



Love is patient,
love is kind.
Love never fails.

- Corinthians 13: 4, 8

THE VIEW FROM THE BLUFF

AUGUST 2016

SISTERS OF CHARITY OF OUR LADY OF MERCY

CHARLESTON, SOUTH CAROLINA



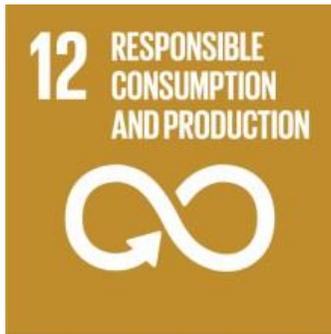
At a liturgy on July 3, 2016 Sister Mary Joseph Ritter, Sister Ann Billard and Sister Carol Wentworth were installed and blessed as the Leadership Team for the Sisters of Charity of Our Lady of Mercy for 2016-2020. Father Kevin Walsh, OSCO, presided.





SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

17 GOALS TO TRANSFORM OUR WORLD



- Each year, an estimated one third of all food produced – equivalent to 1.3 billion tons worth around \$1 trillion – ends up rotting in the bins of consumers and retailers, or spoiling due to poor transportation and harvesting practices
- If people worldwide switched to energy efficient lightbulbs the world would save US\$120 billion annually
- Should the global population reach 9.6 billion by 2050, the equivalent of almost three planets could be required to provide the natural resources needed to sustain current lifestyles

Water

- Less than 3 percent of the world's water is fresh (drinkable), of which 2.5 per cent is frozen in the Antarctica, Arctic and glaciers. Humanity must therefore rely on 0.5 per cent for all of man's ecosystem's and fresh water needs.
- Man is polluting water faster than nature can recycle and purify water in rivers and lakes.
- More than 1 billion people still do not have access to fresh water.
- Excessive use of water contributes to the global water stress.
- Water is free from nature but the infrastructure needed to deliver it is expensive.

Energy

- Despite technological advances that have promoted energy efficiency gains, energy use in OECD countries will continue to grow another 35 per cent by 2020. Commercial and residential energy use is the second most rapidly growing area of global energy use after transport.
- In 2002 the motor vehicle stock in OECD countries was 550 million vehicles (75 per cent of which were personal cars). A 32 per cent increase in vehicle ownership is expected by 2020. At the same time, motor vehicle kilometres are projected to increase by 40 per cent and global air travel is projected to triple in the same period.
- Households consume 29 per cent of global energy and consequently contribute to 21 per cent of resultant CO2 emissions.
- One-fifth of the world's final energy consumption in 2013 was from renewables.

Food

- While substantial environmental impacts from food occur in the production phase (agriculture, food processing), households influence these impacts through their dietary choices and habits. This consequently affects the environment through food-related energy consumption and waste generation.
- 1.3 billion tons of food is wasted every year while almost 1 billion people go undernourished and another 1 billion hungry.
- Overconsumption of food is detrimental to our health and the environment.
- 2 billion people globally are overweight or obese.
- Land degradation, declining soil fertility, unsustainable water use, overfishing and marine environment degradation are all lessening the ability of the natural resource base to supply food.

- The food sector accounts for around 30 per cent of the world's total energy consumption and accounts for around 22 per cent of total Greenhouse Gas emissions.

