



FATHER SEELOS AND SANCTITY

VOLUME XXXIII, NUMBER 2

FEBRUARY, 1994



FATHER SEELOS MUSEUM

A corner of the museum of Father Seelos reveals his picture and a bit of his first casket. The museum is open on Saturdays after the 3:00 P.M. vigil Mass and on Sundays after the 8:30 A.M. Mass until 11:30 A.M. Mass. It is also open by appointment - please call (504) 525-2495.

ADDIE BUHLER, R.I.P.

For twenty-five years there was a note in the bulletin FATHER SEELOS AND SANCTITY, "For blessings with the mission crucifix of Father Seelos, please call Addie Buhler." It is impossible to estimate how many times she answered the phone and directed someone to bring the crucifix to the bedside of the sick, and all this from a wheel chair. The Center owes Addie a great debt of gratitude. We request your prayers for this good and faithful soul.



GOD IS FAITHFUL

We have long been accustomed to change. For us human creatures change is very much a part of our lives. We live in the dimension of time, one second after the other. Day changes into night, night into day. Each year spring is followed by summer and then come autumn and winter. Nations come into existence one day, and some other day sink into oblivion. Villages are begun on the banks of a river, on the seashore, at the foot of the mountains; they grow into towns, cities, and even metropolises. Babies are born, develop into adolescents, then mature as men and women. As changeable as the weather is, so are people, one time happy, the other sad and depressed, talkative and then glum.

There was a time, it seems, when a man's word was his bond. Deals were made and sealed by only a handshake. Today nowhere is change more noticeable than in the almost universal and lamentable casual indifference to the value of our word in contracts. Contracts are made for a specific period of time,

and before the ink is dry on the signatures, the parties on either side are seeking to break them.

How refreshing it is for us who live in this fitful and changing world to realize that there is one constant, the unchanging God. He is without beginning and without end. He is all-powerful. He is the infinite, He is immutable. His word is everlasting. His word is truth. And He is faithful to His word.

Jesus is the Word of God become man. As is written in the letter to the Hebrews, "Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever" (13/8). Jesus told Martha, the sister of Lazarus, "I am the resurrection and the life: whoever believes in Me, though he should die, will come to life; and whoever is alive and believes in Me will never die" (John, 11/26).

Jesus forgave the sins of the penitent woman who washed His feet. He forgave the sins of the woman taken in adultery. He forgave the sins of the thief who was crucified with Him and promised him paradise. And He gave to His apostles and His Church the power to forgive sins.

Jesus gave Himself as our food and drink in the holy Eucharist. And to those who eat this food and drink He has promised eternal life. In the sixth chapter of the Gospel according to St. John, Jesus said, "He who feeds on My flesh and drinks My blood has life eternal, and I will raise Him up on the last day" (6/54).

Your deeds of mercy, your prayers, your fasting, done in secret, will be repaid by the Lord. Your sorrow will be turned into joy. You will look for comfort in your sufferings and in Jesus you will find rest and peace.

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 - 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

Metairie, LA

On Oct. 3, 1993 I attended Mass in memory of Father Seelos, as I do every year. I placed a petition in the basket at his tomb, asking for his help in getting a job for my son. About a week later my son informed me that my prayers had been answered. He received this new position with a great company. Thanks to Father Seelos. I'm looking forward to his canonization. Praise God!

New Orleans, LA

On February 15 of last year, three and a half weeks after my son's marriage he was severely injured when an eighteen wheeler ran into his car. Twice in sixteen hours doctors operated removing blood clot after blood clot from his skull. The doctors did not give us much hope. If he survived, plastic surgery and two years physical therapy would be needed. We were devastated. My family and I are very devoted to Father Seelos. We prayed with all our hearts for a miracle. Six days later my son walked out of a Baton Rouge hospital on his own! He doesn't need plastic surgery or physical therapy. Today seven months later my son is mentally normal and physically healthy. He and his little wife are looking forward to their first child this January. What can I say but "Thank you, Father Seelos, for a miracle."

Key West, FL

On various occasions I have asked Father Francisco Javier Seelos to help me realize some dreams or wishes; wishes like: I wanted to see a certain person and shortly thereafter I did, something I thought impossible. Then I asked for my husband's safe return from the Gulf war and he returned safely. Next I asked him to help me make a trip possible and that I would return safely from it and I did. On this trip I witnessed a very tragic accident. Two drunk drivers were racing on the highway, one passed us on the left and the other on the right shoulder of the road almost hitting us. The one on the right hit the car in front of us and the innocent passenger of that car was killed and many other people were injured. I thanked God and Father Seelos for sparing my life because I also was the front passenger without a seatbelt in our car just like the woman in the other car. May God rest her soul. I don't consider myself very religious but I do have faith in God, Jesus Christ and Father Seelos. I would like to make another wish: that Father Seelos be declared a saint for all the wonderful things that he has done for everyone in his path.

Terrytown, LA

You may not know me but I am the one who punches the holes in the plastic surrounding the mementos. I thank everyone who has been praying for me so that my doctors could find out what was wrong. Thank you, Father Seelos. The doctor found out I have a collapsed tube in the inner ear. So still pray for me. I may still need surgery.

Mail, October, 1993

Petitions: 610 Thanksgivings: 260 Other: 616 Total: 1486

Dial-a-messages: 781

Volunteer Hours: 1093

FATHER SEELOS AND SANCTITY (USPS 488-660)

is published monthly for \$3.00 per year, by

The Father Seeelos Center

2030 Constance Street

New Orleans, LA 70130-5099

Second class postage paid at New Orleans, LA.

Postmaster: send address changes to FATHER SEELOS AND SANCTITY

2030 Constance St., New Orleans, LA 70130-5099

2/94

Published monthly by the Redemptorists at the Father Seeelos Center, 2030 Constance Street, New Orleans, Louisiana 70130. Telephone 525-2495. Subscription is \$3.00 per year.

In conformity with the decree of Pope Urban VIII all statements contained herein are unreservedly submitted to the judgement of the Holy See and the decision of the Sacred Congregation of the Causes of Saints.

Published with Ecclesiastical Approbation.

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