



FATHER SEELOS AND SANCTITY

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VOLUNTEERS OF THE FATHER SEELOS CENTER



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We owe the above and all those not pictured a great debt of gratitude for the help they give in mailing this bulletin every month.

STEWARDS OF CREATION

In the first book of the Bible, the book of Genesis, we read: *"God created man in His image; in the divine image He created him; male and female He created them. God blessed them, saying, 'Be fertile, and multiply; fill the earth and subdue it. Have dominion over the fish of the sea, the birds of the air, and all the living things that move on the earth'"* (Gen. 1: 27-28).

God made us and placed His creation at our disposal. Mind, however, we are not the owners. None of us lives forever. We come into this world by the will of our Creator and we leave it at His word. We are the stewards of His creation. Like the steward in the Gospel, we will one day give an account of our stewardship.

How beautiful this earth really is we have learned from pictures from space. As we walk this earth how often we are moved by its marvels. Then how often we weep when we see the wanton destruction of vandalism and the ugliness of irresponsible neglect.

(Continued on next page)

God gave us the breath of life. He planted into our very being the instinct to preserve our life — at times no matter what the cost. He expects us to take reasonable care of our health, to use ordinary means, at least, when our health is in danger. He expects us to take no unnecessary risks.

God has also made us stewards of the lives of others. We know that it is against the commandment of the Lord to take life of another directly. We must promote the well-being of those towards whom we have some responsibility, the members of our family, the people who live around us, those who work for us, our relatives and friends. Our responsibility towards others, while diminishing the farther we get from the center of the circle, that is ourselves, goes out in ever widening lines to embrace our fellow-townpeople, the fellow citizens of our own country and indeed the world.

Furthermore, as responsible users of God's creation, we should be mindful of the generations to come. We have no right to squander its riches. We should endeavor to improve the air we breathe, the water we drink and use for varied purposes, the land we till and occupy, the fauna and flora that God furnished us with to make our pilgrimage here an easier one.

Joseph Elworthy, C.S.S.R.

(Reprint of May, 1990)



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 _____

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SPECIAL LETTERS

Bel Air, MD

I have known of Father Seelos only a short time, but he has become a fast friend and a wonderful prayer partner. I am one of the coordinators of our parish's intercessory prayer net work, and early last spring we were asked to pray for a sixty-five year old woman battling recurring cancer. The lady had been through years of illness and treatment, but her will to live was strong since, after most of a life time being alone, she was engaged to be married for the first time. We began prayer for her but things did not readily improve. Her wedding date was changed three times because of her poor physical condition. All treatment was stopped because she was no longer able to tolerate it.

It was about this time that I read *Nothing Short of a Miracle* and met Father Seelos. I really believe Patricia Treece is right when she says our friendships with the saints are prompted by the Holy Spirit. That is the only way I can explain how drawn I immediately was to him, and the absolute certainty that he was the one to pray for this special lady. Her wedding was re-set for July — the feast of Our Lady of Mount Carmel. I asked Father Seelos to pray that she would be strong enough physically to be married and to know that joy. How much more than we can ask or imagine does God give! Thanks to the prayers of Father Seelos and Mary our Mother, she was indeed married in July. In October her follow-up blood studies were negative and her doctors suspended their plans for new treatment. She has been traveling with her husband and is enjoying life as a new bride. I have felt Father Seelos smiling from heaven many times as I have thought about her! I love him dearly and pray for the time when the Church will recognize him as a saint.

Please send me a copy of the *Ceerful Ascetic*, and enroll me for a year's subscription to *Father Seelos and Sanctity*.

San Antonio, TX

I just heard about Father Seelos from a friend, who just happened to call and she casually talked about Father Seelos. She had no idea we were going through a family crisis. My dear brother, John, is undergoing prostrate cancer tests in Galveston and it looks very bad. I am very devastated. After one of the tests, I called my brother and told him I was praying to Father Seelos. Much to my surprise, he told me he was praying to him also; and carrying a prayer card of his during all the tests. I couldn't believe it!

Gretna, LA

I give thanks to Father Seelos for his help with my granddaughters. Both girls were born with life-threatening conditions (two years apart). I can't put into words my love and devotion for his help. Both girls are doing great, in their own way. I will continue to pray that our Father Seelos be declared a saint of the Church.

Mail: January, 1995

Petitions: 601

Thanksgivings: 259

Others: 500

Total: 1360

Dial-A-Messages: 769

Volunteer Hours: 1051

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Rev. Joseph Buhler, C.S.S.R., Vice-Postulator, Rev. Joseph Elworthy, C.S.S.R., Director and Editor, Mrs. Angela Boudreaux and Mr. Melvin Boudreaux, Executive Assistants.

5