully upon our country and grant us the peace that only He can give.

Have a happy and safe holiday this Fourth !

Josie Becker

# MAN'S FIRST OBEDIENCE IS TO THE CHURCH

*(Father Grangell's Monthly Conference)*

The Virtue for July: OBEDIENCE

The Patron Saint: St. Philip, the Apostle.

The Text: You are my friend if you do the things that I command you. (John 15/14)

All are familiar with the statues and pictures of St. Anthony with the Divine Child. I wonder if all know the story! The Boy Christ appeared to the saint when he was alone in his room. When Anthony was enjoying this holy visit, the big community-bell rang, calling the friars to chapel-prayer. Anthony answered the bell promptly, leaving the Child alone. When Anthony returned to his room an hour later, the Child was still there. Anthony said to Him: I am so happy that you are still here. The Child answered: If you had remained, I would have gone. – A beautiful lesson in prompt obedience.

Obedience is the essence of Holiness, giving God your best possession: Your free will. Father Seelos became a great saint because of his obedience to his religious rule. Our Lord said of Himself: I do always the things that please my Heavenly Father. (John 5/30)

Remember the June conference! To do everything to please God is Sanctity, Holiness, Perfection.

Father Seelos' obedience was supernatural. It was not regimentation or monotony. He read the Will of God for his daily life in his much detailed rule. He heard the voice of God in his Superior's commands. The big community-bell was God calling him to a duty of some kind. He never criticized or grumbled or growled or became depressed when obedience was disagreeable. He used to say he was pleasing God, not Seelos.

His obedience was so prompt, that if he were writing and the bell rang for duty of some kind, he would leave a letter of the alphabet unfinished and leave his desk. He was not slothful or lazy. He was a 'do it now man'. One day somebody said to him: Father Seelos you usually pass my house at the same time every day and you are always in a hurry! "I am rushing to be on time for my evening community-meditation." A late person is a selfish person.

His obedience was willing, cheerful. His biographer calls him: "The Cheerful Ascetic", the happy saint.

See your life in all of this. Your religious Superior is the Pope – obey him. He is Christ on earth. "He who hears you, hears Me; he who despises you, despises Me."

Do some Bible reading. See what God expects of children and how he rewards those who obey their parents.

Deuteronomy 5/16 (The 5th book of the Old Testament,  
and St. Paul's Epistle to the Ephesians 6/1 to 4 (You  
will be surprised.)

I think the greatest act of disobedience on the part of many Catholics is missing Mass on Sunday, coming late, leaving before Mass is over, laughing and talking during Mass. How can such disobedient people sleep at night with a guilty conscience!

Blessed Mother pray for us.

## SPECIAL LETTERS

Seabrook, Texas

I asked Father Seelos' intercession to help me and my husband get back together. We were married only two months and then separated. For 11 months we were each in different states. We went back together in August before our first anniversary. We have been getting along better now than before. I know it all happened through the intercession of Father Seelos.

J.B.

ANON.

I am a faithful client of Father Seelos. I prayed that my son-in-law would have a successful operation on his throat, and that everything would be O.K. I thank God it was a success.

A.M.R.

Metairie, La.

Through my pregnancy, I prayed to Father Seelos for a safe delivery and it was. After the delivery, when I was returned to my room, I began to bleed more than usual. I took out my Father Seelos cloth memento and began to pray - after a few hours the bleeding slowed down. I wish to thank Father Seelos for coming to my aid.

R.N.

Shreveport, La.

Through Father Seelos intercession I am able to walk so well now that my orthopedist told me last week I had done fine and he was proud of me, that I would not have to return for a visit for a year. I am grateful to Father Seelos.

Mrs. McK. F.

Larose, La.

I have been granted a favor through Father Seelos' intercession. My granddaughter had a sickness which was hard to cure. She is well and back to school through Father Seelos' prayers.

V.J.C.

New Orleans, La.

Thanks for the Mass for my dear sister. The operation was successful and the tumor was not malignant. Many thanks also to Father Seelos for his intercession on her behalf.

Sister Helena Clare, O.S.C.

New Orleans, La.

I would like to acknowledge a favor received. With Father Seelos' help I was able to find a house I could afford in a neighborhood where I wanted to live.

D.J.P.

St. Louis, Mo.

I prayed to Father Seelos for a successful chest operation for our frail 5-year-old grandson; also for a successful operation on our son-in-law. Both are doing fine. Through Father Seelos' intercession these favors were received.

J.C.D.

## SPECIAL NOTES

Happiness is not a virtue. You make yourself happy when you practice a virtue – Charity  
Obedience, Purity, Trust in God, etc.

Do you know what Joy is? J stands for Jesus, Y is for You, O is for nothing. Let  
nothing stand between Jesus and You – You have Joy.

Why is Father Grangell's contribution to "Father Seelos and Sanctity" called "The  
Monthly Conference" – Because you belong to a pious organization, the Guild of Father  
Seelos, and the Chaplain must give you a short talk, a sermonette, a meditation monthly.  
The subject matter is one of the monthly virtues, year after year, the ascetical system  
Father Seelos used to become a saint.

If you cannot make the monthly novena for the canonization of Father Seelos and for  
your personal needs and favors, on Wednesdays at 4 o'clock or on Sundays at  
3:30 in St. Mary's, each followed by Holy Mass and veneration of the Crucifix of Father  
Seelos after Mass, make at least one or two days. The people say all the prayers, even if  
there are just two people present. The Novena is never said privately. It is always said  
before the Mass. Bring your Rosary – it is part of the Novena. It's most beautiful, you will  
love it. Take the Novena cards with you as you leave the church. (Note all the Masses will  
be in St. Mary's Church at this time.)

Please, please, please – if you change your address or if you know someone who has,  
inform us. By doing this you will help us financially.

Use the gold envelope and God bless you.

If you receive a "BIG" favor from Father Seelos, type two copies of it and send both  
to the Center, one for our files and one for Rome. Don't just type "Big Favor" but give  
us a detail or two. Thanks.

Try to go to Holy Mass on the 4th of July and ask God to bless America.

For Blessings of your sick with the Mission Crucifix of Father Seelos, please  
call Miss Addie Buhler. 895-6176.

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