



FATHER SEELOS AND SANCTITY

VOLUME XXXVIII, NUMBER 10

OCTOBER, 1999

BISHOP GILBERT TO CELEBRATE ANNIVERSARY MASS, OCTOBER 3

Bishop Edward J. Gilbert, C.S.S.R., of the diocese of Roseau on the island of Dominica, West Indies, will be the main celebrant and homilist at the memorial Mass for Father Seelos. The annual Mass is scheduled for 11:30 A.M. on Sunday, October 3 in St. Mary's Assumption Church.

The mission crucifix of Father Seelos will be venerated after the Mass. A reception will be held in St. Mary's garden immediately following the ceremonies. St. Mary's Church is on the corner of Josephine and Constance Streets in the Irish Channel.

Bishop Gilbert, a native of Brooklyn, New York, taught in the Redemptorist Seminary in Esopus, N.Y., was the provincial of the Baltimore province for several terms and just recently was named as bishop of Roseau, the commonwealth of Dominica.

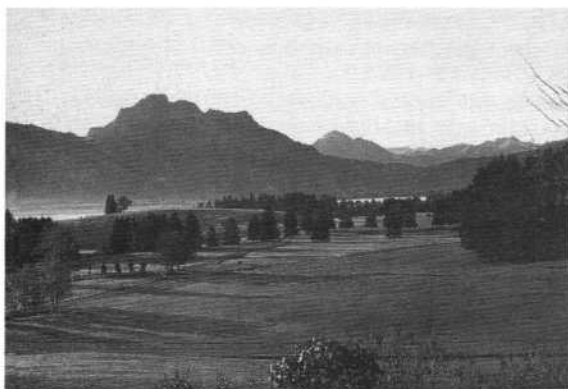
FATHER SEELOS CALENDAR FOR YEAR 2000

The Center has commissioned the printing of a commemorative calendar for the year 2000. It will feature Father Seelos and the places he touched in his life and persons who have reported cures through his intercession.

Because of the constraints of time, it will be a limited edition of 1000. We ask our readers to reserve their calendar by writing us immediately. The price per calendar is \$10.00.

"I LOOK TO THE MOUNTAIN"

Capped in snow, shrouded in mist, bathed in golden sunshine, mountains present themselves as a challenge to the traveler, alluring to the climber, mysterious to the philosopher, a thing of beauty to us all. For God in the revelation of Himself to us a mountain was the meeting-place.



Mountains in Füssen, Germany. (Photo by Charles & Joelle Escudé.)

Jesus, the Son of God made-man, had to prepare His followers for the bad news of His impending death by crucifixion. He took three of His apostles, Peter, James and John, up to a high mountain, Mount Tabor. While they were there He was transfigured before them. His garments became dazzlingly white and a bright light shone around Him. The apostles were literally

(Continued on next page)

dazed with this brilliance. When they came to their senses, they saw Jesus conversing with Moses and Elijah, the Old Testament representatives of the Law and the Prophets. They were speaking of His death in Jerusalem.

Moses was called by God to lead the Israelites from the slavery of Egypt to the freedom of the Promised Land. Together for 40 years they wandered through the desert to Mount Sinai. It was on this mountain that Moses spoke with God and God revealed to him the Ten Commandments written on two tablets of stone.

The prophet Elijah fled for his life from his enemies and was fed miraculously by an angel of God and with this food and drink he had the strength to walk 40 days and nights to the mountain of God, Horeb. There he was told to await the word of the Lord.

"Then the Lord said, 'Go outside and stand on the mountain before the Lord; the Lord will be passing by.' A strong and heavy wind was rending the mountains and crushing rocks before the Lord – but the Lord was not in the wind. After the wind there was an earthquake – but God was not in the earthquake. After the earthquake there was fire – but God was not in the fire. After the fire there was a tiny whispering sound. When he heard this, Elijah hid his face in his cloak and went and stood at the entrance of the cave. A voice said to him, "Elijah, why are you here?" (1 Kings 19:11-14).

After hours of teaching and laying hands on the sick, Jesus, the Gospels tell us, often went up to a mountain to pray. For us the mountains have a certain symbolism. Not all of us can retire to the mountains to pray. We can, however, divest ourselves, as it were, of the cares and troubles of the day. Wherever we are, on a mountain, by the seashore, making a retreat, going to church, merely retiring to our rooms, waking up early before the house is astir. Thus being recollected, we can, as Elijah, await the word of the Lord.

Albert Babin, 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: Gerry Heigle, 482-4404, Jack Pitkin, 524-6591, Teresa LaCour, 887-0214, Rita Kaul, 271-4520, Thad and Ethel Kuhn, 837-3957, Rosary Stoltman, 393-9423, Jim Howard, 277-7949, Marie Callahan, 525-1775, or Elaine Freeman, 341-2213.
 - 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 FOUR 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

New Orleans, LA

When I read the beautiful letter from the lady in Eunice, LA, it brought to mind an experience I had approximately one year ago after I had lost my glasses. Before retiring one night I recalled how my mother would ask Father Seelos to help her find "lost things." So I followed her custom.

One year ago before retiring for the night after looking for my glasses once again. I walked into the darkened parlor. I looked at one particular window and I said out loud, "Father Seelos, where ARE my glasses?"

I turned away and walked directly to the bedroom. Then my husband and I heard a loud crash. The noise came through the intercom and we knew it came from the parlor. There we found the very window that I had looked at when I spoke to Father Seelos about my lost glasses had five panes broken to smithereens! We did not call the police. My husband secured the window with plywood, and we went back to bed.

The next morning we found out what broke the window. It was a large piece of concrete weighing seven or eight pounds. Someone had heaved it through the window and it hit the window frame rather than going through the window. It broke five window panes and put a dent in the frame. I saw immediately that Father Seelos saved me from serious injury or death.

I have thanked Father Seelos many times for protecting me that night.

New Orleans, LA (e-mail)

My CT scans and MRI's of last week confirmed that the prayers everyone has been saying for me has stopped my cancer growth in its track!!! No further growth was evident in my spine nor my lung so I was accepted for the third treatment which was given last Wed. in Houston. Hallelujah! Glory to God!

Today my local oncologist is reviewing the X-rays we brought back with us. He said that we might not be aware but this was like "stopping an eighteen-wheeler Big MACK going down the highway at 80 miles an hour and stopping it in its tracks – right now." My cancer had been spreading so rapidly it was like an inverted pyramid with my primary cancer being the vortex and spreading out in a wide direction. My treatment and prayers have stopped it in its tracks!!!

...Say a special thanks to Father Seelos for all that he has done.

I return for my fourth treatment with the help of God ... we're going to beat it. PRAYERS WORK!!!

Cortlandt Manor, NY

I want to let you know that my prayers have been answered and my house has finally been sold. The good Lord had answered my prayer that the right person would buy it. They are a religious family who told their real estate agent they felt directed by God to buy the house.

I know Father Seelos has God for His blessings once again. He is always such a family friend ... Between requests by St. Joseph and Father Seelos the good Lord smiled down once again on our family. He has blessed us more than I can express enough thankfulness for! Please print my thanks to Father Seelos for his prayers. He is such a friend to our family.

Mail: June, 1999

Petitions: 879

Thanksgivings: 329

Others: 301

Total: 1509

Dial-A-Messages: 769

Volunteer Hours: 1065

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Published with Ecclesiastical Approbation.

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