



# FATHER SEELOS AND SANCTITY

VOLUME XXXIII, NUMBER 11

NOVEMBER, 1994

## PRAYER AND THE COMMUNION OF SAINTS



ST. MARY'S ASSUMPTION CHURCH

Father William Grangell, C.S.S.R., former vice-postulator of the cause of sainthood for Father Seelos, used to point to all the statues of the saints that adorn the walls and altars and even the pulpit and say that it all reminded him of heaven because there were so many saints there.

Father Francis Litz, C.S.S.R., was the vice-postulator of the cause of St. John Neumann, C.S.S.R., in St. Peter's Church in Philadelphia. In 1984 he was the celebrant of the annual memorial Mass for Father Seelos. Impressed with so many statues, he told us on that occasion that "St. Mary's Church was indeed the Hall of Fame of the Saints."

The II Vatican Council in its decree on the Church had this to say: "... at the present time some of His (Jesus) disciples are pilgrims on earth. Others have died and are being purified, while others are in glory, contemplating 'in full

*(Continued on next page)*

The church where the earthly remains of Father Seelos lie buried, St. Mary's Assumption Church in the Irish Channel of New Orleans, was dedicated in 1860 for the use of the German immigrants in the area then known as Lafayette. It is built in the German baroque style, modified Gothic you might call it, and it is noted for the intricate brickwork on the exterior and the ornate high altar inside with a large representation of the Blessed Trinity welcoming the Blessed Mother into heaven and crowning her as its Queen.

Many people from all corners come to view this church and visit the tomb of Father Seelos. They admire the beauty of the church and its antique splendor so sharply in contrast to the present vogue of church architecture.



FATHER WILLIAM GRANGELL, C.S.S.R.  
BORN DECEMBER, 1893 AND  
DIED DECEMBER, 1986

light, God Himself triune and one, exactly as He is.'"

We are bound by ties of grace with the saints in heaven and the souls in purgatory. We pray for each other on earth and we join ourselves to the souls in purgatory and the saints in heaven in prayer. They have our interests at heart. They know our needs and they pray to God for us.

First and foremost in the ranks of the saints is the Blessed Mother of God. By accepting the role as God's Mother, she was able to bring Jesus into the world and thus make it possible for us to call Jesus our Brother and her our Mother.

Often in our daily lives we ask our relatives and friends to remember us in prayer and we promise to remember them. If that is so, why should we not ask our good friends in the life beyond this earth to intercede with the God with whom they are fully or about to be united?

Joseph Elworthy, C.S.S.R.



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### 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 - one half hour long. VHS cassette: \$20.00 (includes postage).
  - c. "Nothing Short of A Miracle," a book on the healing power of the saints, by Patricia Treece. Two of the chapters are on Father Seelos. Price: \$8.95 plus postage.
  - d. Pamphlets, prayer-cards, mementos.
  - e. Blessings of the sick with the mission crucifix of Father Seelos. Call: Mrs. Yvonne Sevin, 888-1250, Mrs. Gerry Heigle, 482-4404, or Mr. Jack Pitkin, 524-6591.
  - f. A daily spiritual message: dial (504) 586-1803.
  - 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. Veneration of the mission crucifix every Sunday after the 11:30 A.M. Mass in St. Mary's Assumption Church.
  - i. Every week a Mass is celebrated for the intention of the Father Seelos Center.
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

Saint Louis, MO

I became aware of the Father Seelos Center through an acquaintance of mine, Pat. Pat was helping me to find a new job. Two days after my maternal grandmother was laid to rest, in January, I was notified of the impending loss of my job. Although the job was not going to terminate until sometime during the summer of 1994, it still was a shock to me. For three months I prepared myself for this termination. I met Pat through my uncle. Pat is employed by a local company in the Saint Louis area, working in their personnel office. She and I met one day at lunch to discuss my approach to acquire future employment. At that time she made me aware of Father Seelos.

Pat provided me with one of the picture mementos that she had of Father Seelos. She explained the process that is being followed to get him canonized. And she told me to keep the picture of him with me at all times, especially when I went on interviews.

The conclusion of this story is that on the first interview that I went on, I was offered, and accepted, new employment. I believe that Father Seelos was a significant contributor to this end result, and I will forever be in his debt for the gesture he made to me and my family. Thanks for all your and Father Seelos' help.

New Orleans, LA

I really enjoy reading your newsletter/bulletin each month. Please say a special prayer at Father Seelos' tomb for me and my family.

Metairie, LA

My family and I cannot thank you enough for the prayers for my younger brother, Frank. He was in a coma after receiving a head injury almost four months ago. After the doctors gave him less than a ten percent chance of living and an even smaller chance of ever thinking again to any significant degree, he has improved a great deal. He was moved from intensive care to a regular hospital room after three months; then a week and a half later we detected the first sign of intelligence from him. A week after that he was talking and remembering things. I know that your prayers contributed to the miracle of his survival and improvement. Your prayers brought about a miracle. My brother needs various types of rehabilitation and still cannot see with his right eye or move his right arm or leg, so your continued prayers will be appreciated. I assure you that you will always be in my prayers.

New Orleans, LA

I am always happy to receive the bulletin, *FATHER SEELOS AND SANCTITY*. I am praying that the small child (Rochelle) can be healed. Keep me in your prayers.

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Mail, July, 1994

Petitions: 550

Thanksgivings: 237

Others: 487

Total: 1274

Dial-A-Messages: 751

Volunteer Hours: 1049

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