



To Promote the Canonization of Mother Seton

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Apostolic Tribunal Investigates Alleged Miracle in New York

FATHER JOHN P. MCGOWAN, C.M., Vice Postulator of the Cause of Blessed Elizabeth Ann Seton, has announced that the Apostolic Tribunal called to investigate the alleged miraculous cure of Carl Eric Kalin through the intercession of Blessed Mother Seton began its formal sessions in the Chancery of the Archdiocese of New York on Monday, May 2.

The Apostolic Tribunal was summoned by His Eminence, Francis Cardinal Spellman, Archbishop of New York, on instructions from the Sacred Congregation of Rites in Rome. The Tribunal is sitting in New York because the alleged cure took place within the confines of that archdiocese—at St. Joseph's Hospital, Yonkers, N. Y.

The Apostolic Process will follow an official and strict procedure. The testimony of the witnesses in the case will be carefully taken and, when the Process is completed, the entire body of evidence will be sent to Rome for evaluation, in formal session, by the Congregation of Rites. Afterward the Congregation will render a decision as to whether or not the cure of Carl Eric Kalin was truly miraculous.

Mr. Kalin entered St. Joseph's Hospital on October 9, 1963, suffering from *primary rubeola fulminating meningoencephalitis*, an extremely rare disease. A novena to Blessed Elizabeth Ann Seton for his recovery was begun at once. Although he was expected to live only a few hours, he lasted until the next evening when an application of Blessed Mother Seton's relic brought about a dramatic change in his condition. On October 1 he emerged from the deep coma in which he had lain, and from that point on his recovery was rapid and decisive.



The Sisters of Charity of Cincinnati, Ohio, model their old and new habits.

Father Attributes Son's Recovery To Blessed Mother Seton's Intercession

THE REMARKABLE RECOVERY, through the intercession of Blessed Elizabeth Ann Seton, of a child struck by an automobile has been reported to the Mother Seton Guild. The child is Andrew Regan of New York City. The accident, and its happy outcome, was reported by his father Walter:

"While walking home from work on Wednesday, April 14, 1965, I heard a siren in the distance and saw the flashing red light of an ambulance as it turned into Bellevue Hospital. I continued on, not knowing that my little son Andrew was in that ambulance.

"As I approached the apartment building where we live I noticed a large crowd

surrounding a car in the middle of a grass plot across the street. I discovered to my horror that the car had mounted the curb, striking Andrew and dragging him some 25 feet.

"The policeman guarding the car told me Andrew had been taken to Bellevue Hospital. (This same policeman, in his official report of the accident, had already listed Andrew as dead. When, some weeks later at the Motor Vehicle Bureau hearing, he learned that Andrew had survived the accident, he couldn't believe it—the boy had been battered so badly and had bled so profusely.)

"Of course, I went to Bellevue immediately
(Continued on Page 3)



Apostolic Postulation

FOR THE CAUSE OF
CANONIZATION
OF THE SERVANT OF GOD

Elizabeth Ann Seton

Foundress of the
SISTERS OF CHARITY
IN AMERICA

HIS EMINENCE

ARCADIO CARDINAL LARRAONA, C.M.F.

*Prefect of the
Sacred Congregation of Rites*

HIS EMINENCE

ENRICO CARDINAL DANTE
Cardinal Relator of the Cause

HIS EMINENCE

LAWRENCE CARDINAL SHEHAN
Archbishop of Baltimore

VERY REV. LUIGI BISOGGIO, C.M.
Postulator General (Rome)

VERY REV. JOHN P. MCGOWAN, C.M.
Vice Postulator

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- St. Joseph's Provincial House,
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- Marillac Provincial House - St. Louis, Mo.
- Mt. St. Vincent-on-the-Hudson,
New York, N. Y.
- Mt. St. Vincent Halifax, N. S.
- Mt. St. Joseph Cincinnati, Ohio
- St. Elizabeth's Convent, N. J.
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FAVORS ACKNOWLEDGED

CHICAGO, ILL. — I prayed to Blessed Elizabeth Ann Seton to help me endure unpleasant working conditions, and to intercede for a possible change of employment. It took 13 months—but things have turned out splendidly. Recently, I was transferred to a new location under a very fine supervisor who, I understand, had requested my transfer to his department.