GOAL 12 TARGETS

- Implement the 10-year framework of programmes on sustainable consumption and production, all countries taking action, with developed countries taking the lead, taking into account the development and capabilities of developing countries
- By 2030, achieve the sustainable management and efficient use of natural resources
- By 2030, halve per capita global food waste at the retail and consumer levels and reduce food losses along production and supply chains, including post-harvest losses
- By 2020, achieve the environmentally sound management of chemicals and all wastes throughout their life cycle, in accordance with agreed international frameworks, and significantly reduce their release to air, water and soil in order to minimize their adverse impacts on human health and the environment
- By 2030, substantially reduce waste generation through prevention, reduction, recycling and reuse
- Encourage companies, especially large and transnational companies, to adopt sustainable practices and to integrate sustainability information into their reporting cycle
- Promote public procurement practices that are sustainable, in accordance with national policies and priorities
- By 2030, ensure that people everywhere have the relevant information and awareness for sustainable development and lifestyles in harmony with nature
- Support developing countries to strengthen their scientific and technological capacity to move towards more sustainable patterns of consumption and production
- Develop and implement tools to monitor sustainable development impacts for sustainable tourism that creates jobs and promotes local culture and products
- Rationalize inefficient fossil-fuel subsidies that encourage wasteful consumption by removing market distortions, in accordance with national circumstances, including by restructuring taxation and phasing out those harmful subsidies, where they exist, to reflect their environmental impacts, taking fully into account the specific needs and conditions of developing countries and minimizing the possible adverse impacts on their development in a manner that protects the poor and the affected communities



Thanks to the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change we know:

- **From 1880 to 2012, average global temperature increased by 0.85°C.** To put this into perspective, for each 1 degree of temperature increase, grain yields decline by about 5 per cent. Maize, wheat and other major crops have experienced significant yield reductions at the global level of 40 megatons per year between 1981 and 2002 due to a warmer climate.

- **Oceans have warmed, the amounts of snow and ice have diminished and sea level has risen.** From 1901 to 2010, the global average sea level rose by 19 cm as oceans expanded due to warming and ice melted. The Arctic's sea ice extent has shrunk in every successive decade since 1979, with 1.07 million km² of ice loss every decade

- **Given current concentrations and on-going emissions of greenhouse gases, it is likely that by the end of this century, the increase in global temperature will exceed 1.5°C compared to 1850 to 1900 for all but one scenario.** The world's oceans will warm and ice melt will continue. Average sea level rise is predicted as 24 – 30cm by 2065 and 40-63cm by 2100. Most aspects of climate change will persist for many centuries even if emissions are stopped
- Global emissions of carbon dioxide (CO₂) have increased by almost 50 per cent since 1990
- Emissions grew more quickly between 2000 and 2010 than in each of the three previous decades
- It is still possible, using a wide array of technological measures and changes in behaviour, to limit the increase in global mean temperature to two degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels
- Major institutional and technological change will give a better than even chance that global warming will not exceed this threshold

GOAL 13 TARGETS

- Strengthen resilience and adaptive capacity to climate-related hazards and natural disasters in all countries
- Integrate climate change measures into national policies, strategies and planning
- Improve education, awareness-raising and human and institutional capacity on climate change mitigation, adaptation, impact reduction and early warning
- Implement the commitment undertaken by developed-country parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change to a goal of mobilizing jointly \$100 billion annually by 2020 from all sources to address the needs of developing countries in the context of meaningful mitigation actions and transparency on implementation and fully operationalize the Green Climate Fund through its capitalization as soon as possible
- Promote mechanisms for raising capacity for effective climate change-related planning and management in least developed countries and small island developing States, including focusing on women, youth and local and marginalized communities



- Oceans cover three quarters of the Earth's surface, contain 97 per cent of the Earth's water, and represent 99 per cent of the living space on the planet by volume
- Over three billion people depend on marine and coastal biodiversity for their livelihoods
- Globally, the market value of marine and coastal resources and industries is estimated at \$3 trillion per year or about 5 per cent of global GDP
- Oceans contain nearly 200,000 identified species, but actual numbers may lie in the millions
- Oceans absorb about 30 per cent of carbon dioxide produced by humans, buffering the impacts of global warming
- Oceans serve as the world's largest source of protein, with more than 3 billion people depending on the oceans as their primary source of protein
- Marine fisheries directly or indirectly employ over 200 million people
- Subsidies for fishing are contributing to the rapid depletion of many fish species and are preventing efforts to save and restore global fisheries and related jobs, causing ocean fisheries to generate US\$ 50 billion less per year than they could
- As much as 40 per cent of the world oceans are heavily affected by human activities, including pollution, depleted fisheries, and loss of coastal habitats

