



FATHER SEELOS AND SANCTITY

VOLUME XXXI, NUMBER 7

JULY, 1992



(Left to Right): Bernadette Hetrick, Melvin Boudreaux, Pauline Abadie, Leo O'Neill, Alfred Ruffo, Lloyd Sevin, Mildred Swan, Marie Callahan, Clare Hein.

"THE FATHER SEELOS VOLUNTEERS"

The secret of any good cause is the quality and quantity of the volunteers it attracts. "The Father Seelos Volunteers" are no exception; in fact, they take a backseat to nobody. Without them and their more than a thousand hours of service each month, it would be impossible to mail this bulletin. The postage alone consumes more than forty percent of our budget.

It is impossible to picture them all at once, for they cannot all come at the same time. Indeed, many of them do not come to the Center at all, but work in their homes or visit the sick. No matter how or where they do their volunteer work, we ask the good Lord to remember them with His richest blessings.

MESSAGE FROM OUR TREASURER

Dear Reader of FATHER SEELOS AND SANCTITY,

This is a message I had hoped I would never have to give. I have been associated with the FATHER SEELOS AND SANCTITY bulletin for thirty years and more. In all that time we have been able to meet the costs of mailing this bulletin. Now the picture has changed.

Costs have risen sharply for us, as you can well understand in these days of financial crisis. To mail 35,000 bulletins used to cost \$700, now it costs \$3500. The printing bill used to be \$300, now it is \$980. Envelopes used to cost \$200, now \$800. Utilities used to cost \$100 a month, now they average over \$450. And so on, with each item.

We have cut all expenses and operate on a bare bones budget. Nonetheless, our expenses average about \$10,000 a month and our income about \$7500.

So I ask you in the words of a past governor of the state of Louisiana, "Won't you hep us?"

Cletus Stack

(Ed. note: Mr. Stack is a retired registered accountant and has been a faithful "Father Seelos Volunteer" for over thirty years).

OBEDIENCE

The Fourth of July symbolizes a spirit that is characteristic of the American people, independence. This spirit, let run wild, often comes in conflict with "The Law", the law of the land and, unfortunately, the law of God. Some people take a vow of obedience, but all of us must to some extent practice obedience, even if it is only to stay out of jail.

During Lent we read the story of the three young men who refused to worship the king or his statue, because worship is due to God alone. They were cast into the fiery furnace for defying the unjust command of the king. But before being cast into the flames, they told the king, "If our God can save us from the white-hot furnace and from your hands, O king, may He save us! But even if He does not, know, O king, that we will not serve your god or worship the golden statue which you set up" (Daniel, 3/17-18). It is always better to obey God rather than men.

Jesus, in becoming man, became obedient to the will of His Father. He humbled Himself and accepted even death as a part of the human condition. He did His Father's will. He suffered and died on the cross for our redemption. Pause for a moment and think of the struggle that went on in the garden of Gethsemane, the night before He died. He felt sorrow and distress and He prayed in the garden to His Father, "My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass Me by. Still, let it be as You would have it, not as I" (Matthew, 26/39).

Later on, when the mob led by Judas came to apprehend Him and one of His followers used a sword to defend Him, Jesus exclaimed, "Do you not suppose that I can call on My Father to provide at a moment's notice twelve legions of angels? But how would the Scriptures be fulfilled which say it must happen this way?" (Matt. 26/53-54).

Joseph Elworthy, C.S.S.R.

SPECIAL NOTES

1. The Father Seelos Center offers the following:
 - a. "The Cheerful Ascetic," a biography of Father Seelos. Price: \$10.00.
 - b. "Seelos: A Cause to Rejoice," a TV documentary of the life of Father Seelos. VHS cassette only: \$45.00.
 - c. "Nothing Short of A Miracle," a book on the healing power of the saints, written by Patricia Treece. In it there are two chapters on Father Seelos. Price: \$8.95 plus postage.
 - d. Pamphlets, prayer-cards, mementos.
 - e. A daily spiritual message: dial (504) 586-1803.
 - f. Blessings of the sick with the mission crucifix of Father Seelos. Call: Mrs. Yvonne Sevin, 888-1250, or Mrs. Gerry Heigle, 482-4404.
 - g. Pilgrimages to St. Mary's Church, the tomb and museum of Father Seelos. For further details and appointments, call the Center: (504) 525-2495.
 - h. The 11:30 A.M. SUNDAY PARISH MASS IN ST. MARY'S CHURCH IS FOR THE INTENTIONS OF THE FATHER SEELOS CENTER. Veneration of the mission crucifix of Father Seelos after the Mass.
2. A SUBSCRIPTION TO THE FATHER SEELOS AND SANCTITY BULLETIN IS THREE DOLLARS PER YEAR. Please let us know you want to continue receiving this bulletin. Please use the form below for changes of address, corrections, duplications and renewals. Return the lower portion of this page to us. Include your old address.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

SPECIAL LETTERS

Buras, LA

My son John was diagnosed with leukemia on September 3 at Children's Hospital in New Orleans. He has struggled with the disease since that time and has been in the hospital most of the time since. He was admitted into the hospital with a high fever and a cold. Three days later he was put in PICU when his breathing became difficult. He was put on a life support (ventilator). He was then diagnosed with influenza, type A, and ARDS (acute resp. distress syndrome). This is really when John started fighting for his life. During November my wife and I met with the doctors and they told us that John was in God's hands with a one to two percent chance to live. My wife and I and all the family started praying hard to God for help. I learned of Father Seelos and St. Mary's Church. A Father from St. Mary's Church came to Children's Hospital and prayed over John. I went to Mass at St. Mary's and also prayed at Father Seelos' tomb. Today John is doing a lot better and is home. The doctors say that his recovery was because of John, God and his family. They stated they were doing all that they could and that it was not enough and that it was a miracle that he recovered. Thanks be to God, and to Father Seelos for his prayers.

Metairie, LA

Thanks to God, Father Seelos and the saints for recovery from eye surgery and excellent results. The doctor gave me little hope of recovery. Also thanks to you for a warm and wonderful welcome to my second family from Texas, who visited the Center.

Chicago, IL

My nephew had a growth on the brain. We all prayed to Father Seelos and my nephew completely recovered. Thanks, Father Seelos, for your intercession.

New Orleans, LA

I promised to write this letter in thanksgiving for the many favors I received from Father Seelos. Recently my husband who once had cancer of the colon underwent a blood test for cancer. Since he had a high number, the doctor suggested a biopsy for his prostate. Before this could be done, he had to have a check-up. They found he had a very fast heart beat and decided to put him in the hospital for tests on his heart. They found a blockage in an artery. I prayed to Father Seelos that he would not need surgery. After further tests they discovered he had scar tissue from a silent heart attack he could have had years ago. He was treated for a normal heart-beat and was then sent back for the biopsy. The next day the doctor called and told us everything was all right and the biopsy was negative.

Mail, March, 1992

Petitions: 608 Thanksgivings: 266 Other: 407 Total: 1281

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Rev. Joseph Buhrer, CSSR, Vice-Postulator; Rev. Joseph Elworthy, CSSR, Director and Editor; Mrs. Angela Boudreaux and Mr. Cletus Stack, Executive Assistants.