Mrs. F. A. G.

CONVENT STATION, N. J.—During a novena of Masses in preparation for Christmas—a feast Mother Seton loved—I prayed to her for two favors. One was that my father would pass quickly and peacefully from this world. He did—in fact, he was buried on January 4, the anniversary of Mother Seton's death, now her feast day. The other favor was that my son's badly broken ankle would heal well. My son is now walking, and the doctors feel sure there will be no ill effects from the break. We are grateful for these, and many other favors, received through Elizabeth Ann Seton.

Mrs. P. W.

CINCINNATI, OHIO—About five months ago I gave one of the mothers of our parish a Mother Seton medal-relic for her little son, age 10, who had been suffering epileptic seizures several times a week, sometimes daily. Since she pinned the medal to his clothing, the child has not had a single seizure. The mother is convinced that the child's happy condition all these months is due to Blessed Mother Seton's intercession.

Sister M. A.

MAPLE HEIGHTS, OHIO—My husband broke his leg last year and has endured nine months of complications. Infection set in, and resisted all medication. Finally, the doctors considered it necessary to graft bone tissue in his leg. I applied a first-class relic of Blessed Mother Seton to my husband's leg: the next X-rays taken showed that his system was making bone tissue naturally, and the graft would not be necessary. In thanksgiving for this blessing, my husband and I will do all in our power to make this holy woman better known to other people.

Mrs. G. C.

JERSEY CITY, N. J.—My brother's job was abolished, and I wrote to the Mother Seton Guild asking prayers that

he would obtain employment. Several weeks later, his company reversed its decision, deciding that the service my brother performed was necessary, and restored his job. Thank you for your prayers to Blessed Mother Seton in his behalf.

Mrs. D. K.

UNION, N. J.—My wife and I have been married nearly 10 years, and have always dreamed of owning our own home, praying to Blessed Elizabeth Seton for the fulfillment of this dream. However, we were never able to save enough money to bring it off. My aunt, a widow, owned a very nice one-family house which she was leasing out. It was what we wanted; but, not having the necessary money to buy it, I could not bring myself to put my aunt "on the spot" by asking her to place kinship before finances. Out of the blue, my aunt asked me whether I would like to purchase the house! I am only one of her 40 nephews and nieces—so I know that Blessed Mother Seton interceded for me. For my aunt, knowing that I did not have the usual down payment, was very generous in suiting the details of the sale to my means. My wife and I are most grateful to Mother Seton for this wonderful favor.

J. F. M.

LYNCHBURG, VA. — While my family and I were visiting Washington, D. C., I left my pocketbook in a taxicab. I was heartbroken, for it contained the keys to my luggage, my eyeglasses, my wallet and many items of sentimental value. I felt I would never see the pocketbook again, but nonetheless prayed to Blessed Mother Seton to help me recover it. (By the way, there were two Mother Seton medals in the purse.) Within a few days I received the purse, intact, in the mail. I know Mother Seton arranged all!

S. B.

UTICA, N. Y.—I promised to make it known if, through the intercession of Blessed Elizabeth Ann Seton, a friend of mine came through a very serious heart operation. My friend weathered the operation well, and is feeling fine—even doing her own housework. Her family feels as I do, that her fine recovery is due wholly to Blessed Mother Seton's intercession.

Sister M. L.

Father Reports Cure

(Continued from Page 1)

diately. My wife and daughters were there before me, and Sister Bernadette de Lourdes, Andrew's school principal, and Sister Maureen Madeline, his first grade teacher. (These Sisters of Charity are religious daughters of Blessed Mother Seton.)

"I talked to Dr. Perlman, the doctor on duty in the emergency receiving section of the hospital. When I asked about the extent of Andrew's injuries, he replied that it was difficult for him to say, but that the boy was bleeding profusely when he saw him, and that he thought 'things looked bad.'

"I next talked to Dr. Nicholas De Palma, the chief resident neuro-surgeon, who informed me that Andrew's condition was very serious and required immediate surgery. In answer to my question as to the boy's chances, he answered 'not too good,' and that 'there was a greater chance that he would not come through the operation than that he would.'

