The View From The Bluff
June 2018

SISTERS OF CHARITY OF OUR LADY OF MERCY
CHARLESTON, SOUTH CAROLINIA

From the Archives

Reverend John Moore
Ecclesiastical Superior
1865-68, and, 1872
John Moore was born in County Westmeath, Ireland. Several sources state that he was born on June 24, 1834. However, he listed June 27, 1835 as his birthdate on a passport application dated June 27, 1885. All references agree that his father died when John was about fourteen years old. He came to Charleston shortly thereafter and entered the Seminary established by Bishop England. Upon graduation Bishop Reynolds sent him to the College of Coimbre in France where he completed a classical course. He then went to the College of Propaganda in Rome for theological studies. He was ordained there in April 1860, and, received a degree in theology in August the same year. Upon returning to Charleston he was appointed first assistant at the Cathedral of St. John the Baptist and served there until the great fire of December 1861. During the siege of Charleston, 1863, Bishop Lynch and Father Moore, then the Bishop’s Secretary, resided at St. Joseph’s Church, Anson Street. In 1864 when Bishop Lynch went to Rome to represent the Confederacy to the Pope, Father Moore was appointed to handle the financial affairs of the Diocese. At times during the War Years he was the only active priest in Charleston. In addition to his priestly duties he attended the sick, wounded and dying of both armies in the hospitals of Charleston, and paid weekly visits to the Federal prisoners in the stockade near Florence, S.C. Following the death of Father Patrick O’Neill in January 1865, Father Moore became the Pastor of St. Patrick’s Parish in Charleston. When the War ended in April 1865 Bishop Lynch was still in Rome and did not return to Charleston until November. In the interim Archbishop Martin Spalding of Baltimore appointed Father Moore Vicar General for Charleston and its dependent missions. Father James Corcoran was assigned as Vicar General for the rest of the Diocese. When Father Timothy Sullivan died in July Father Moore became the Ecclesiastical Superior of the Sisters of Our Lady of Mercy. Bishop Lynch did not replace him until he assigned Father Timothy Bermingham the responsibility in 1868. Following Father Bermingham’s death in June 1872 Bishop Lynch reappointed Father Moore the Ecclesiastical Superior of the OLMs. Apparently, he served in that capacity until he was named Bishop of St. Augustine, Florida. He was consecrated Bishop in the Pro-Cathedral in Charleston by Bishop Lynch on May 13, 1877. After directing the Church in Florida for twenty-five years, Bishop Moore died on July 30, 1901. Biographical accounts of Bishop Moore seldom mention that his sister, Anna, was a Sister of Our Lady of Mercy. According to Community records twenty-two year old Anna entered the congregation in April 1850; received the name, Sr. M. Alphonsus, in November; and was professed in December 1853. She accompanied Bishop Lynch to Montgomery White Sulphur Springs, VA, in October 1862, and apparently served in the Confederate Military Hospital there until the end of the Civil War. She was assigned to the Boys’ Orphanage which Bishop Lynch established in Charleston in 1867 and remained on its staff into the 1870s. Thereafter the records do not provide information about Sr. M. Alphonsus’ ministries. She was living at the Motherhouse, 151 Meeting Street (now known as the Russell House) when she died on January 12, 1904.
MоогE IS BУРЕD ТOДАу

IMPRESSIVE FUNERAL AT ST. AUGUSTINE.

One of the Veterans of the Church, His Burial Will Be Conducted With Ceremony.

From Saturday's Daily, Catholics and many others throughout the state are mourning the loss of Rt. Rev. John Moore, bishop of the Catholic diocese of Florida.

The funeral of the dignitary will occur at St. Augustine today. It will be conducted with all the ceremony befitting a prelate of the church.

Catholic priests from all over the South will attend, Rev. Father O'Sullivan, of this city, will participate.

Rt. Rev. W. J. Kenny, vicar-general of this diocese, will discharge the duties of the bishopric, and will probably be selected as Bishop Moore's successor.

