



Alleluia!

VOLUME 98

# SEELOS CENTER NEWS

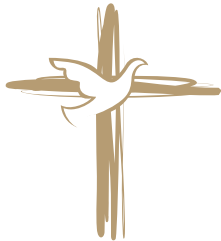
APRIL 2023

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

Dear Devotees of Blessed Seelos,

They say April showers bring May flowers. If you live down south by the Seelos Shrine, you'll know we've long passed the spring temperatures of further north. Nonetheless, April is a great time to enjoy being outside.

In April we celebrate Easter, the resurrection of Christ from the dead – the oldest feast of the Church and the most important holiday on the Christian calendar. During the week before, Holy Week, we also celebrate the events that lead up to that special day – Palm Sunday, The Last Supper, and Good Friday.



*The "Alleluia!" takes on its full glory after remembering what took place in the days before that first Easter.*

Holy Week is a sacred time and the Church offers inspiring services that help us remember the reality of our salvation. If you're not used to attending church on those days, I urge you to give it a try. It's an uplifting time with beautiful celebrations.

In this special time, it is with heartfelt sincerity that all of us at the Blessed Seelos Shrine and Welcome Center extend to you the good wishes that Easter will be a time of "Alleluia!" for each of you.

Easter blessings to you and your loved ones.



Fr. Richard Boever, C.Ss.R.  
*Director, National Shrine of Blessed Francis Xavier Seelos, C.Ss.R.*

## DATE CHANGED



## APRIL SEELOS HEALING MASS

Sunday, April 23, 1:00 PM CT  
St. Mary's Assumption Church  
and on Facebook Live



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

# The Seelos Perspective

*In his letters to family and friends, we are offered much wisdom, guidance and comfort directly from the mind of Blessed Seelos:*



“Only one glance at the cross, only one glance at the sorrowful Mother, must fill us anew with courage and comfort, even if our sufferings should be ever so great.”

– *Blessed Francis Xavier Seelos, C.Ss.R.*

## ★ SHRINE SPOTLIGHT: NINA TAPIA ★



**How long have you been volunteering at the Shrine?**

“Four years.”

**What brought you to the Shrine?**

“I was looking for a place to keep me busy and productive after retiring. An ad in the Clarion Herald looking for volunteers caught my attention.”

**What do you do at the Shrine?**

“I work in the Gift Shop and volunteer for Healing Masses.”

**What’s your favorite thing about the Shrine?**

“Visitors – their gratefulness for answered prayers, their need for prayers especially when encountering health issues, problems with loved ones, asking for healing/conversion for family and friends, and the eagerness to hear prayers answered to validate Fr. Seelos’ intercessions. I also enjoy meeting,

building relationships, and sharing experiences with other volunteers.”

**Where’s your favorite spot?** “Inside the Shrine. I am in awe and thankful for the blessings and favors received by people who pray for Fr. Seelos’ intercession.”

**What does volunteering at the Shrine mean to you?** “It’s gratifying and enjoyable. I’m thankful that I can pray for intentions and lend an ear to those that have struggles, especially health worries.”

## Blessings for the Sick

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

### JEFFERSON / ORLEANS

**EAST JEFFERSON GENERAL HOSPITAL**  
Gerry Heigle (504) 482-4404  
Anne Batt (504) 458-0310  
Norris Plaisance (504) 235-1961

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

**OCHSNER (JEFFERSON)**  
Mark / Monica Surprenant (504) 895-5371  
Norris Plaisance (504) 235-1961  
Marie Giorlando (504) 568-0522

**UPTOWN / ORLEANS PARISH**  
Dennis Waldron (504) 442-6336

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

**WESTBANK**  
Elaine Freeman (504) 341-2213  
Mary Grace Orsag (504) 367-7515

### LOUISIANA

**ABBEVILLE / ERATH / LAFAYETTE**  
Boniface "Boni" Suire (337) 937-5675

**ALEXANDRIA**  
Deacon Bill / Joan Travis (318) 664-7069  
Mary Ann Reddoch (318) 277-0545

**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

**LACOMBE/SLIDELL AREA**  
Lisa Johnsen (985) 640-1677  
Eric Johnsen (985) 640-9226

**LAKE CHARLES**  
Lisa Verrette (337) 274-4810

**LULING & SURROUNDING AREA**  
David Fauchaux (504) 908-4120

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

**NEW IBERIA / ABBEVILLE / JEANERETTE**  
Rachel Gonsoulin (337) 224-7855

**OPELOUSAS**  
Suzanne Pitre (337) 351-8489

**PRAIRIEVILLE / GONZALES**  
Deacon Claude Bourgeois (225) 337-0945

**SHREVEPORT / BOSSIER CITY**  
Tom and Marjorie Rivers (318) 797-3116

### OUTSIDE OF LOUISIANA

**KATY, TEXAS**  
Lauren Johnson (281) 851-1321  
Donna Johnson (713) 826-4191

## GRACES RECEIVED & PRAYERS ANSWERED

### SHEBOYGAN, WI

My son was born in 1981 with sublotic stenosis and had trouble breathing. While he was still an infant, a tracheotomy was performed. My mother, who has now passed away, had tremendous faith in Blessed Seelos, so she ordered a relic which she placed on a photo of my son's throat. The tracheotomy tube was removed when my son turned 2 yrs old. He was then able

to speak and breathe on his own. That was the most joyous day of my life!

