



# The Lange Letter

Oblate Sisters of Providence



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Mother Mary {Elizabeth} Lange Guild News

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Archbishop Edwin F. O'Brien, 15th Archbishop of Baltimore is introduced to Sister Veronica de los Santos, OSP, Guild Staff

## WELCOME ARCHBISHOP O'BRIEN

### *Meet Servant of God Mary Lange*

Fall had just touched the air with a cooler evening or two when the archdiocese, indeed all of Baltimore witnessed the splendid extravaganza of welcome. The archdiocese has a newly appointed leader. It was the welcoming ceremony — the installation of the newly appointed Archbishop of Baltimore celebrated through the most powerful and awesome of prayers: the Eucharistic Liturgy.



The Mother Mary Lange Guild of the Oblate Sisters of Providence welcomes

Archbishop O'Brien. We offer him the pleasure and challenge of meeting a woman of all seasons whose virtuous fruits and works have stood tests of almost 200 years. God's grace continues to be operative through Servant of God Mary Lange as her daughters make relevant services to God's people through education, social services and evangelization. Her life and mission to the marginalized are timeless and beg to be enhanced as the process for canonization winds through labyrinthine ways. It is this process in dire need of an advocate. The Lange Guild promoting the canonization of Servant of God Mary Lange looks forward to the advocacy of Archbishop O'Brien.

### An open letter to

## Cardinal Keeler

*Dear Cardinal Keeler:*

*As you leave the helm of leadership in the Archdiocese of Baltimore, we find mixed emotions in writing this missive. Over-riding all is the sense of gratitude for all you are, have done and will continue to do for the Archdiocese of Baltimore. Certainly your support, encouragement and promotion for the cause of Mother Mary Lange has brought to fruition many blessings. We beg and look forward with confidence to your continued support.*

*You have been and will continue in our prayers. We ask in turn, please, your blessing.*

*In God's providential care,*

*Members of the Mother Lange Guild*



Above center cut-out:  
Retiring Cardinal William H. Keeler,  
14th Archbishop of Baltimore

## *The Adventures of Solomon The Sisters' Dog*

It was the 1840's Mother Mary had completed her second term as the elected Superior of the Congregation. She had taken her turn serving as housekeeper in the ministry of the seminary. She was serving as Mistress of Novices and treasurer of the infant community. She was also not so busy that the exploits of the convent dog did not register with her offering a bit of mystery and humor. Grace Sherwood's account in *The Oblates' Hundred and One Years* (Macmillan, NY, 1931, p. 85f) indicated that the convent watchdog "gave the Sisters much pleasure."

[The following excerpts Sherwood's account of the incident:]

"Solomon grew sickly and died...of poison...he was known to hate intruders and keep them at a distance. The same morning that he died, almost at the hour...the seminary director met, running loose on the street, a dog which he believed to be [a] seminary dog...A worker and the sisters working there, however declared him to be the Sisters' dog. Every one...gathered about the dog calling him "Solomon" to which he apparently responded. So they made a feast for him. The Director, however was dubious...The dog went on with his feast and others with their recognition of him.

[Later being conducted by rope] to the Sisters' house from which everybody believed it strayed, M. Joubert set out to escort it home. The dog following happily...Father exclaimed: "He knows he is getting home," as they neared the convent.

M. Joubert ...ready to scold the Sisters for their carelessness in allowing their good watchdog to stray...was met at the door by the mournful statement that Solomon was dead [and Sisters



**Solomon's progeny? Posing for Solomon. This is actually "Brian" the pet of Sr. Madeline's nieces and nephews of Cincinnati, Oh.**

Mary and Chantal were at the garden gate reimbursing the man who was carting poor Solomon's body away. In the meantime, the pseudo-Solomon had already taken possession of everybody's heart and was even then attacking a second feast prepared for him by the children and the Sisters.

On this scene of merriment and rejoicing walked Sister Mary and Sister Chantal fresh from the gruesome task of disposing of Solomon's remains! Judge their astonishment to find him apparently come to life again and frisking around eating his head off. "Fear seized them" it is quaintly recorded and they were both for backing out to the garden again where they had just parted from the last of the authentic Solomon!

Fear seems to have been an accompaniment of Solomon the second. No one claimed him, the diary tells us and he became the Sisters' authorized guardian.

## **MARK YOUR CALENDAR!**

Happenings to remember:

**N**ovember 15th - "Stay-at-Home Ball" return cards due for placement on altar at Thanksgiving. **YOU** share in special prayers of thanksgiving and remembrance on this National Day of Thanks to the God of all good things.

**D**ecember 25th - Christmas joys and peace to you that lasts all through the New Year.

**J**anuary 25th -February 2nd - Novena of blessings and intercession for your intentions in preparation for the anniversary of Mother Lange's death February 3, 1882.

**F**ebruary 3rd - Celebrating the 126th anniversary of the death of Servant of God Mary Lange. Join us in a day of prayer; Cardinal Keeler to participate. For details, call or e-mail the Mother Lange Office.

## **DONATIONS / ORDERS ON-LINE AT OUR WEBSITE**

For your convenience, did you know that you can easily and securely donate or place orders to the Mother Mary Lange Guild by going on-line to the Guild website?

**web address to be announced**

- Click on "Make a donation"
- Click on "Information, please"
- Click on "Order"
- Click on "Membership"
- Click on "Pilgrimage"
- Click on "Prayer request"
- Click on "Favors received"