SKETCH OF HIS LIFE.

Right Rev. John Moore was born in Delvin county, Westmeath, Ireland, June 27, 1835. In 1843 he went to Charleston, S. C., studying successively in the Collegiate Institute and the Seminary of St. John the Baptist in that city. He completed his studies in the College of Cambree, France, the Roman College and the Propaganda College. He was ordained in Rome, April 9, 1860; was assistant at the Charleston Cathedral for five years and was for twelve years pastor of St Patrick's and vicar-general of the diocese. He was consecrated Bishop of St Augustine, Fla., May 13, 1877, as the successor of Bishop Verot.

Source: The Weekly Tribune, Tampa, Florida, 08 Aug 1901, page 2

Source: Ancestry.com

Source: FindAGrave.com
OLM Sisters and Partners in Charity Associates attending the gathering in May.

Sisters of Charity of Leavenworth visited the Motherhouse during their stay at Loretto Cottage. OLM Sisters Maureen, Mary Joseph and Carol joined them in the picture.

The Sisters of Charity Federation annual Leadership meeting will be held June 13-17. The meeting is hosted this year by the Sisters of Charity of Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada. Pray for the success of this meeting.
Catholic Social Teaching on
Care for Creation and Stewardship of the Earth

The Catholic Church has a well-documented tradition of Care for Creation and Stewardship of the Earth. This resource includes elements of Catholic teaching that highlight this tradition. This resource is intended to serve as an introduction on this issue; it is not comprehensive.

Audience with Representatives of the Churches and Ecclesial Communities and of the Different Religions
Pope Francis, March 2013

“The Church is likewise conscious of the responsibility which all of us have for our world, for the whole of creation, which we must love and protect. There is much that we can do to benefit the poor, the needy and those who suffer, and to favor justice, promote reconciliation and build peace.”

Renewing the Earth: An Invitation to Reflection and Action on Environment in Light of Catholic Social Teaching, 1991 (no. 2)

“Our mistreatment of the natural world diminishes our own dignity and sacredness, not only because we are destroying resources that future generations of humans need, but because we are engaging in actions that contradict what it means to be human. Our tradition calls us to protect the life and dignity of the human person, and it is increasingly clear that this task cannot be separated from the care and defense of all creation.”

World Environment Day, Pope Francis, June 2013

“We are losing the attitude of wonder, contemplation, listening to creation. The implications of living in a horizontal manner [is that] we have moved away from God, we no longer read His signs.”

The Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Church
Pontifical Council for Justice and Peace, 2005 (no. 466)

“Care for the environment represents a challenge for all of humanity. It is a matter of a common and universal duty, that of respecting a common good, destined for all, by preventing anyone from using ‘with impunity the different categories of beings, whether living or inanimate—animals, plants, the natural elements—simply as one wishes, according to one’s own economic needs.’ It is a responsibility that must mature on the basis of the global dimension of the present ecological crisis and the consequent necessity to meet it on a worldwide level, since all beings are interdependent in the universal order established by the Creator. ‘One must take into account the nature of each being and of its mutual connection in an ordered system, which is precisely the ‘cosmos’.”

World Day of Peace, Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI, 2007

“Alongside the ecology of nature, there exists what can be called a ‘human’ ecology, which in turn demands a ‘social’ ecology. All this means that humanity, if it truly desires peace, must be increasingly conscious of the links between natural ecology, or respect for nature, and human ecology. Experience shows that disregard for the environment always harms human coexistence, and vice versa. It becomes more and more evident that there is an inseparable link between peace with creation and peace among men.

“Created things belong not to the few, but to the entire human family.”
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The Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Church
Pontifical Council for Justice and Peace, 2005

“There is a need to break with the logic of mere consumption and promote forms of agricultural and industrial production that respect the order of creation and satisfy the basic human needs of all. These attitudes, sustained by a renewed awareness of the interdependence of all the inhabitants of the earth, will contribute to eliminating the numerous causes of ecological disasters as well as guaranteeing the ability to respond quickly when such disasters strike people and territories. The ecological question must not be faced solely because of the frightening prospects that environmental destruction represents: rather it must above all become a strong motivation for an authentic solidarity of worldwide dimensions” (no. 486).

