

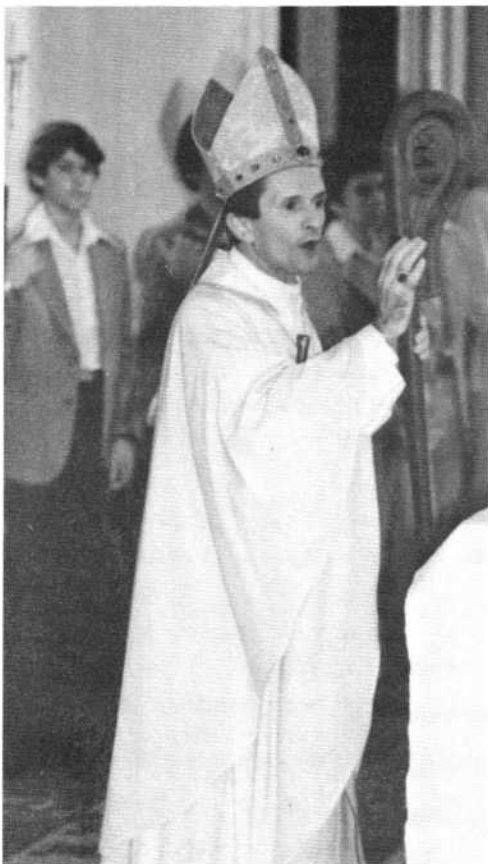


FATHER SEELOS AND SANCTITY

VOLUME XVI, NUMBER 9

SEPTEMBER 1982

ANNUAL MEMORIAL MASS — OCTOBER 3, 1982



We hope you will mark your calendar and make every effort to attend the annual memorial Mass in honor of Father Seelos. It will be on October 3, at 11:30 A. M. in St. Mary's Assumption Church.

It is such a pleasure to have Bishop Ott with us each year for this occasion. His interest in the cause of Father Seelos means so very much to all of us who are working for the cause.

At this time when there is so much war and unrest in the world, may we suggest that you add to your prayers a petition for peace in the world.

Father Seelos died on October 4, which is the feast day of another Francis — St. Francis of Assisi. St. Francis of Assisi prayed for peace and left us a memorial with his beautiful Prayer for Peace — Lord, make me an instrument of your peace . . . Where there is hatred let me sow love . . . Grant that I may not so much wish to be consoled as to console . . .

Reflect on the words of the prayer of St. Francis and try to put it in practice in your lives. I am sure this would be most pleasing

to Father Seelos to know that you who are devoted to him, are praying for peace and trying to exemplify in your lives that you do wish for peace.

Josie M. Becker

Don't forget the Healing Service each Sunday afternoon at 3:30 P.M. followed by Holy Mass.

TOTAL GIVING OF SELF *(Father Grangell's Monthly Conference)*

Virtue for August: MORTIFICATION

Patron Saint: St. Matthew, the Apostle

Text: He that hate his life in this world, keepeth it unto life everlasting. (John 12/25)

September, in the Redemptorist System of Asceticism, is the month of mortification. Imagine Father Seelos kneeling before the Blessed Sacrament with his conference in a Community act, known as the Particular Examination of Conscience. This exercise is at noon. The question for the P.X. in September is: How do I mortify myself, deny myself for the love of God and to save souls?

When Pope Benedict XIV approved the Redemptorist Rule, he said he would canonize the man who kept it in its entirety before that man died.

Father Seelos wished to be a true Redemptorist, so he tried to keep the Rule in its entirety. He did not have to plan a life of mortification or penance or self-denial. All these things were in the regular order of his religious day. The vow of obedience demanded something of him every moment of the day. He had no choice of rising in the morning. The community bell was the voice of God, calling him to another day of work, and no matter how he felt, he was up and doing immediately. He began the day with the prayer: MY GOD, I LOVE YOU! YOUR HOLY WILL BE DONE!

His vow of Poverty demanded that he be satisfied with what the Community gave him at table and in the material appointments of his small bedroom. Ascetical writers call the room of a religious "a cell." It is devoid of all luxuries and superfluities and every comfort. Father Seelos never complained or found fault!!! If he had, he would not be a candidate for canonization today.

