

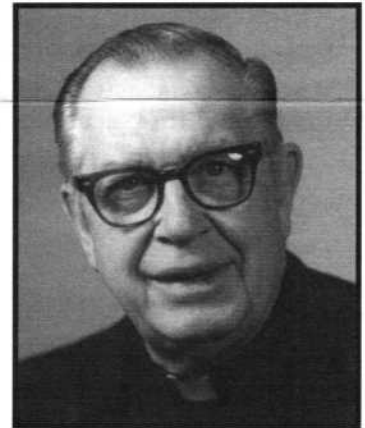
# NEWS

## Seelos Center

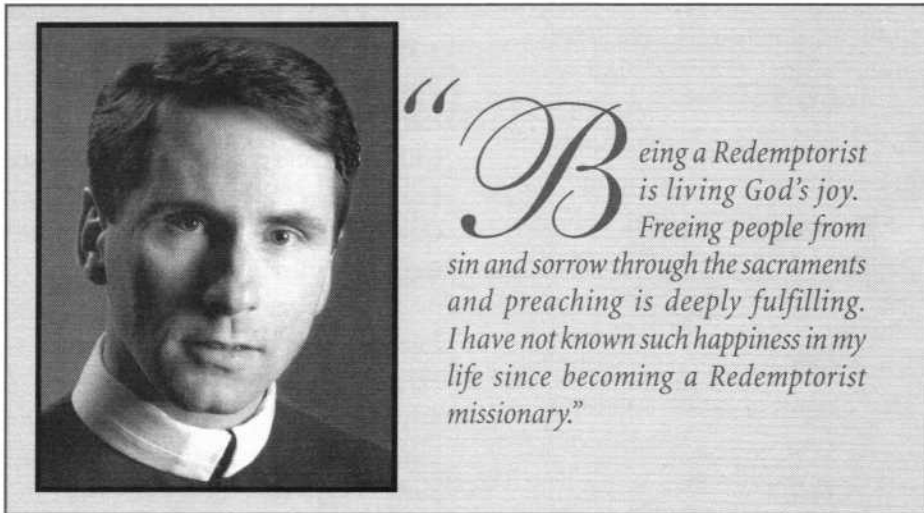


VOLUME XL • NUMBER 4 • APRIL 2001

## Blessed Francis Seelos Day In New Orleans - APRIL 29



Immediately following the Mass, a dinner will be held at the Jefferson-Orleans South, 2536 Edenborn Avenue, Metairie, beginning at 2:00 p.m. The guest speaker will be Fr. Joseph Elworthy, C.Ss.R., Director Emeritus of the Seelos Center. After-dinner entertainment will be provided and a silent auction will support the canonization cause of Father Seelos. Door prizes will also be awarded. Tickets for the dinner are \$21 per person. They may be obtained at the Seelos Center, 2030 Constance Street, New Orleans, LA 70130, or by calling (504) 525-2495.



*“Being a Redemptorist is living God’s joy. Freeing people from sin and sorrow through the sacraments and preaching is deeply fulfilling. I have not known such happiness in my life since becoming a Redemptorist missionary.”*

The Thirteenth Annual “Blessed Francis Seelos Day in New Orleans” will be celebrated on the last Sunday of the month, April 29th. A memorial Mass will take place in St. Mary’s Assumption Church (on the corner of Josephine and Constance Streets in the Irish Channel)

at 11:30 a.m. Father Daniel Francis, C.Ss.R. will be the principal celebrant and homilist at the Mass. Fr. Francis, a Redemptorist missionary preacher stationed in the Bronx, New York, is currently pursuing a doctoral degree in homiletics at the Aquinas Institute in St. Louis.

**? HAVE YOU  
RECENTLY MOVED?  
Are you Receiving  
Duplicate copies?**

Please notify us if changes are needed in the way you currently receive our newsletter

WRITE TO: Seelos Foundation • The Redemptorists  
New Orleans Vice Province • One Liguori Drive • Liguori, MO 63057-9999

OR CALL: 800-464-2555 Ext. 425 (Please allow a minimum of 30 days to process your changes.)

The Seelos Museum, Shrine and Gift Shop are now open on Saturdays!  
New Hours of Operation: Monday - Friday 9 AM - 3 PM Saturday - 10 AM - 3 PM  
Tours available during the hours of operation - Other times by appointment. (504) 525-2495

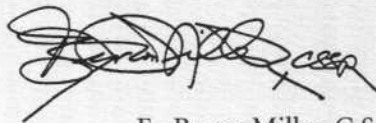
## A Message from the Editor

"This country seems to have turned a lot meaner and ruder lately. The kinder, gentler nation has fallen, and it can't get up." Now that Roy Rivenburg of the *L.A. Times* has got our attention, he goes on to cite some examples:

- Television commercials used to compare the sponsor's product to an anonymous "Brand X." Now, advertisers such as MCI and AT&T are openly critical of each other.
- High school sports leagues have started banning post-game handshakes to avoid fistfights.
- News reports are laced with stories of road rage and fatal duels over parking spaces, loud stereos and subway seats.