GOAL 14 TARGETS

- By 2025, prevent and significantly reduce marine pollution of all kinds, in particular from land-based activities, including marine debris and nutrient pollution
- By 2020, sustainably manage and protect marine and coastal ecosystems to avoid significant adverse impacts, including by strengthening their resilience, and take action for their restoration in order to achieve healthy and productive oceans
- Minimize and address the impacts of ocean acidification, including through enhanced scientific cooperation at all levels
- By 2020, effectively regulate harvesting and end overfishing, illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing and destructive fishing practices and implement science-based management plans, in order to restore fish stocks in the shortest time feasible, at least to levels that can produce maximum sustainable yield as determined by their biological characteristics
- By 2020, conserve at least 10 per cent of coastal and marine areas, consistent with national and international law and based on the best available scientific information
- By 2020, prohibit certain forms of fisheries subsidies which contribute to overcapacity and overfishing, eliminate subsidies that contribute to illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing and refrain from introducing new such subsidies, recognizing that appropriate and effective special and differential treatment for developing and least developed countries should be an integral part of the World Trade Organization fisheries subsidies negotiation
- By 2030, increase the economic benefits to Small Island developing States and least developed countries from the sustainable use of marine resources, including through sustainable management of fisheries, aquaculture and tourism
- Increase scientific knowledge, develop research capacity and transfer marine technology, taking into account the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission Criteria and Guidelines on the Transfer of Marine Technology, in order to improve ocean health and to enhance the contribution of marine biodiversity to the development of developing countries, in particular small island developing States and least developed countries
- Provide access for small-scale artisanal fishers to marine resources and markets
- Enhance the conservation and sustainable use of oceans and their resources by implementing international law as reflected in UNCLOS, which provides the legal framework for the conservation and sustainable use of oceans and their resources, as recalled in paragraph 158 of The Future We Want



Forests

- Around 1.6 billion people depend on forests for their livelihood. This includes some 70 million indigenous people
- Forests are home to more than 80 per cent of all terrestrial species of animals, plants and insects

Desertification

- 2.6 billion people depend directly on agriculture, but 52 per cent of the land used for agriculture is moderately or severely affected by soil degradation
- As of 2008, land degradation affected 1.5 billion people globally
- Arable land loss is estimated at 30 to 35 times the historical rate
- Due to drought and desertification each year 12 million hectares are lost (23 hectares per minute), where 20 million tons of grain could have been grown

- 74 per cent of the poor are directly affected by land degradation globally

Biodiversity

- Of the 8,300 animal breeds known, 8 per cent are extinct and 22 per cent are at risk of extinction
- Of the over 80,000 tree species, less than 1 per cent have been studied for potential use
- Fish provide 20 per cent of animal protein to about 3 billion people. Only ten species provide about 30 per cent of marine capture fisheries and ten species provide about 50 per cent of aquaculture production
- Over 80 per cent of the human diet is provided by plants. Only three cereal crops – rice, maize and wheat – provide 60 per cent of energy intake
- As many as 80 per cent of people living in rural areas in developing countries rely on traditional plant-based medicines for basic healthcare
- Micro-organisms and invertebrates are key to ecosystem services, but their contributions are still poorly known and rarely acknowledged

GOAL 15 TARGETS

- By 2020, ensure the conservation, restoration and sustainable use of terrestrial and inland freshwater ecosystems and their services, in particular forests, wetlands, mountains and drylands, in line with obligations under international agreements
- By 2020, promote the implementation of sustainable management of all types of forests, halt deforestation, restore degraded forests and substantially increase afforestation and reforestation globally
- By 2030, combat desertification, restore degraded land and soil, including land affected by desertification, drought and floods, and strive to achieve a land degradation-neutral world
- By 2030, ensure the conservation of mountain ecosystems, including their biodiversity, in order to enhance their capacity to provide benefits that are essential for sustainable development
- Take urgent and significant action to reduce the degradation of natural habitats, halt the loss of biodiversity and, by 2020, protect and prevent the extinction of threatened species
- Promote fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising from the utilization of genetic resources and promote appropriate access to such resources, as internationally agreed
- Take urgent action to end poaching and trafficking of protected species of flora and fauna and address both demand and supply of illegal wildlife products
- By 2020, introduce measures to prevent the introduction and significantly reduce the impact of invasive alien species on land and water ecosystems and control or eradicate the priority species
- By 2020, integrate ecosystem and biodiversity values into national and local planning, development processes, poverty reduction strategies and accounts
- Mobilize and significantly increase financial resources from all sources to conserve and sustainably use biodiversity and ecosystems
- Mobilize significant resources from all sources and at all levels to finance sustainable forest management and provide adequate incentives to developing countries to advance such management, including for conservation and reforestation
- Enhance global support for efforts to combat poaching and trafficking of protected species, including by increasing the capacity of local communities to pursue sustainable livelihood opportunities



