



The Lange Letter

Oblate Sisters of Providence



August 2005

Mother Mary [Elizabeth] Lange Guild News

Issue No. 42

Meet Father Wieslaw Spiewak, C.R.

Father Wieslaw Spiewak, C.R. has accepted the appointment to serve as Postulator for the cause of Mother Mary Lange at the level of the Congregation for the Causes of Saints in Rome.



A member of the Congregation of the Resurrection, Father is completing the Positio for one candidate, initiating the cause of the founder of his congregation at the diocesan level in Poland, and serving as Roman Postulator for the cause of Mother Lange. To say he has a "full plate" especially as he travels back and

forth between Poland and Rome, seems to be an understatement. Yet, trusting that since Father Wes was recommended, noting his obvious experience, and the fact that he accepted the challenge of the M. L. cause, hopes are high. "With God all things are possible." With his interest and the prayers of thousands of Mother Mary Lange's devotees, his efforts will succeed in a timely fashion.

All members of the Mother Mary Lange Circle of Prayer are called upon to lift Father Spiewak up daily that the Spirit will inspire and guide his interest and time, and will lead to success the work he has generously accepted in Jesus' name.

Way to Go, Paterson!

The Diocese of Paterson (NJ) introduced children to Mother Mary Lange through an innovative program. From the *BEACON* (diocesan newspaper) comes the heartwarming story of a curriculum designed and taught by primary teachers of St. Anthony of Padua School (Passaic) through the use of *The Mother Mary Lange Coloring Book*.



"The diocesan Communications Office in conjunction with the school launched a program introducing students to Mother Lange. Marianna Thompson, diocesan

communications director, primary teacher Rose Mary Sang and colleagues, armed with encouragement of the principal, Sr. Bernadette Agregado, OP, created a mini-curriculum around Mother Mary Lange's story..."

The story of Mother Lange became the springboard for study in various disciplines: social studies, religion, church history. Hearing of the trials and tribulations caused by slavery, segregation and discrimination, the children, reported the *Beacon*, "were happy that times had changed."

"The children watched the video *Providence Will Provide* and learned something of the canonization process. Upon hearing of the need for a miracle, the children exclaimed 'She can do it. She can do it. We'll see her a saint in our lifetime.'"

Out of the mouths of babes!

Other Paterson schools plugging into the program were St. Anthony of Padua, Our Lady of Victories, Mt. St. Joseph Children's Center, Martin de Porres Learning Center, and Public School # 4 (Newark, NJ, Grades 1-4).

Way to go, Paterson!

Quotes from;

(*The Beacon*, News of the Diocese of Paterson, 2/24/05)



(This photo) First Graders at St. Anthony of Padua School, Passaic (NJ)

(Middle left photo) Students engage in activities from the *Mother Mary Lange Coloring Book*.

Your Prayers and Continued Support Are Needed

"Commit to the Lord whatever you do, and your plans will succeed."

Proverbs 16:3

Toni Moore- Duggan

President

With God's blessings the documents of Mother Mary Lange have been submitted to Rome and Father Wieslaw Spiewak, C.R. has been appointed as our Roman Postulator. These two major accomplishments as well as a Development Director joining our staff have placed greater emphasis on the cause for the sainthood of Mother Mary Lange.

At the last meeting of the National Board, the process of strategic planning was begun for the Mother Lange Guild. Acknowledging the presence of God we asked for wisdom and guidance in this important biblically based precept. While it is a process that cannot be completed in a few hours, the Board was quick to devise multiple strategies that will build on the many good works accomplished thus far. The process focused on the commitment and the gifts that each member brings to this blessed, highly selective journey.

As more people inquire about the works of Mother Mary Lange and her daughters the Oblate Sisters of Providence, more and more expenses are incurred. Your prayers and continued support are needed. Help by signing up at least 10 people this summer as members of the Mother Lange Guild. The cost is only \$15 to be an informed active member of this journey.

Share the story of Mother Mary Lange with children as well as adults. Mother Mary Lange and the Oblate Sisters of Providence lived and promoted tolerance, nonviolence, dignity and virtue long before the Emancipation Proclamation. Pray for her intercession in your lives as well as the lives of others.

If you have a few hours this summer, call the office and join a strategic planning subcommittee, as we continue to focus our mind, hearts and works on the cause for Canonization of Mother Mary Lange for the Glory of God.

Speaker's Bureau / Pilgrimage

To engage a speaker or plan a pilgrimage for your group call or write:

Mother Lange Guild Office
701 Gun Road
Baltimore, MD 21227-3899



Work of the Spirit

By Father John Bowen, SS

One way of appreciating Pope John Paul II is to bracket his life between two celebrated Masses with him: the Chrism Mass on Holy Thursday (1979) at St. Peter's in Rome when he invited over 1500 priests to join him in the first such celebration of the Eucharist in centuries; and a similar solemnity in Baltimore's Oriole Park in Camden Yards (1995) when he led over 500 priests and thousands of faithful in one of the last such public Liturgies he offered.

In between these we can crowd his many travels, his encyclicals, his desire for peace, unity, and freedom for nations and races and religions, his concern for youth, the sick, and the elderly, his love for the Eucharist and our Blessed Mother, and much more besides. We had hoped he might be the one to raise Mother Mary Lange to the honors of the altar.

But John Paul leaves with us a blessed atmosphere created over 26 years of noted response to the Spirit. This he entrusts to his successor, Pope Benedict XVI, who has the advantage of more than 20 years of service with John Paul, years of imbibing that Spirit. May the Father, Son, and Spirit receive John Paul into his heavenly home and pour out upon Pope Benedict an unending flow of grace and life!

