



The Lange Letter

Oblate Sisters of Providence



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Mother Mary {Elizabeth} Lange Guild News

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Homegoing - 125 Years Ago

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It was cold and dark outside, but inside held warmth, light, a spirit of kinship and gladness. The 125th anniversary of Mother Mary Lange's passing to eternal life was celebrated with prayers of song, praise, witnessing, meditation and reflection. This was the culmination of a day of rejoicing at Mount Providence, Baltimore, motherhouse of the Oblate Sisters of Providence.

The chapel held a crowd greater than two hundred, gathered in joy and reverence for the saintly woman who inspired so many in her lifetime and afterwards. Father Sylvester Peterka, C.M., pastor of Immaculate Conception and St. Cecilia Catholic Churches spoke emphatically and enthusiastically, breaking open Scriptures of the following Fifth Sunday of Ordinary Time. There were problems in 1828 Baltimore and Mary Lange addressed them not just in word, but in deeds of true compassion and caring. God was searching: "Whom shall I send?" (Is.6). And Mary Lange answered in holy determination, "Send me". Then "Put out into deep water." (Lk.5). So children of color were changed; Baltimore was changed; the Catholic Church was changed; the world was

changed...the course of history was changed! Lives are being changed even today. Two women witnessed to the effect Mother Lange had on their families and personal health. Their faithful prayers asking for her intercession found a family saved from drowning in an auto accident; and a difficult and delicate brain operation undertaken successfully. Mother Lange herself was seen right before the patient succumbed to anesthesia. "Rest, my dear, you will be all right", were the reassuring, loving words heard by the patient. God still searches hearts today: "Whom shall I send?" Let us answer: "Send me!" Then put out into the deep waters with God's help to change the course of history, making this world a better place, God's place!



Father John Bowen, SS, chaplain, celebrates the Eucharist on the 125th anniversary of the death of Mother Mary Lange



(Photo to the left)

Entrance Procession: Celebrating a graced life and the 125th anniversary of the death of Mother Mary Lange.

Unseen: Lenwood Johnson carries the banner; Patricia Stewart, to the left.



Preparing *The Lange Letter* for mailing. (Shown are left to right) Sr. Virginie Fish, OSP, Sr. Annette Beecham, OSP