"After giving permission for the operation, I joined my wife and daughters—and a neighbor, Mrs. Frank Gerrity—and we began to pray together for Andrew's recovery. However, we prayed also that, if Andrew were to be a hopeless cripple, it would be God's will to take him.

"My wife and daughters and I then went upstairs to wait outside the recovery room for the results of the operation. We were sitting there, saying the Rosary, only a short while when my daughter Sheila was summoned downstairs. Mrs. Ernest O'Brien, mother of Mary Ann O'Brien who is Sheila's constant companion, had come to the hospital with a relic of Blessed Elizabeth Seton. When Sheila came back with the relic we immediately began to direct all our prayers to Blessed Mother Seton. As we prayed, the very presence of the relic seemed to give us the strength and comfort we so sorely needed.

"Upon completion of the operation Dr. De Palma came directly to us with the news that Andrew might 'make it' after all, but he also cautioned us that the next few days would tell the tale. He said that Andrew had given him some anxious moments during the operation, because of the great loss of blood—they had given him a pint of blood by transfusion, quite a lot for a little fellow. The doctor also told us that he had performed some repair work on Andrew's salivary glands, and further, that the boy would experience difficulty

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THE FOLLOWING MEMORABLE LETTER was written by a young father to his aunt, who is a religious daughter of Blessed Elizabeth Ann Seton. It relieves the anxious days when his wife, the mother of seven children, hung between life and death following the premature birth of twins. Her life was spared, he firmly believes, through the intercession of our Blessed.

Dear Sister J———,

Thank you for returning the relic of Blessed Mother Seton. I had become attached to it, and I remember the sense of loss when I sent it back to you.

As I may have told you earlier, I felt a sense of peace, of calmness, the night I received it. I had put it in my breast pocket, and had gone outside to wait for the cab that would take me back to the hospital. (I had come home to change my shirt, and look in on the children.) There was a full moon, I think, and it was painfully cold, a white night and sharp as teeth. I had not been at all calm or at peace; but as I walked up and down in the snow, I noticed or sensed this new strength or patience. I do not mean that I was transformed, or cast off all worries, or was now unafraid; I was still tired and afraid and inwardly clenched like a fist against the fear. But there was this new quality of acceptance, or confidence. I accepted the first and went on with it.

I remember holding the relic and praying all the way to the hospital—and I remember wondering at the fact that each time we approached a red light it obediently changed to green.

I brought the relic to Elaine, but the desperately ill do not change so quickly. I had spent so many minutes and hours watching her that I could measure each millimeter of change in her condition. She was in a bad condition that night, clinically bad, and she was not getting any better. I don't think the doctors had much hope at that point. It was two nights after she had received the Last Rites. Stopgap artificial measures had kept her poisoned system going, but they could not do this much longer. She was weak and growing weaker and, worst of all, the numbed organs—liver, kidneys, bowels—had failed to respond. The curve would inevitably slip downward; and it did not have far to go.

"Tomorrow is the feast day," Dad said to me later that night when I telephoned him, "tomorrow's the day." He was quite confident. *He hasn't seen her*, I thought, *he doesn't know*.

And yet, the next morning when I saw her quite early, she was much improved. An *advocatus diaboli** would find that intravenous injection of a steroid drug was begun the evening before and that its effects simply coincided with the feast day. But I was there that morning and I saw her and later I saw the faces of five doctors immediately after they had examined her. That was the morning of the "dramatic change." I *saw* the faces of the doctors. They were surprised. They obviously had not expected these results from the steroids. A senior, sober doctor said, "Dramatic change"; but the young resident doctor with him simply beamed at me and said, "Terrific!"

The next day another sober, senior doctor said to me, "She's improving so fast we almost don't dare to believe it." Two days after that, she was sitting up, and the next day she was eating her first food in well over a week. She came home Sunday, nearly a month after she had entered the hospital. And, almost to the end, the doctors were making various tests on her system to verify her health and, I suspect, to find out if possible what had effected her cure. They were never really sure of that.

Many good and compassionate people prayed for Elaine in many places. I will never know of them all. I do know there were Jewish and Protestant prayers offered; and, as one woman on our street said to me, "There are a lot of people praying around here who haven't prayed in a long time." We only know, and give thanks to God that all our prayers were answered—and if it was His Will that He chose to answer them on the feast day, then that is for the *advocatus diaboli* to ponder.