Sr. Maureen Tzinieris, 65 Years



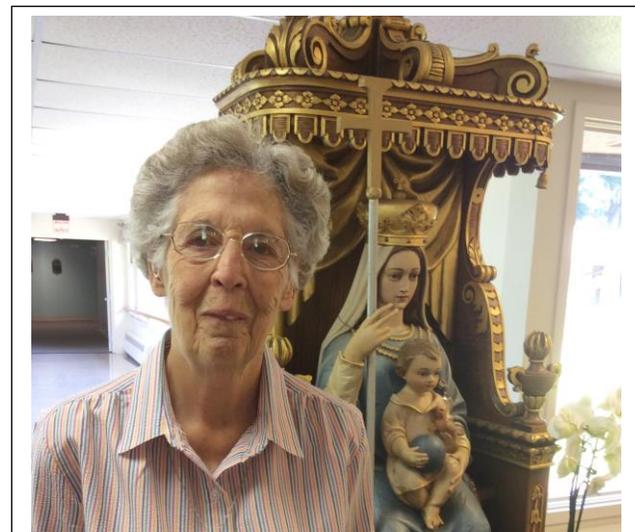
On August 15 the Sisters of Charity of Our Lady of Mercy will be celebrating the 305 years of dedicated service of our 2016 Jubilarians! Each of them deepens our experience of love and faithfulness. Each of them has brought more Life into our world and into the individual lives of those who know and love them and who have been served by them.



Sr. Rosemary Boyd, 65 Years



Sr. Mary Cyril Murray, 65 Years



Sr. Bridget Sullivan, 60 Years



Sr. Veronica Janas, 50 Years

Fifty, Sixty, Sixty-Five

By Sr. Maureen Tzinieris, OLM

The years have passed,

Where did they go?

A few were spent

In sleet and snow.

Today we celebrate

All of them,

Because we came

And followed Him.

Joys, sorrows,

Love and peace,

Together we share

Until we cease.

And so we celebrate today,

Because all of us, with God

Made possible the way.

Love one another as I have loved you,

That is what we have tried to do.

*Congratulations
on celebrating your
65th Jubilee!*

The Time Of My Life

By Sr. Rosemary Boyd, OLM

Sixty-five years ago, on August 14, 1951, I rode a train from New York to Charleston hoping to remain there for the time of my life. I was accompanied by two other New York girls, Mary Murray and Mary O'Shea, who were also entering the congregation of the Sisters of Charity of Our Lady of Mercy. Two years later my sister, Sr. Carmelita, also entered our community which was and has been a source of great joy for me.

About twenty years ago, Sr. Carmelita and I visited a priest friend in New York who had originally helped us in discerning our vocations. He asked us, at that time, if we ever had regrets about our vocation or our choice to join our religious community. Both Carmelita and I spoke of our overall contentment in having been called to our OLM community. Our blessings, we told him, have been many and varied over the years.

For one thing our superiors gave us advanced educational opportunities to prepare us to serve God's children and adults more effectively in our Catholic schools and parishes.

Fortified with graces received from daily Mass, community and private prayer, loving and supportive superiors and sisters, we both found satisfaction and fulfillment in our ministries.