Father Seelos prayed as St. John of the Cross prayed: LORD, ALL I ASK IS TO SUFFER AND TO BE DESPISED FOR YOU.

When the children of Fatima asked the Blessed Mother what kind of penance would save the world, she told them: 'Let all, each in his state of life, accept all the crosses God sends into their lives. See God's will in everything.'

Do not let others know you are suffering — keep smiling.

Be Cheerful Ascetics! Selfish people are always complaining, gloomy and sad.

Nero, the Roman Emperor, marvelled at the early Christians going to death — singing.

Christ invites you to follow Him: IF ANY MAN WILL COME AFTER ME, LET HIM TAKE UP HIS CROSS AND FOLLOW ME.

DEAR BLESSED MOTHER OF PERPETUAL HELP, BE WITH ME ALWAYS.

SPECIAL LETTERS

From Metairie, La.

"I hurt my back at work and was laid up for a month. I asked Father Seelos' prayers and my back is now well and I have been able to return to work. Thanks to Father Seelos."

"I had a terrible noise in my ear that almost drove me crazy. Doctors could not help. I asked Father Seelos to pray for me and now my ear is fine. I believe Father Seelos' prayers in my behalf brought my relief about. I wore his cloth memento."

From Gretna, La.

"I promised to write for a favor granted to me. We didn't have water for one week. The plumber came and fixed the pipes. The plumber said our house was very low and he would have to dig a trench to fix the pipes. I prayed to Father Seelos that he would be able to fix the pipes. Thanks to Father Seelos, the pipes were fixed and we had water right away.

From St. Martinville, La.

"I was desperate and despondent about my financial problem. I had just gotten paid but didn't have enough money to pay my house note, etc. I prayed to several saints and asked for God's help. We had a Mo-ped to sell which would help financially. I prayed to Father Seelos and asked him to ask God to help me. After several days and many disappointments we sold the Mo-ped. I am grateful to Father Seelos for this favor."

From Huntsville, Ala.

"I was very unhappy with my job in Louisiana. I made private novenas to Our Mother of Perpetual Help and Father Seelos to find me another job. I have a job now in Alabama and I am going to be happy in it I am sure. Many thanks to Father Seelos."

Matthews, La.

"I prayed and prayed to Father Seelos for help. My bladder biopsy was benign. I also had successful gall bladder surgery. Now I am far on my way to a healthy life. I feel so grateful having you on my side all the time."

From Lake Charles, La.

"I had been suffering with bursitis of the hips. I had so many shots and medication that I was like a zombie. I stopped all medication and started praying and wearing a cloth memento of Father Seelos day and night. After a while I got to feeling real good, which I had not done in nine months. It was almost like a miracle. Thanks for this favor."

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SPECIAL NOTES

A good man from Flushing, New York, put the Father Seelos Center in his will. He died recently and left us \$100.00. We want his family to know we are most grateful. The good man will be in our daily Holy Mass and so will all his family.

The Center is about to undergo a big re-wiring electric job from basement to ceiling. It's a necessary job. We must save our records. God bless you for your help.

Let us know of changes of addresses. Give us the new address in PRINT. If we are misspelling your name, etc., please send the corrections in PRINT.

The mere fact that you are in our files, you belong to the Guild of Father Seelos. Join the 50,000 members in the daily perpetual novena we make. Just say the short prayer on the little picture prayer card of Father Seelos. Let's pray for one another.

If you receive a favor through the intercession of Father Seelos, let us know about it in detail, not just "Thanks for a favor received."

Pray for Priestly and Religious vocations all over the world.

There are 3 billion people in the world from ages 1 to 100. Offer their every breath as and Act of Love of God and the Blessed Mother — MGILY — means MY GOD I LOVE YOU and MOTHER OF GOD I LOVE YOU.

Don't forget the anniversary Mass of Father Seelos!!! On the first Sunday of October, the 3rd, in St. Mary's Church, 11:30.

The Knights of Columbus recently authorized the establishment of the Father Francis X. Seelos Council #2878 in Metairie, La., as the result of the merger of Redemptorist Council with Shaw Council. It is the first so named in the United States. Please the good Lord, there will be more in the future.

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

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Published with Ecclesiastical Approbation.

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