

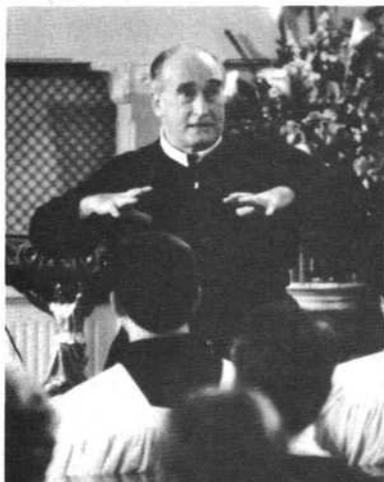


# FATHER SEELOS AND SANCTITY

VOLUME XXXIII, NUMBER 9

SEPTEMBER, 1994

## FATHER SEELOS MEMORIAL MASS, OCTOBER 2



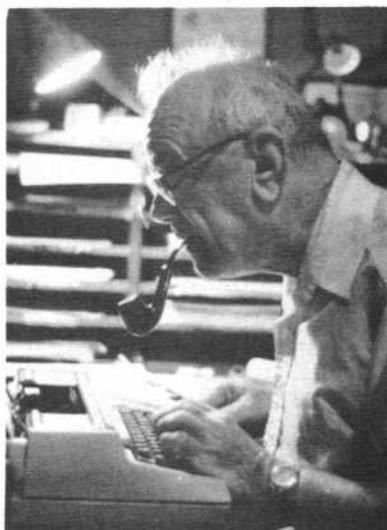
On October 2 the annual memorial Mass for Father Francis Xavier Seeelos, C.S.S.R., will be celebrated at 11:30 A.M. in St. Mary's Assumption Church (on the corner of Josephine and Constance Streets in the Irish Channel of New Orleans). The principal celebrant and homilist of the Mass will be Father Pablo Straub, C.S.S.R. The mission crucifix of Father Seeelos will be venerated at the end of Mass. A reception will be held in St. Mary's garden after the ceremonies.

At the present time Father Straub is a missionary in Mexico and is shepherding two apostolic religious communities into existence in the Church, one of men and the other of women. Father Pablo regularly appears on Mother Angelica's EWTN.

This is the 127th anniversary of Father Seeelos' death of yellow fever in 1867. His earthly remains lie in the sanctuary of St. Mary's Church. His cause for sainthood is progressing both here in America and in Rome.

## MR. CLETUS STACK, R.I.P.

On June 6 the Father Seeelos Center suffered the loss of one of its executive assistants, Mr. Cletus Stack. He died in Mercy Hospital in New Orleans after a short illness. For nearly 30 years Mr. Stack gave of his time and talent to the work of the Center in whatever capacity he was able to serve. We shall miss him. We are most grateful to him for his dedication and utmost generosity. Remember him in prayer. May he receive his eternal reward from the Lord.



*Mr. Cletus Stack*

## "THINGS"

We all slip into this world and thus into history without our knowing it. One day we awake to reality and see ourselves surrounded by our family and "things". We have probably never given it a thought, but along with our family, there is food, there are toys, there are clothes, there is a bed. From that moment on, we begin to acquire "things". Truthfully, we cannot do without them. We need them to continue to live on this earth.

To own "things", to possess property is our right. But with this right, we have obligation to use "things" to insure our existence. That is clear. What is important for us to see to, is our attitude towards the "things" we do have.

Scripture tells us that we have not here an everlasting home. That is so true. Our ownership of "things" is, therefore, at best temporary, and any undue attachment to these "things" is risky. We know not the day nor the hour. Job expressed it plainly, "Naked I came forth from my mother's womb, and naked I shall go back again" (Job 1:21).

Jesus said not to worry about gathering "things". Our Father in heaven would take care of us as He does for the lillies of the field and the birds of the air. Jesus drove home forcefully the idea of temporary ownership with the parable of the rich farmer who had to build bigger and better barns to hold his bumper crops. When he sat down after the day's work to rejoice in his good fortune, he was suddenly called into eternity. Jesus closed the parable with the plaintive remark, "To whom will all this piled-up wealth of yours go?" (Luke 12:20).

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

Liguori, MO

This is a thank-you to Father Seelos. I suffered from very severe — almost unbearable headaches, caused by a partial blockage in the carotid artery. At the same time I developed other circulatory problems: chest pains and stiffness in my arms and legs. Last summer my husband and I started to pray to Father Seelos for my recovery. At first my condition remained unchanged. Three trips to the emergency room brought no results. Then, one week before Christmas, the doctor was able to find the cause of so much of my trouble, and he changed my medication. I am well now, except for an occasional mild headache, but I am sure that Father Seelos will take care of that, too. We continue to pray to Father Seelos and for Father Seelos, that soon the Church will declare him a saint.

Metairie, LA

I am writing to give thanks to Father Seelos for a favor granted to me and my family this year. My husband and I welcomed our second child into this world on September 21. His name is Corey Stephen. The pregnancy was uncomplicated as was the delivery. He was a healthy 7 lbs. 15 ozs. boy, or so we thought.

Corey was nine hours old when his pediatrician called to tell me and my husband that the baby had very slow breathing and was turning blue and a couple of times had stopped breathing. Corey was admitted to the hospital and tests could find no reason why he was not breathing properly. Corey's grandmother called the Father Seelos Center and asked that he be blessed with Father Seelos' cross. The next day a very nice lady came with the cross and Corey was blessed. Two days later Corey was released from the hospital with a clean bill of health. He was able to come home to his mom, dad, and most of all, his big brother.

We truly believe that Father Seelos helped Corey during his most difficult time in adjusting to his new life. All of us, who love Corey and prayed from him to be well, are most grateful to the intercession of Father Seelos. He is truly a saint to us.

Attleboro, MA

Thank you for sending the bulletin, *FATHER SEELOS AND SANCTITY*. I pass it along and trust God uses it to spread the good news of Jesus through our dear Father Seelos. Miracles come in all sizes and situations. The last bulletin had a line by Father Elworthy and it was the voice of God telling me to be at peace. Family upsets are usual trivial nothings and still cause much angst and anguish. The words "we are bound to love everyone, even our relatives", is what I needed to hear. I whispered an "Ave" in honor of Father Seelos and within minutes the phone rang, a relative, asking me to do a little favor. Well, I couldn't believe it happened. All the old hurt and foolish worry just disappeared; the day was bright and beautiful. They say that God gives us our relatives, but we can pick our friends. That really isn't a Christian maxim and the dear Christ asks us to turn the other cheek. Thank you, Father. Your message made me see misunderstandings less "mortal". Our beloved Father Seelos helps us in so many ways and he brings us closer to Christ. Keep the bulletin coming. Who knows how many others can be lifted up and know God is with us. He loves us all in spite of our unworthiness.

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Mail, May, 1994

Petitions: 599

Thanksgivings: 247

Other: 379

Total: 1225

Dial-A-Messages: 751

Volunteer Hours: 1057

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