Now I offer prayers of thanks. Elaine and the twins are home with us. We are a family and a home again. The fist is slowly unclenching, although it will be a long time—if ever—before the fear, or the memory of the fear, entirely leaves me. I had been given back so much out of the fear—my wife, my family, my life, all our lives (for what would have become of us?)—that I had hesitated to ask for more, even though we need a bigger home and all the advertisements for suitable homes that I have seen bear majestic prices spectacularly out of our reach. But you encourage me, dear aunt, and I will begin praying gently that we may find a larger home—and I hope that I won't be misunderstood.

* "Devil's Advocate," i.e., The Promoter of the Faith in a beatification or canonization cause.

Father Reports Cure

(Continued from Page 3)

in speech and movement, since the brain areas controlling these functions had been lacerated.

"We were then permitted to see Andrew. He was unconscious, and remained so for the next four days. Our first act on entering the recovery room was to place the relic of Mother Seton on Andrew and pray her intercession for our little boy.

"Andrew remained in intensive care, with no visible sign of movement, until Good Friday evening. As Sister Bernadette, Sister Madeline, my wife and I stood at the foot of his bed he suddenly moved one leg slightly. The action pulled down the sheet, exposing a large scar over his heart. This, added to the fact that his arms were outstretched by the restraining straps which prevented him from pulling out the tubes in his nose and arms, reminded us all forcibly and instantaneously of Our divine Lord who had suffered in this position on this very day. My wife gasped out: 'He's having his Good Friday; let us pray that he'll have his Easter Sunday, too.'

"While I sat with Andrew early Easter Sunday morning after having attended midnight Mass in the hospital chapel, I noticed that his eyes had opened to slits, and immediately notified the nurses. It was imperative that the boy gain consciousness as soon as possible, so the nurses asked me to hold him while they changed the bed. In my arms he turned his head slightly, looked at me out of the slits of his eyes and began to whimper softly and to pat my cheek. After two or three minutes he lapsed back into unconsciousness.

"That afternoon Sister Bernadette,

Sister Madeline, my wife and I were at Andrew's bedside, and my wife, encouraged by my earlier experience, was patiently coaxing him to wake up. Suddenly, he opened his eyes halfway, bolted to a sitting position and, before we could stop him, turned and got on his knees. Our Good Friday prayers were answered! From that moment the entire medical staff remained with Andrew and were constantly amazed at his rapid progress.

"Andrew remained in the recovery room for eight more days. We took turns staying at his side in 24-hour vigil, constantly applying the relic of Blessed Mother Seton and praying for her intercession.

"When he had recovered sufficiently, Andrew was transferred to the Institute for Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation, because he had lost all use of his speech due to the brain laceration. Tape recordings made when he first entered the Institute show that at that time he could make only slight noises in his throat.

"He was released as an in-patient from the Institute two weeks later, but continued speech therapy as an out-patient. The therapy continued until December 14, 1965, when Andrew entered Bellevue again for an operation to replace the shattered bone tissue in his skull with a steel plate. He had been wearing a protective steel-plated surgical helmet in the meantime.

"We applied the relic of Blessed Elizabeth Ann Seton to Andrew's head before the operation, and begged her to continue her help. We did the same every morning, afternoon and evening following the operation.

"Andrew is now back in school under his faithful first grade teacher, Sister Maureen Madeline. My wife and I

wished him to repeat first grade, for we felt it was difficult enough for him to learn to talk all over again without the additional burden of more advanced school work. We put Andrew back in the Immaculate Conception School against the wishes of the medical advisers at the Institute of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation; they felt that, since the boy was suffering from aphasia (a total or partial loss of the ability to use or understand words), he would be better off in a special school. We felt that such a school would be unwise and unfair to the boy, that he would recover more quickly in familiar surroundings under the understanding and capable nuns at the Immaculate Conception. Thank God, ours seems to have been a wise choice, since Andrew is doing so well that he is listed on the honor roll.

"We shall never cease to be grateful to Blessed Mother Seton for what she has done for our boy!"

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