Today, the relic that my dear mother placed is still on my son's photo and he is very healthy and strong. I feel this is a miracle because of God's grace through Blessed Francis Xavier Seelos. I am humbly grateful and so happy.

### PARSIPPANY, NJ

When my 66-year-old sister-in-law Paula was recently diagnosed with incurable Lymphoma, she welcomed my first class relic of Bl. Seelos into her home. When chemo treatments became imperative, Paula went through a difficult six months of harsh infusions and we were wondering how she would survive a stem cell transplant if the chemo didn't work. After many novenas, interactions with Seelos Shrine prayer partners, candles lit, Masses offered, and Paula's name kept close to Seelos' reliquary, today I am beyond grateful to report that she is in remission, she is cancer free! No further

treatment needed! We are fortified with faith and beyond grateful for the efficacious intercession of Bl. Seelos and so encouraged by this outcome, given the odds. I will continue to keep our Paula close to Bl. Fr. Seelos, mindful of the Divine intervention we have received through his prayers, for the grace that has brought her safe thus far, and for the hope and happiness we now have! We rejoice and give praise to our Savior, our Lady of Perpetual Help, everyone at this Holy Shrine, and to Blessed Seelos, our beloved and tireless intercessor!

### LAS VEGAS, NV

My life was saved and my leg was spared from amputation by the intercession of Father Seelos. I had necrotizing fasciitis that went into sepsis. My kidneys shut down and I developed blood clots in my lungs. I was in the ICU for a while then sent to a rehab hospital where I learned to walk again. I was hospitalized for five months. Every day while in the ICU, my mother would have me hold Fr. Seelos' relic and she would anoint and bless

my body and legs with his holy oil. We would say the Seelos healing prayer. I was unconscious most of the time the first month. My mother would stand by my bedside and continue praying to Fr. Seelos multiple times a day. Not only did he intercede and save me and my leg, he helped me learn to walk again. We continued with prayers. I am so blessed to have been healed through the intercession Fr. Francis Xavier Seelos.



### Submit Your Testimonial Online!

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

[www.SEELOS.org/submit-a-healing-or-favor](http://www.SEELOS.org/submit-a-healing-or-favor)

### SHRINE, MUSEUM & WELCOME CENTER HOURS

Monday-Saturday 10am-2pm | Please see SEELOS.org for visiting guidelines.





## Easter Prayer for Children

God made you and God made me,  
He made the world for us to see.

God loves you and long ago,  
He sent his Son to tell us so.

Jesus showed us many things,  
To love and share and dance and sing.  
To learn and pray, to help and care,  
He promised he'd always be there.  
He died but then came back to life,  
let's celebrate for he's alive! Amen.



## HOT IN THE SHOP



### “WRAPPED IN PRAYER” EARRINGS – \$30

*These elegant silver- and gold-toned earrings feature a 1/2” diameter detail with a cross and fleur de lis, and come in a gift box with the sentiment, “May your life be filled with peace, hope and protection.”*



### WOODEN BLOCK ANGELS – \$10.50

*Choose from 5 angel paintings on 1”x4” wooden blocks, each with its own inspirational phrase like “There is no remedy for love than to love more,” and “Your heart and my heart are very old friends.”*



### KIDS’ RELIGIOUS SOCKS – \$16

*These fun socks come in one size for ages 6-9. Choose from St. Joseph, St. Anthony or the Resurrection.*



### BUNNY & CARROT LEARN AND GROW PLUSH – \$22

*This 4-piece set features 3 rabbits and a carrot shaped sack: white bunny (squeaker), brown bunny (finger puppet), gray bunny (rattle), and carrot sack.*

*Quantities are limited. Prices listed above 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-\$4. Please visit [SEELOS.org/light-a-votive-candle](http://SEELOS.org/light-a-votive-candle).



**REQUEST A RELIC:** 3rd Class Relics are available in either laminated prayer cards or as a crocheted memento for an offering of \$2.50 each. 2nd Class Relics are available in small envelopes for an offering of \$2.50 each.



**SHOP ONLINE:** Items in the Gift Shop are available at [SEELOS.org/gift-shop](http://SEELOS.org/gift-shop).

**VISIT [SEELOS.ORG](http://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  change my name and address as follows:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_