



VOLUME 121

SEELOS CENTER NEWS

MARCH 2025

from the National Shrine of Blessed Francis Xavier Seelos, C.Ss.R.

Dear Devotees of Blessed Seelos:

In December of 2022, a story made the rounds when a flight from Orlando, Florida to Knoxville, Tennessee, was canceled, leaving hundreds of passengers stranded. Thirteen of those passengers rented a van and made the journey together. The catch: they were complete strangers. The only thing they had in common was their destination – Knoxville. Each person had their own reasons for needing to get there. Yet, they all piled into the van, took turns driving, shared their stories, and kept each other awake. Despite their differences, they formed a small community along the way.

In many ways, this story is a fitting image for this Year of Hope, which is, at its heart, a year of pilgrimage together. Pilgrimage, after all, is like getting into a van with strangers and journeying toward a common destination. While vans weren't around in Blessed Seelos' time, his life was deeply marked by pilgrimage.

As a Redemptorist missionary, Father Seelos was on a lifelong journey to proclaim God's mercy. His pilgrimage took him across the world and throughout the United States, where he encountered strangers who, in spite of their differences, became brothers and sisters in Christ.

During this Year of Hope, we are all invited to make a pilgrimage – a journey together, united as brothers and sisters in Christ. If you're nearby, consider joining us at the Shrine of Blessed Seelos. We invite you to participate in our Jubilee Year events. Even if you're far away, you can still journey with us in prayer and join us for our online Beatification Anniversary Novena at youtube.com/@seelosshrine, or submit your prayer intentions at seelos.org/submit-a-prayer-petition to be placed before Blessed Seelos' reliquary.

No matter how we make this pilgrimage, it is one that we make together. May Blessed Seelos be our guide.



Aaron L. Meszaros C.Ss.R.

Aaron L. Meszaros, C.Ss.R.

Director, National Shrine of Blessed Francis Xavier Seelos, C.Ss.R.

SAVE THE DATE: SEELOS HEALING MASSES



Sunday, April 6, 2025

ENGLISH MASS ~ 10:30 am CT

St. Mary's Assumption Church
and on Facebook Live

SPANISH MASS ~ 12:30 pm CT

St. Mary's Assumption Church

**Jerome Chavarria, C.Ss.R.
Celebrant**



★ To learn how you can
volunteer for a Seelos Healing
Mass, call (504) 525-2495. ★



JOIN OUR CELEBRATIONS AT THE SEELOS SHRINE!

In 2025 the Shrine is celebrating a Jubilee Year and the 25th anniversary of Blessed Seelos' beatification with a series of prayerful events.

**We invite everyone to join us
in person or online.**

We look forward to celebrating with you and spreading the message of hope that Blessed Seelos so beautifully exemplified.

NOVENA IN-PERSON & ONLINE

Every Wednesday, Now - April 9, 2025

Catch up on past Novena days at youtube.com/@seelosshrine.

ROSARY, MASS, STATIONS OF THE CROSS & JUBILEE DAY OF PRAYER

Wednesday, April 9, 2025

To see Beatification Anniversary event
times and locations, scan this code or visit
www.seelos.org/beatification-novena.



2025 JUBILEE HYMN

“Pilgrims of Hope”

Like a flame my hope is burning,
may my song arise to you:
Source of life that has no ending,
on life's path I trust in you.

Ev'ry nation, tongue, and people
find a light within your Word.
Scattered fragile sons and daughters
find a home in your dear Son.

Like a flame my hope is burning,
may my song arise to you:
Source of life that has no ending,
on life's path I trust in you.

God, so tender and so patient,
dawn of hope, you care for all.
Heav'n and earth are recreated
by the Spirit of Life set free.

Like a flame my hope is burning,
may my song arise to you:
Source of life that has no ending,
on life's path I trust in you.

Raise your eyes, the wind is blowing,
for our God is born in time.
Son made man for you and many
who will find the way in him.

Like a flame my hope is burning,
may my song arise to you:
Source of life that has no ending,
on life's path I trust in you.