After 42 years on mission in Aiken and New Jersey, I returned to Charleston in 1997 to live at our beautiful motherhouse. I have been fortunate to have been allowed to remain active as a volunteer over the past nineteen years at Our Lady of Mercy Community Outreach on Johns Island and at the Neighborhood House in the city.

So you can see how I am able to describe my sixty-five years in our community as, by God's grace, the gifted and joyous "TIME OF MY LIFE."

May the years ahead, as the ones gone by, be just as dear, I pray.

CELEBRATING SIXTY-FIVE AMAZINGLY BLESSED YEARS

By Sister Mary Cyril Murray, OLM

As I celebrate sixty-five years as a Sister of Charity of Our Lady of Mercy, I thank God for all His many blessings. Among these blessings I include the Sisters who inspired me so much in my first one and a half years in the Community. These Sisters include Mother Loretta, Sisters Margaretta, Eleanor, Rita and Mary Charles. My gratitude also to the Community for enabling me to obtain the credentials needed to serve in the positions assigned to me in education and gerontology. I am also so grateful to my family who prepared me so well for living out my vocation to consecrated religious life. I am thankful also for the many wonderful members of the Diocesan clergy with whom I worked in my ministries. I particularly offer thanks to Monsignor James Carter who gave me so much encouragement and support when I worked with him in Greenville and for twenty years at Christ Our King Parish in Mount Pleasant. I am also greatly appreciative of the Diocesan Bishops under whom I served. During my first eleven years in ministry as principal of Cathedral School I had the privilege of serving under Bishops John J. Russell, Paul Hallinan, and Francis Reh, and in my last five years there under Bishops Ernest Unterkoefer and David Thompson. Much gratitude is also due to the faculty members I worked with in education and to the volunteers who so graciously assisted me in the education field and in my ministry to the senior members of Christ Our King parish.

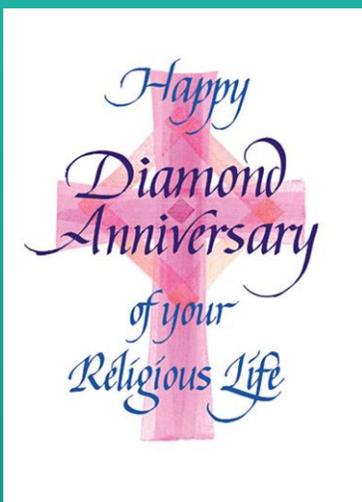
My sixty-five years have also left me with numerous wonderful memories. These include the Poor Peoples March in Greenville; the Eucharistic Congress in Greenville; the Charity Federation meetings I attended as a Council member in Cincinnati, Louisville, and Canada; my six weeks study in Tantur in Jerusalem; my visits to Lourdes and Ireland; the celebrations of my 50th Jubilee and retirement from full-time ministry with elaborate receptions at Grace Hall in Mount Pleasant; and the enormous opportunity I experienced to meet both Pope St. John Paul II and the soon to be Saint, Blessed Mother Teresa.

These sixty-five years have made me so grateful for all I have received, and I pray for all those who have touched my life in any way throughout these years. May God bless each one, living or deceased, with His peace, love and joy.

*Congratulations
on celebrating your
65th Jubilee!*

Reasons for Rejoicing by Sister Bridget Sullivan, OLM

- Makes me pause to remember the “Blessedness” of 60 years as an OLM.
- Lifts one’s spirit!
- A reminder to give thanks for the many and varied opportunities to serve in ministry, gift of educational opportunities and travel, as well as, the support my Sisters give to me.
- A time for sharing stories and laughter.
- Celebrations are “Life giving” for all of us.
- Still alive to celebrate!



Reflections on my 50th Jubilee by Sister Veronica Janas, OLM

The refrain from Anne Morrow Lindberg’s *Gift from the Sea*, I mean to live a simple life, keeps recycling in my mind these days leading up to another milestone in my life, my 50th jubilee as an OLM. Actually, that same refrain was the theme for the liturgical celebration of another milestone in my life that of my final profession as an OLM sister.

On reflection I realized that most of the significant life milestones for me are centered around my life as an OLM Sister. Coincidence I think not. More like God incidence.

