



# Mother Mary Lange

\* **FOUNDRESS, EDUCATOR, NURSE, ADVOCATE** \*

*AROUND 1789 - FEBRUARY 3, 1882*

## "Providence will Provide"

-Motto of the Oblate Sisters of Providence



### \* DID YOU KNOW? \*

Little is known about Mother Mary's early life.

The most prevalent theory is that she was born in Haiti before her family fled the Haitian Revolution or shortly after in Cuba. She was well-educated as a child, indicating that the family was wealthy.

She immigrated to the United States in the early 1800s and settled in Baltimore by 1813.

In Baltimore, Mother Mary saw the great need for education of the Black children and refugees. She used her own money to start teaching them out of her home.

In 1928 she met Sulpician Priest James Joubert, who encouraged the Bishop to fund a school for Black girls. Father James also became her spiritual director.

On July 2, 1929, with Father James as their spiritual leader, Mother Mary started the first US congregation for Black Women, and she, along with three other women, made vows.

In the face of racism, they responded with love and trust in Divine Providence, serving the community in any way they could. Her cause for canonization began in 1991.