*Original text: Pierangelo Sequeri
English translation: Andrew Wadsworth*

Blessings for the Sick

*Hospital visits with a Seelos Crucifix
(Only family members may request)*

JEFFERSON / ORLEANS

CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL
Dennis Waldron (504) 442-6336

EAST JEFFERSON GENERAL HOSPITAL

Anne Batt (504) 458-0310
Amy Morel (504) 416-5018
Matt Morel (504) 416-6073
Norris Plaisance (504) 235-1961

OCHSNER (JEFFERSON)

Amy Morel (504) 416-5018
Matt Morel (504) 416-6073
Norris Plaisance (504) 235-1961
Monica Surprenant (401) 207-5521

OCHSNER (KENNER)

Linda DiMaggio (504) 287-8732
Wendy Whittaker (504) 722-0089

ORLEANS PARISH

Amy Morel (504) 416-5018
Matt Morel (504) 416-6073
Dennis Waldron (504) 442-6336

WESTBANK

Elaine Freeman (504) 341-2213

LOUISIANA

ALEXANDRIA

Mary Ann Reddoch (318) 277-0545
Deacon Bill & Joan Travis (318) 664-7069

BALDWIN / FRANKLIN

Patti Ibert (337) 828-0141

BATON ROUGE

Gloria Bacqué (225) 753-3800

COVINGTON

Dr. Ann Logarbo (985) 886-0218

HOUMA / THIBODAUX

Debbie Badeaux (985) 438-4096
Margo Battaglia Clement (985) 637-6056
Deacon Rod Fonseca (504) 320-7450
Sheila Fonseca (504) 320-9807

IOTA

Anne Ritter (337) 254-8451

LAFAYETTE / ABEVILLE / ERATH

Boniface "Boni" Suire (337) 937-5675

LAKE CHARLES

Lisa Verrette (337) 274-4810

LULING & SURROUNDING AREA

David Fauchaux (504) 908-4120

MANDEVILLE / SLIDELL

David Brumfield (985) 234-9355
Lisa and Eric Johnsen (985) 640-1677
Kathy Newcomb (225) 978-9284

NEW IBERIA / ABEVILLE / JEANERETTE

Rachel Gonsoulin (337) 224-7855

OPELOUSAS

Suzanne Pitre (337) 351-8489

PONCHATOULA

David and Joan Diaz (504) 715-6642

PRAIRIEVILLE / GONZALES

Deacon Claude Bourgeois (225) 337-0945

SHREVEPORT / BOSSIER CITY

Tom and Marjorie Rivers (318) 797-3116

OUTSIDE OF LOUISIANA

MISSISSIPPI GULF COAST

Elena Guida (228) 596-3085

KATY, TEXAS

Donna Johnson (713) 826-4191
Lauren Johnson (281) 851-1321

GRACES RECEIVED & PRAYERS ANSWERED

CLEARWATER, FL

My 44-year-old son had a heart attack and underwent quadruple bypass surgery. I asked for intercession from Blessed Seelos and lit a candle at the Shrine. The operation was a success, and he made a complete recovery. He is back working full time!

Also, my sister was diagnosed with pancreatic cancer. She had surgery, chemo, and radiation. Once again, I asked for intercession from Blessed Seelos and lit a candle at the Shrine. She went to her oncologist who declared her cancer free! Thank you Blessed Seelos.

WESTPORT, CT

In 2010 my wife underwent gallbladder surgery. The surgeon nicked her colon and 24 hours later she was in severe distress due to sepsis. Further deterioration led to a second surgery. Ultimately, she was admitted to the ICU and was medically sedated for two weeks. During that period my college roommate's wife, who was dealing with breast cancer, sent me

a relic of Fr. Seelos which I pinned to my sedated wife's bedding. I asked for his intercession. We were told that her survival was precarious.

One week later, the doctor stepped into my wife's hospital room, looked at her and declared "It's a miracle." I believe he was right.

