



MEDIA ALERT — *For Immediate Release*

media@charlestdiocese.org | 843.261.0535 | **June 13, 2023**

Diocese of Charleston holds opening ceremony and dedication of historic Black Catholic cemetery

WHAT: Bishop Jacques Fabre-Jeune, CS, will commemorate Juneteenth by blessing a new memorial at St. John Cemetery

WHERE: St. John Cemetery, 283 Coming Street, Charleston

WHEN: June 19, 2023, at 10:00 a.m.

WHY: St. John Cemetery is the final resting place of at least 1,000 Black Catholics. The cemetery fell into disrepair, and for more than 20 years the site was vacant and unmarked.

Officials with the Roman Catholic Diocese of Charleston have now erected a memorial park to honor and mark this sacred, historic ground with the assistance of Carolina Catholic Professionals, Dominion Energy and Southland Landscape Management.

As part of the diocese's Juneteenth celebration, Bishop Fabre will bless the monument and grounds, and all the sacred remains buried there.

If you plan to attend, please call Maria Aselage at 843-513-7605.

ABOUT THE ROMAN CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF CHARLESTON

Founded in 1820, the Roman Catholic Diocese of Charleston is comprised of 114 parishes and missions, 32 Catholic schools, and 350,000 people. It encompasses the state of South Carolina.

###