

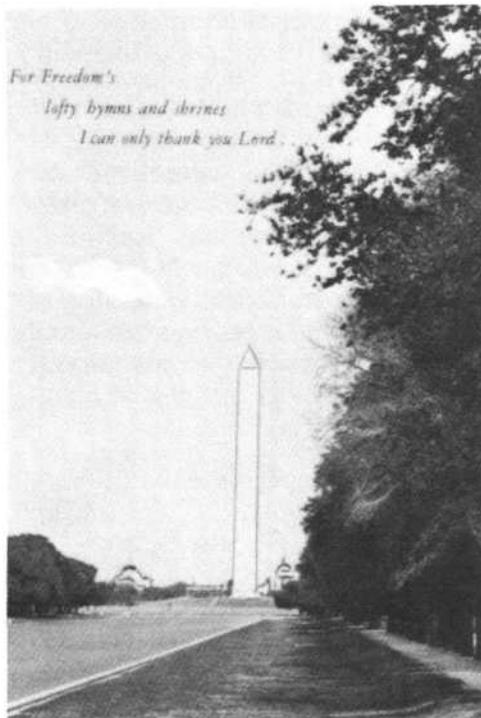


## FATHER SEELOS AND SANCTITY

VOLUME XVIII, NUMBER 7

JULY, 1984

### MY COUNTRY 'TIS OF THEE



Freedom is a thing to be cherished, a God-given gift for which we should be grateful. With so much fighting and violence going on in the world at this time we should pray for our leaders. Pray particularly for our President and our leaders nationwide, as well as for those of other countries that with God's help we may soon see the world at peace.

There is so much poverty in the world. All we need do is look at television and this fact is brought home to us in news-casts and in pleas for our help, particularly for children overseas.

Father Seelos was always aware of the poor and no home was too lowly for him to enter to visit the sick and dying and minister to them. I am sure he must have offered many prayers for them. Let us imitate him in his love of all people.

As the national conventions are about to open ask God's guidance in the deliberations of our political parties. In our pledge of allegiance to the flag we say we are one nation, UNDER GOD. Let us show that we are by calling on his help.

Meanwhile enjoy the FOURTH.

Josie M. Becker

## FATHER SEELOS AND THE VIRTUE OF OBEDIENCE

Virtue for July: Obedience

Patron: St Philip, Apostle

Text: You are my friends if you do the things I Command you.  
(John 15/14)

**THE OEDIENCE OF JESUS:** The Saints all tell us that obedience to the will of God is the heart and essence of the Christian life. As Christians, we are to imitate the Lord Jesus, and the spirit of Jesus was one of total obedience to his Father's will. He said: "I seek not my will but the will of him who sent me." (John 5/30) Jesus also said: "I do always the things that please my Father." (John 8/29) For all the years of his youth, even though he was Son of God, Jesus was obedient to Mary and Joseph. Finally, out of obedience to his Father, he died on the cross and became the Redeemer of the world.

**THE OEDIENCE OF FATHER SEELOS:** Those who lived with Father Seelos have testified to the fact that he was always cheerfully obedient to his Redemptorist Rule and to the least wish of his superiors. It did not matter to him what was ordered, whether it was an order from a bishop or his Redemptorist superiors changing his assignment and place of work. The order was always cheerfully obeyed. No wonder he himself wrote that a wish from his superior was an order for him.

**THE ZEAL OF FATHER SEELOS:** The last year in the life of Father Seelos was summed up by a confrere in these words: "The amount of daily labor he performed as chief pastor of St. Mary's, prefect of the church, prefect of the Brothers, spiritual director of the Sisters and thousands of seculars, was truly astonishing. None of us ever saw him idle for a moment. He was always to be found either in his room writing or praying, or else in the confessional, in the schools, or on sick calls. Indeed, he literally killed himself with labor, mortifications and exertions. Nevertheless, he was the most cheerful and humorous of the community".

Let us imitate the obedience of Father Seelos who so fully and so cheerfully imitated the obedience of Jesus.

Father Albert Babin, C,SS.R.

## SPECIAL LETTERS

From 1000 Oaks, Ga.

"Please publish thanksgiving to Father Seelos for his intercession for a successful operation and recovery."

From Minneapolis, Minn.

"A doctor was dying in St. Mary's Hospital with heart trouble. I gave the Father Seelos' prayer cards to his family to pray. He was near death and a statement was made he probably wouldn't live through the night. We all started to pray fervently asking Father Seelos to intercede for us for his recovery. Today, a year later, he's up and around and feeling fit. Thanks to Father Seelos for his prayers."

From Pittsburgh, Pa.

"Two weeks ago our daughter was in danger of a blood clot on the brain and was rushed to the hospital, then to surgery with only a day's notice. We turned to prayer and called for a blessing with the crucifix of Father Seelos. She came through the operation and has 95% recovery. We are very grateful for this answer to our prayers. On the morning of the operation we placed the cloth memento of Father Seelos on her chest with a bandaid and it has been there ever since."

From Metairie, La.

"Last October, after 15 years of praying the Father Seelos prayer, our prayers were answered. My husband was granted an annulment of his first marriage, so that we were able to be married in the church. In 15 years, I never gave up my faith in God or Father Seelos."

From Kenner, La.

"Last April it was discovered that my mother had lung cancer. The first doctor wasn't too hopeful. After six months of chemo therapy and radiation treatments and our solemn faith in God, we got the news that she is in complete remission. Many thanks to Father Seelos for his intercession."

From Racine, Wisconsin

"I would like to publicly give thanks to Father Seelos, whose intercession I asked, along with my other favorite saints, for a very good prognosis for my health. I'm always going to thank Father Seelos."

From St. Louis, Missouri

"After three falls, I was told if I had another I would have to be put in a home. Last week I had another on the way to the Hospital. I begged Father Seelos to ask God to help me. After X-Rays, nothing was found to be broken. Thanks to Father Seelos for his prayers."

SECOND CLASS POSTAGE  
PAID AT NEW ORLEANS, LA.

POSTMASTER: SEND ADDRESS CHANGES TO:  
FATHER SEELOS CENTER (USPS 488-660)  
2030 CONSTANCE ST  
NEW ORLEANS, LA. 70130

## SPECIAL NOTES

Please continue to pray for Father Grangell. He is now at the Redemptorist Home in Oconomowoc, Wisconsin, in order that he can receive the physical care which he now needs. His superiors felt it best that for the time being he should spend some time there. I know he is with us all in spirit and probably saying many times for you and for me his favorite prayer MY GOD, I LOVE YOU. Why don't you offer this prayer for him, every day, every time you think of him.

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We appreciate very much your nice letters and also contributions which you send to us at the Center. We need your encouragement in our work.

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Father Grangell would want me to remind young boys and men who may feel they would like to study for the priesthood, that they may contact the Redemptorist Fathers at 2030 Constance St. or 1527 Third Street, New Orleans, to discuss this with them.

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I wish to thank Father Babin for writing the article for this month's letter. His message is most inspiring.

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

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