

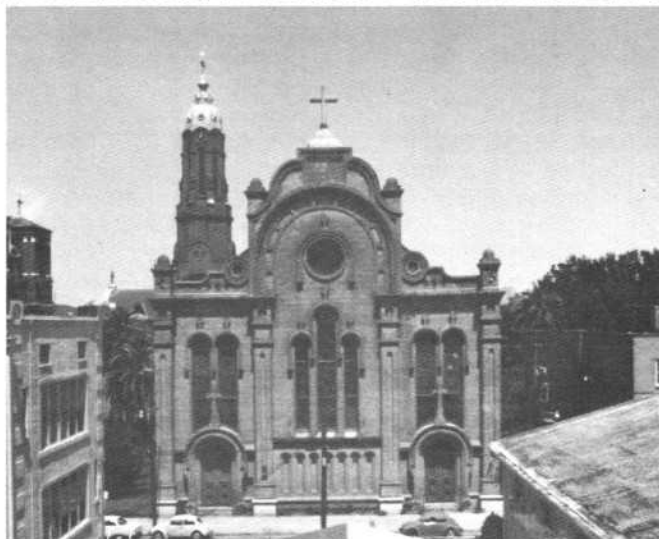


# FATHER SEELOS AND SANCTITY

VOLUME XXV, NUMBER 10

OCTOBER, 1986

## ANNUAL MEMORIAL MASS FOR FATHER SEELOS



St. Mary's Assumption Church will again be the scene of the annual memorial Mass for Father Francis Xavier Seelos. The Mass will take place at 11:30 A.M. on Sunday, October 5. Most Reverend Warren Boudreaux, the bishop of the Houma-Thibodaux diocese of south Louisiana, will be the principal concelebrant and homilist.

St. Mary's Assumption Church is on the corner of Josephine and Constance Streets, in the Irish Channel of New Orleans. A reception will be held in the parish hall immediately after the Mass.

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### HARVEST TIME

Yes, harvest time draws nigh again,  
For so many women, so many men,  
But only those will be the reapers,  
Who've shown they are their brothers' keepers.

Lois Krulisky

From "Lyrics By Lois of Louisiana"® 1984

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We now have a dial-a-message program. If you wish to listen to a spiritual message from the Father Seelos Center, just dial (504) 586-1803.

## RECOLLECTION

In the process of our growing up through childhood and adolescence to adulthood, we become gradually conscious of being different from all other beings around us, and indeed individuals. Some writer whose name escapes me at this moment called this consciousness of being an individual "the metaphysical solitude of man". Being an individual means to stand alone before our God and His creation.

Despite the whirl of people and events in our lives, despite the glut of news hurled at us by the media, the constant blare of radios and television, the unending din of traffic in our cities, we can, that is, it is possible for us to retreat within ourselves to the citadel or temple of our being. Figuratively the door can be closed to all external turmoil. We can be recollected. One saint used to say he was never less alone than when alone. Through the grace of baptism, the Holy Trinity dwells in the temple of our souls.

I always recall with a smile the story told of St. Clement Hofbauer, who is regarded as one of the patron saints of Vienna in Austria, and who was the first non-Italian Redemptorist. St. Clement spent many years in Vienna trying to obtain the royal approval for the Congregation of Redemptorists to exist in that country.

He became the chaplain of a group of young university students who would crowd his quarters on Saturday evenings to listen to a lecture, and hold discussions on the subject afterwards. To be sure, there were always refreshments passed around towards the end and the usual high spirits would follow. In the midst of the hilarity St. Clement would often find it necessary to withdraw to a corner, throw a towel over his head, and continue his preparation for the liturgy and homily of the morrow.

Perhaps your experience of disturbances can easily compare with the occasional bedlam that St. Clement had to undergo. Or it may be easy enough for you to go to your room, close the door, and bring your thoughts together.

We may find it convenient to arrive at church some minutes before Mass and there compose ourselves and shut the door on distractions. By closing the mind to the many and real cares of the day, we can bring ourselves great peace of mind. Our composure can give us the proper perspective on the unhappy moments of today or yesterday. We can soothe disturbed feelings. This moment of quiet can put our soul in possession of its emotions.

Recollection is a good preparation, a prime requisite, if you will, for prayer. Being recollected we can open up the lines of communication. To speak to God in prayer we must assure ourselves of being conscious of His presence. It takes composure, a blocking out of distractions, the turning off the television, as it were, of our minds so often filled with reruns of past events and altercations.

Joseph Elworthy, C.S.S.R

## SPECIAL LETTERS

Gretna, La.

Dear Father,

The Boudreaux family has placed petitions at the tomb of Father Seelos in St. Mary's Church from 1966 to 1986. All of our petitions have been granted.

In 1966 my son, John, developed an allergy. We prayed to be directed to a physician who would be able to control the allergy. Several days later we were referred to a doctor who was able to do just that.

In July of 1966 my wife, Angela, had a terminal illness with just two weeks to live. She walked out of the hospital in a short time. It is now 20 years since she was cured.

In 1975 my daughter, Angela Marie, developed melanoma from a mole. It was removed successfully.

In 1983 my son, Andre, was shot in the face. Again we were blessed. He recovered from his wounds.

In 1984 I went to the doctor for treatment of an allergy with very little results. I prayed to Father Seelos that another physician I was going to would have the knowledge to prescribe the proper medicine for me. It has been three months and I would say the allergy is almost gone, thanks to Father Seelos.

We are aware that Father Seelos is in heaven. But the Boudreaux family will continue to work for his canonization.

I would like to place this letter as a document in the process of his canonization. We pray earnestly that he will be declared a saint of the Church, for the honor and glory of God, for the benefit of those who seek his intercession.

We ask all to join in thanks with

The Melvin Boudreaux Family.

Lafayette, La.

I thank God for the graces and gifts He gave to Father Seelos – and pray with confidence, that Father Seelos will be declared a saint. To me, he is already a saint. In 1977, I pinned his picture to my little granddaughter's bed when she was stricken with leukemia. Thanks to Father Seelos, I attended her high school graduation on May 20, 1986.

On May 15, of this year, my son-in-law lost his job – immediately, I prayed to Father Seelos for help. On July 1st, my son-in-law was employed by another company.

I promised Father Seelos to publicly acknowledge his help if my request for employment was granted.

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Mail received during June, 1986.

Petitions 476   -   Thanks 187   -   Other 563   -   Total 1226

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Published with Ecclesiastical Approbation.

Rev. William Grangell, C.S.S.R., and Rev. Joseph Buhler, C.S.S.R., Vice-Postulators; Rev. Joseph Elworthy, C.S.S.R., Director and Editor; Miss Regina Beck and Warren Gautreau, Executive Assistants.

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## SPECIAL NOTES

1. The Father Seelos Museum is open from 9:30 to 11 A.M. on Sunday mornings. At other times by appointment only. Call (504) 525-2495.
2. We will be happy to accomodate pilgrimages to St. Mary's Church and Father Seelos' tomb. Please contact the Father Seelos Center for further details (504) 525-2495.
3. The documentary on Father Seelos' life is still available at \$45.00 (includes dubbing and shipping). It is unconditionally guaranteed. Let us know what kind of VCR your have: VHS  or Beta . Make checks or money orders as follows:

FATHER SEELOS CENTER  
2030 CONSTANCE ST.  
NEW ORLEANS, LA. 70130

4. We are grateful to all those who have sent their \$2.00 for their annual subscription to this bulletin.
  5. For blessings of your sick with the mission crucifix of Father Seelos, please call Miss Addie Buhler, 895-6176.
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