When the radio news announced "another random act of senseless violence" one morning, a college professor in California decided to take action. That day he gave his students this assignment: "Today I will commit one random act of senseless kindness." To complete the assignment, one student bought blankets and distributed them to homeless people; another student rescued a stray dog; another gave away her parking spot to a rushed colleague. The students responded so well to the assignment they began a campaign for "random acts of senseless kindness" that earned nation-wide attention.

"Lent" is derived from a Middle English word meaning "the season of spring." It is spring; it is Easter; it is time for new life, for transformation, for Christian acts of senseless kindness! *"If anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new"* (2 Cor.5:17). Where's the new transformation? What about dedicating this day to performing acts of kindness in a sometimes mean and rude world? May the gentle spirit of the kind and ever-cheerful Blessed Francis Seelos be a source of inspiration throughout this Easter Season of Resurrected Joy!



Fr. Byron Miller, C.Ss.R.

## Seelos Center NEWS

*A monthly newsletter for friends of Blessed Francis X. Seelos, C.Ss.R.*

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Vice Provincial - New Orleans

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# SEELOS and SAN ANTONIO

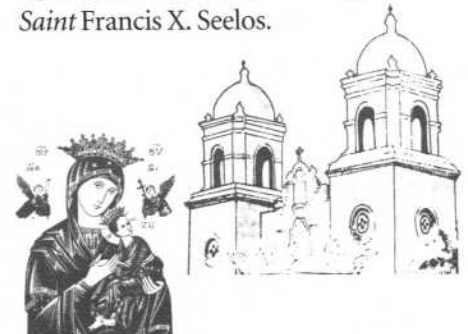
*by Rev. Gilbert Enderle, C.Ss.R.*

Francis X. Seelos' fame as an Apostle of the Sick grew in Texas during January, 2001. In a joint effort of St. Gerard Parish, Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish, Liguori House Seminary, and the Redemptorist Apostolic Center, two "Days of Healing Prayer" commemorated the January 11th birthday of Father Seelos.

Three hundred faithful, some from distant points around San Antonio, came to pray for themselves or for loved ones in the bilingual event. Mass and Evening Prayer were celebrated, accompanied by the Sacraments of Reconciliation and Anointing. Individual blessings were also available with a relic and mission cross of Blessed Francis Seelos. Fr. Byron Miller, C.Ss.R., director of the Seelos Center, was the featured homilist.

The presence of so many Redemptorists taking part in these celebrations was a sight much appreciated by parishioners who remember similar occasions of years past. There were never less than five confreres in the sanctuary. Fathers Alton Carr and Gil Enderle originated the idea of these days of healing prayer for their parishioners.

The people of St. Gerard's and Perpetual Help Parish, San Antonio, now firmly believe that our Apostle of the Sick is just one miracle shy of being declared *Saint* Francis X. Seelos.





## SEELOS MEDALS NOW AVAILABLE

We are pleased to offer an exclusive Blessed F. Seelos medal, made of nickel silver. Round (3/4" diameter), with loop, antique finish, finely crafted in the United States. A donation of \$3 each or 2/\$5(+\$1p/h) supports the canonization cause.



The Seelos Center would like to acknowledge Charles Clark and Christine Robertson of Westbank Engraving, 2132 Alamo Avenue, Harvey, LA for their assistance in creating the Seelos Medal.

*Divine Physician,*

*You infused Father Seelos with the gift of Your healing. By the help of his prayers, sustain in me the grace to know Your will and the strength to overcome my afflictions. For love of You, make me whole. May I learn from the example of Blessed Francis Seelos and gain comfort from his patient endurance.*

*Amen*

## *"With Him is Plentiful Redemption"* (Psalm 130:7)

### **The Seelos Center offers the following services:**

- Pilgrimages to St. Mary's Assumption Church, the Shrine and Museum of Blessed F. Seelos in New Orleans. For details and appointments, call the Center at 504-525-2495.
- A Daily Spiritual Message. Call 504-586-1803.
- Blessings of the Sick with a Mission Crucifix of Blessed F. Seelos in the Greater New Orleans area, please call:
  - Gerry Heigle (E. Jefferson) 504-482-4404
  - Jack Pitkin (Uptown/Innecity) 504-524-6591
  - Teresa LaCour (E. Jefferson) 504-887-0214
  - Rita Kaul (Arabi) 504-271-4520
  - Rosary Stoltman (Westbank) 504-393-9423
  - Jim Howard (St. Bernard) 504-277-7949
  - Elaine Freeman (Westbank) 504-341-2213
  - Peter Lukinovich (N.O. East) 504-241-2746
  - Ethel Kuhn (Ochsner) 504-837-3957
  - Bill and Sunny Schulz (Northshore) 504-792-5394
- Veneration of Blessed F. Seelos' Mission Crucifix every Sunday after the 11:30 am Mass in the historic St. Mary's Assumption Church (Josephine and Constance Streets).
- Weekly Mass celebrated for the intentions of the Seelos Center. If you have Special Intentions, please list them in the space provided on the enclosed envelope.