RAYNE, LA

Our son, Nicholas, was born with congenital heart defects. At five weeks of age, we were told he would not live to be 2 years old and there was nowhere we could go that could help him medically. A dear friend introduced us to Father Seelos and we began praying for healing through his intercession. We distributed prayer cards and the little crocheted relics. Many people were praying for us and Nick.

made sure to attend the annual Seelos masses at St. Mary's Assumption in deep gratitude to God for Nick's health.

Nick grew to be a healthy young man who played high school sports and earned his master's degree in Kinesiology, before discerning a call to the priesthood. He was ordained on June 11, 2022.

We were guided by God's hand to pediatric heart specialists with Texas Children's hospital who told us they could operate and correct his defects. Following Nick's two heart surgeries, we

We all continue to have a great devotion to Blessed Seelos. At the time of his ordination, Fr. Nick was given a Seelos first class relic, and he has shown up for my son in many other ways. We pray Fr. Seelos will be a canonized saint one day, but to us, he already is!



Submit Your Testimonial Online!

Your words offer encouragement to others in need of Seelos' intercession.

www.SEELOS.org/submit-a-healing-or-favor

SHRINE, MUSEUM & WELCOME CENTER HOURS

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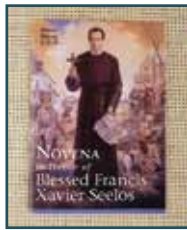
MARCH SHRINE CLOSURES

Due to our proximity to local parade routes, the Shrine will be closed on the following days.

Saturday, March 1 – Tuesday, March 4, 2025

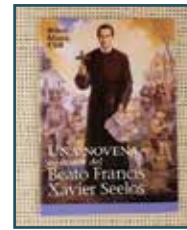
Saturday, March 15, 2025

HOT IN THE SHOP ~ JOIN THE NOVENA!



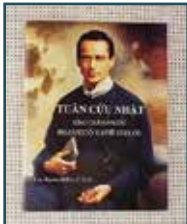
SEELOS ENGLISH NOVENA BOOKLET – \$5

Nine meditations to help us live a life of holiness on our journey of faith.



SEELOS SPANISH NOVENA BOOKLET – \$5

Nine meditations in Spanish to help us live a life of holiness on our journey of faith.



SEELOS VIETNAMESE NOVENA BOOKLET – \$7

Nine meditations in Vietnamese to help us live a life of holiness on our journey of faith.



“SWEET ANGEL SCENTS” SEELOS CANDLE – \$27

This 8oz organic soy candle is hand-poured with holy oil, frankincense and myrrh. Burns up to 25-30 hours.



SEELOS REDWOOD ROSARY – \$19

This rosary of redwood beads features an image of Seelos and a silver crucifix.



SEELOS ROSARY POUCH – \$9

This soft black zippered pouch features the Seelos Shrine logo and is perfect to store your Seelos rosary.

Quantities are limited. Prices include shipping/handling. Prices online and in the Welcome Center Gift Shop may vary.

SUPPORT THE MISSION OF THE SHRINE



LIGHT A CANDLE: A vigil candle will burn near Seelos' sacred resting place for an offering of \$3-\$5. Visit seelos.org/light-a-votive-candle.



REQUEST A RELIC: Relics are available for an offering of \$2.50 each at SEELOS.org/gift-shop.



INCLUDE US IN YOUR ESTATE PLAN: There are several options for including the Shrine in your estate plan. Visit seelos.org/charitable-giving to learn more about charitable giving.

VISIT SEELOS.ORG OR CALL (504) 525-2495 TO ORDER



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The National Shrine of Blessed Francis Xavier Seelos, C.Ss.R. is a member of the National Association of Shrine and Pilgrimage Apostolate.

DONATION & CONTACT INFORMATION FORM

I would like to support the Seelos cause by donating \$_____ to be used for:

☐ The ministry and maintenance of the Shrine ☐ My 1-year newsletter subscription renewal (\$12)

☐ Other: _____

Make checks payable to “National Shrine of Blessed Francis Seelos”.

Please ☐ Remove from the mailing list: ☐ Change my name and address as follows:

Name: _____

Address: _____
