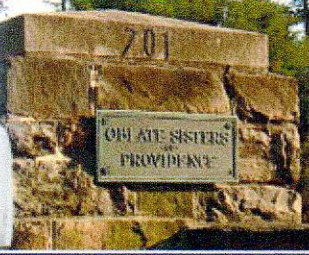




The Lange Letter

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Oblate Sisters of Providence



Summer/Fall 2009

Mother Mary [Elizabeth] Lange Guild News

Issue No. 54

ROAD TO SAINTHOOD

By Marie-Alberte Boursiquot, M.D., F.A.C.P.



In 2007, as the sole physician

member of the Mother Lange Guild Board of Directors, I was invited by Sr. Mary Virginie Fish, OSP (then guild Director) to review a few medical cases to see if they might be worthy of submission to the Vatican Office for the cause of saints towards advancing the canonization of Mother Mary Lange. I enlisted the aid of a colleague and requested that he independently review the two cases that I was asked to review. After arriving at the independent conclusion that one of the two cases was considered worthy, we submitted our case for submission to Rome.

In an effort to better organize this process for future reviews, and with the approval of the board, a *Medical Investigation Committee* (MIC) was formed naming me Chair. The committee is currently composed of the following members: Sr. Magdala Marie Gilbert, OSP, Rev. John Bowen, S.S., Toni Moore-Duggan, Sr. Alexis Fisher, OSP, and yours truly.

Rev. Wes Spiewak (Roman Postulator) is currently assembling an historical review of Mother Lange's life for approval in Rome. Once this is accomplished the medical case deemed worthy of review by us will be reviewed by him and then sent to the Tribunal office in Baltimore for approval. This case will then be re-examined in Rome by the "Consulta Medica" which is a panel of physicians appointed by the Vatican to give the final declaration that a medical recovery is deemed inexplicable by current medical standards.

(see Road page 2)

Mother Mary Lange, OSP (1784-1882): Haitian immigrant educator, a free woman of color in a slave state who had courage, faith, compassion, unwavering trust in God's providence; founded St. Frances Academy, Baltimore, MD, 1828; foundress of Oblate Sisters of Providence the first religious community for women of color, 1829; candidate for sainthood.

RECOMMITMENT MATTERS

By Christine M. Tolson
OSP Associate

Being a Guild member is highly supportive to the cause for canonization of the OSP foundress, Mother Mary Lange; as seen by the many representatives at the yearly renewal ceremony at Mt. Providence, Baltimore, MD, USA. It is a celebration by the available Guild board members, chapters, members, Oblate Sisters, and friends to renew the spirit and also honor those providing exceptional service to the cause of Mother Lange.

A look back at the installation of the Guild board in 1991 sees the initiators, Sr. Alice Chineworth, OSP, Sr. Marina Kelly, OSP, Sr. Virginie



Recommitment award recipients: Sister Madeline Swaboski, IHM, Toni Moore Duggan, ML Board President, Daniel Medinger, Board Member, receive commendations for effective, dedicated service to Mother Lange cause.

Fish, OSP and Fr. John W. Bowen, SS. Two are yet active on the Board – Fr. Bowen and Sr. Marina. Of lay board members, two still attend the monthly meetings – Toni Moore Duggan and Lenwood Johnson. Being a newly installed member, I am

impressed with the ideas and ingenuity provided for projects to promote the cause. The most recent honorees included Mr. Daniel Medinger, former editor of the Catholic Review. His diligence with the support by committee members, provided the recent website (www.motherlange.org), observed inter-ationally. Mrs. Toni Moore Duggan was also honored and respected for two consecutive terms

(see Recommitment page 3)