Did you kick off your shoes, snuggle down in your favorite chair, and read your complimentary copy of the 175th Anniversary book -

Mary Lange: Bold Legacy to Freedom...the vision yesterday, today and tomorrow?

****If you feel that your name has been left off of this list by mistake, please contact Catherine Hines at the MLG office.**

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WATCH your mail for the
9th Annual Stay At Home Ball
invites! Won't you help us reach
our goal of \$16,000?

People want to know: Why the
bother... we know she is in heaven?

It's Time

Individuals receive Nobel recognition for contributions given, and selfless lives lived, in service to humanity. People receive medals of gold, silver and bronze for feats of extraordinary accomplishments in various fields of sports. Others have had monuments designed to commemorate lives and events of outstanding achievements. The Catholic Church has rewarded several North Americans (Duchesne, Cabrini, Seton, Drexel...) by raising them to the highest honors of the altar for living lives of extraordinary holiness and providing services to humankind. Of this number, those of African ancestry have yet to be recognized. We look forward to the day when the three or four men and women of African ancestry (Lange, Toussaint, De Lille, Bowman...) now under consideration, will

join their sisters and brothers by the recognition of their lives of steadfast sanctity and generous works of charity done in Jesus' name. **It is time!**

(PHOTO)

Sister Evelyn de los Angeles
Valencia, OSP prepares
issues of **The Lange Letter**
for mailing.



Installation and Commitment Renewal Ceremony Held

Bishop Mitchell T. Rozanski, Auxiliary Bishop of the Archdiocese of Baltimore presided at the annual Installation and Recommitment Ceremony held at Mt. Providence in May. Board members and affiliate Chapters renewed their determination to promote the cause of canonization of Mother Mary Lange.

New members to the National Board were: Sr. Babette Opferman, IHM, Sr. Magdala Marie Gilbert, OSP, Ms. LaVerna Scruggs, Rev. Thomasine Adams, and Ms. Christine Tolson.

Chapters are formed by persons in various parishes and cities to serve as adjuncts of the National Board. They discover, pray, educate, and support the efforts of the National Board in bringing attention to the world of the Goodness of God through the life and works of Mother Lange.

Favors asked; favors received;

With faith no explanation is necessary; without faith no explanation is possible.

Dear Guild: I prayed earnestly to God through the intercession of Mother Mary Lange for healing. After cataract surgery I was very pleased and can now see, post laser surgery. Many thanks to Mother Mary Lange.

D.G.; PA

To the Mother Lange Guild: I prayed to Mother Lange about my nephew who was waiting for a kidney transplant. He received the transplant one week later. The progress of his recovery was exceptionally smooth. These events, while ["ordinary"], went better than expected.

M..R.; PA

Dear Oblate Sisters of Providence (sic): Hello! Thank you so much for your prayers for the family. My sister delivered a very healthy baby boy...He is a chunky little man; we love him a lot. J. is doing much better with his alcoholism; and they have started going to church together. In fact J. was baptized. Their little family is working and trying very hard. My brother is recovering nicely from his accident. He is back to work--in pain--but thankful that he is able to work and support his family. I am thankful for my husband and our marriage. We celebrated our 4th wedding anniversary. God has truly blessed us with each other. Thank you for all your prayers (and for listening). Enclosed, \$50.00.

M.S.; PA

A friend gave me the M. M. Lange prayer and told me if I found a miracle to send [word] to the OSP for her canonization. At that time I thanked her and kissed the paper and said: "Miss Lange, we have some Haitian blood; please help. My three year old granddaughter hits her head [frequently]. I had her kiss M. Lange's picture--she never hit her head again. Thanks to Sainte Marie Lange (sic). My friend had perforation of the colon. He had immediate surgery and was in a lot of pain. I explained to him about M. Lange. He agreed for me to pray. As I prayed the rosary, I kept placing Miss Lange's prayer on him. While I was doing this, the doctors came and took all tubes from him. He was breathing normal. He smiled and started to talk. He and I thank our Mother Sainte Marie Lange for her miracle. "She is a Sainte." (sic) I enclose \$25.00

F.C.; NY

The Development Corner

By Catherine Hines, Development Director

As promised, the donors of the "Stay At Home Ball" are listed in this newsletter. A great **BIG** thank you to all who donated, making our 8th Annual Ball a success!

These last few months, efforts have been concentrated on updating our "Friends of Mother Lange" list by removing the duplicates and making corrections. It may have caught your attention that your August newsletter was received with first class postage. Well, with the rise of printing and mailing costs, this one time tactic may assure name and address changes. This in turn will keep our "Friends List" at a reasonable cost and make your dollar go further. **If there are changes to your address, please let us know.**

Mother Lange Guild Membership is on the rise! It seems everyone wants to be part of the cause for canonization. WHY? Take a look at some of the benefits below.

- Certificate of Membership
- Support one another through prayers and thanksgiving
- Share with fellow Mother Lange supporters in local MLG Chapters
- Attend a pilgrimage of Mother Lange's journey
- Share in a special Mass offered for monthly members
- Further the cause of canonization for Mother Lange
- Share in an Annual Novena of Masses offered for members and their petitions
- Receive up-to-date information on Mother Lange Cause via the MLG Newsletter three times per year

In attempt to remain faithful to Mother Lange, we have various membership types so as to appeal to all:

Annual Individual	\$ 15
Perpetual Individual	\$100
Annual Family	\$ 25
Perpetual Family	\$200
Annual Organization	\$ 50
Annual Student Group	\$ 25