Elizabeth Seton: Key Relationships in Her Life, 1774–1809

Ellin Kelly

Abstract
This article outlines Elizabeth Seton’s relationships with her family and profiles three of her close friends, Julia Scott, Eliza Sadler, and Catherine Dupleix. It describes the ways in which each friend supported Elizabeth and how she was devoted to them. The article gives great detail about her spiritual advisors Filippo Filicchi and John Henry Hobart. Both men gave her books about their respective faiths and composed manuscripts about them. Filicchi’s manuscript explained Catholicism and why he believed the Catholic Church was the one true church. Hobart’s manuscript was a rebuttal to Filicchi’s.

Recommended Citation
Available at: https://via.library.depaul.edu/vhj/vol14/iss2/6

Elizabeth Seton (1774–1821) was the first native born American to be canonized by the Roman Catholic Church (September 14, 1975). She established the first Catholic school in the nation at Emmitsburg, Maryland, where she founded the first American congregation of Religious Sisters, the Sisters of Charity. Elizabeth’s experiences in Italy transformed her life forever. The Italian Journal, her long memoir written for her sister-in-law Rebecca Seton, reveals the intimate details of Elizabeth’s heart-rending personal journey of inner conflict and conversion.