Address to Diplomatic Corps, January 2010
Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI

“[T]his concern and commitment for the environment should be situated within the larger framework of the great challenges now facing mankind. If we wish to build true peace, how can we separate, or even set at odds, the protection of the environment and the protection of human life, including the life of the unborn? It is in man’s respect for himself that his sense of responsibility for creation is shown.”

“How can we forget, for that matter the struggle for access to natural resources is one of the causes of a number of conflicts, not the least in Africa, as well as a continuing threat elsewhere? For this reason too, I forcefully repeat that to cultivate peace, one must protect creation!”

On the Development of Peoples (Populorum Progressio), Pope Paul VI, 1967

“Already on the first page of Sacred Scripture we read these words: ‘Fill the earth and subdue it’ (Gn 1:28). By these words we are taught that all things of the world have been created for man, and that this task has been entrusted to him to enhance their value by the resources of his intellect, and by his toil to complete and perfect them for his own use. Now if the earth has been created for the purpose of furnishing individuals either with the necessities of livelihood or the means for progress, it follows that each man has the right to get from it what is necessary for him. The Second Ecumenical Vatican Council has reminded us of this in these words: ‘God destined the earth with all that it contains for the use of all men and nations, in such a way that created things in fair share should accrue to all men under the leadership of justice with charity as a companion.” (no. 22)

Charity in Truth (Caritas in Veritate)
Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI, 2009

“The protection of the environment, of resources and of the climate obliges all international leaders to act justly and to show a readiness to work in good faith, respecting the law and promoting solidarity with the weakest regions of the planet.” (no. 50)

The Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Church
Pontifical Council for Justice and Peace, 2005 (no. 462)

“With the progress of science and technology, questions as to their meaning increase and give rise to an ever greater need to respect the transcendent dimension of the human person and creation itself.”

Economic Justice for All, 1997 (no. 34)
citing St. Cyprian

“From the patristic period to the present, the Church has affirmed that misuse of the world’s resources or appropriation of them by a minority of the world’s population betrays the gift of creation since ‘whatever belongs to God belongs to all.’”

Global Climate Change: A Plea for Dialogue, Prudence and the Common Good, 2001

“At its core, global climate change is not about economic theory or political platforms, not about partisan advantage or interest group pressures. It is about the future of God’s creation and the one human family. It is about protecting both ‘the human environment’ and the natural environment. It is about our human stewardship of God’s creation and our responsibility to those who come after us.”

Department of Justice, Peace and Human Development
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129 Queen Street—home of the OLM’s and orphans from 1831 to 1834. On Sunday, May 20 we were invited to take a tour of the newly restored home of Craig and Kate Coit. The house was built in the 1830’s and is a two story masonry house. Prior to its recent restoration, 129 Queen stood vacant for an extended period of time, exposing the exterior and interior to severe damage and rot. A fire also damaged the house in 2010.

The house has been restored and won the 2017 Carolopolis Award. The award is given annually to individuals, businesses or organizations who have achieved distinction in restoring or rehabilitating historic, architecturally significant properties in Charleston.
A Prayer for Hurricane Season

O God, Master of this passing world, hear the humble voices of your children. The Sea of Galilee obeyed your order and returned to its former quietude; You are still the Master of land and sea. We live in the shadow of a danger over which we have no control. During this hurricane season, we turn to You, O loving Father. Spare us from past tragedies whose memories are still so vivid and whose wounds seem to refuse to heal with the passing of time.

O Virgin, Star of the Sea, our beloved Mother, we ask You to plead with your Son on our behalf, so that spared from the calamities common to this area and animated with a true spirit of gratitude, we will walk in the footsteps of your Divine Son to reach the heavenly Jerusalem where a storm-less eternity awaits us. Amen.