### **The Seelos Center / Seelos Foundation Office offers the following devotionals:**

*(Please allow up to 2 weeks for delivery of item(s) requested):*

- "Seelos: A Cause to Rejoice," an informative documentary on the life of Blessed F. Seelos; 30-minute VHS cassette. (Suggested donation: \$15 - includes postage.)
- "A Life of Blessed Francis Xavier Seelos," a new 108-page paperback biography by Carl Hoegerl, C.Ss.R. & Alicia von Stamwitz. (Suggested donation: \$8.50 - includes postage.)
- Nothing Short of a Miracle*, a 207-page paperback book by Patricia Treece on the healing power of the saints; two of the chapters feature Father Seelos. (Suggested donation: \$12.50 - includes postage.)
- Messengers: After-Death Appearances of Saints & Mystics*, a 343-page hardbound book on the authentic appearances of the holy dead sent as God's messengers. Chapters on Fr. Seelos; photos included. Autographed by author, P. Treece. (Suggested donation: \$21.50 - includes postage.)
- Pamphlets and prayer cards of Blessed F. Seelos, available in English, Spanish and Vietnamese.
- Audio cassette of a spiritual conference talk on God as Father and Blessed F. Seelos, given by Father Charles Mallen, C.Ss.R. (Suggested donation: \$6 - includes postage.)
- A Blessed F. Seelos vigil candle will burn near his tomb or in the Seelos Museum at St. Mary's Assumption Church, New Orleans for an offering of \$3.00.
- First, Second and Third-Class relics of Blessed F. Seelos. Please contact the Seelos Center, 504-525-2495



# Testimonials

## Metairie, LA

(From the letter of a medical doctor:) I am writing this letter to relay the story of a patient of mine. She has had a thyroid mass for the last two to three years, which has slowly grown and was beginning to cause some secondary symptoms of hoarseness and choking sensation when she bent her neck. She was evaluated by an endocrinologist on the Gulf Coast who felt surgery was indicated. In September 2000 she had a visit with Fr. Joe Armshaw, C.Ss.R. in which he placed a relic from Father Seelos on her neck. She felt a warm sensation and experienced some subjective shrinking of the mass sensation following exposure to that relic. She had her initial surgery on October 2, 2000. The frozen section of her tumor at that time was felt to be benign; however, on further evaluation with permanent sections it was diagnosed as a carcinoma of the thyroid gland. She subsequently underwent another surgery to remove her main thyroid tissue.

In review, I present the case of an adult female who had a symptomatic tumor in her neck whose symptoms regressed dramatically after exposure to a relic of Father Seelos. She did indeed have a thyroid cancer, which did not on pathologic evaluation, display any areas of necrosis; thus, there is no medical explanation for her symptomatic improvement.

## Baton Rouge, LA

I am writing to report a favor granted by Blessed Francis X. Seelos. Last semester, I began law school at the LSU Law Center. It was a rough four months and I worried a lot that I wouldn't pass. During the fall, my mother visited the Seelos Center in New Orleans and brought me a prayer card and cloth relic. I prayed to Blessed Seelos every day and night that I might do my best and make good grades. I most definitely believe in the power of prayer! My favor was granted! I was ranked 15th out of 221 freshmen, putting me in the top 7% of my class. I am so grateful to Blessed Seelos. I am a better person and a stronger Catholic because of my time of trial last semester.

## Marrero, LA

I had breast cancer in April 1996 and went through chemo and radiation. In October 1999, the cancer was found in my bones and liver and I had chemo for one year. A friend told me about going to get blessed by the Father Seelos cross and so I went to St. Mary's. I feel that I have been blessed through the intercession of God and Father Seelos. It has been three months and I haven't had any treatments and all my lab results are terrific. I would like to live this miracle a little while longer!

## They Thought to Write Us!

NEW ORLEANS, LA Your article [January 2001 issue] on Father Vaughn's taking up the Seelos cause touched a deep, resonating chord in me. Why? Because Fr. Vaughn, affectionately called "Arky" by his friends, gave me the privilege of helping him launch Volume I, #1 of the Seelos newsletter, May 1962. At the time I was vice-president of an insurance company. We possessed the latest in copy capabilities, an electric mimeograph machine. Older people will remember the mimeograph machine, with the hand crank and the purple masters that had to be typed one copy at a time, somewhat slowly.



Arky was writing the first newsletter when we happened to be visiting one day. He was concerned about printing it. I told him about our machine on which we could print them at no cost and I could type the masters. He was overjoyed. If I remember correctly, we printed them in my office for about a year or so and then he got some of his own printing equipment and didn't need my machine anymore.

Yes, a humble beginning, planting the seed. Yet look how beautiful the tree has grown through the years. And now the tree is in good hands. We all owe a thanks to Fr. "Arky" Vaughn, C.Ss.R.

Mr. Jay C. Albarado