I met the OLMs when the Blessed Sacrament School eighth grade vocation club visited May Forest and members of the then novitiate in 1962. Every eighth grade girl was in the club at the time but afterwards, I remember sitting on the church steps after school one day with my friend, Marie, after that visit and told her that I was going to be a sister. Didn't know what kind, but I thought I knew that I wanted to be a sister

As time marched on I came to know more OLM sisters at BEHS. It was during a visit to the Legare Street convent for a CSMC holy hour I saw a list of sisters' names and dates. Not one to be ignorant of what that list meant, I asked Sr Bernadette what the list was. She related that it was a list of the OLM sisters who had died and then added the caveat that the OLMs had more sisters who died than were living. That thought stayed with me and got me thinking a small group of sisters to join would fit me as I felt any contribution I was able to make wouldn't get lost in the shuffle and neither would I.

Fast forward to another OLM place St. Angela Academy. As a junior in high school I attended a diocesan vocation retreat. It was there that I met Mother Mary Charles and told her to save me a bed because I'd be coming. Needless to say, she must have thought this big kid who practically accosted her was nuts. But I felt I had given my word, proceeded to work in earnest towards my goal. And so in September of 1966 I entered the OLMs.

After entrance my life was filled with a myriad of opportunities to learn and grow. My ministry was to be an educator and I loved it. There were good times and not so good. There were easy times and hard times. Happy times and sad times. But, through it all I did learn that I liked to learn. There were times that I felt success and there were times that I felt failure. There was laughter and there were tears. There were expectations realized and there were disappointments. I guess you could say that throughout the years I experienced all the fullness that life has to offer. But with all the ups and downs, peaks and valleys, the one constant in my life was that I continued to be an OLM sister

Looking back over the years I can't say I've achieved living a simple life but I can say that I am grateful for my life as an OLM. Along the way I experienced many wonderful people and situations. All of it has helped me to know love and serve God in this life and hopefully be happy in heaven during the next adventure in my life.

The OLM mission as well as my personal mission to give witness of God's redemptive love will continue for as long as God wills it. So you could say I still have time to live the simple life while I continue the journey of my heart with the SISTERS OF MY HEART, my OLM sisters. I have much for which I am grateful—50 years much.



School opens soon. Please drive safely.



Teacher: How old is your father?
 Kid: He is 6 years.
 Teacher: What? How is this possible?
 Kid: He became father only when I was born.
 (Logic!! Children are quick and always speak their minds.)

TEACHER: Maria, go to the map and find North America.
 MARIA: Here it is.
 TEACHER: Correct. Now, Class, who discovered America?
 CLASS: Maria.

TEACHER: Glenn, how do you spell 'crocodile'?
 GLENN: K-R-O-K-O-D-I-A-L'
 TEACHER: No, that's wrong
 GLENN: Maybe it is wrong, but you asked me how I spell it.
 (I love this child.)

TEACHER: Donald, what is the chemical formula for water?
 DONALD: H I J K L M N O.
 TEACHER: What are you talking about?
 DONALD: Yesterday you said it's H to O.

TEACHER: Clyde, your composition on 'My Dog' is exactly the same as your brother's. Did you copy his?
 CLYDE: No, sir; It's the same dog.
 (I want to adopt this kid!!!)

TEACHER: Harold, what do you call a person who keeps on talking when people are no longer interested?
 HAROLD: A teacher.

PASS THIS AROUND AND MAKE SOMEONE LAUGH!
 LAUGHTER IS THE SOUL'S MEDICINE!!

News from the United Nations

August 9—International Day of Indigenous Peoples

On August 9 people around the world observe a day to promote and protect the rights of the world's indigenous population and to recognize the achievements and contributions that indigenous people make to improve the world and protect the environment.

More information is available at: www.un.org/en/events/indigenousday.

August 23—International Day for Remembrance of Slave Trade and its Abolition

August 23 is a day of tribute to all those who were enslaved and to their resistance and a call to truth, justice, and dialogue between peoples. More information is available at: tinyurl.com/jou3eru.