



**Archives of the New England Province Society of Jesus**  
c/o College of the Holy Cross Archives & Special Collections  
One College Street, Worcester, MA 01610-2395

**Record Group Number:** MS Ford, John C.  
**Name of Collection:** Rev. John C. Ford, S.J., 1902-1989  
**Size of Collection:** 31 linear feet  
**Dates of Collection:** 1922-1987

**Historical Background:**

John C. Ford was born on December 20, 1902. He entered the novitiate at St. Andrew-on-Hudson in Poughkeepsie, NY on August 14, 1920. After moving to New England for his juniorate at Shadowbrook and his philosophy and theology studies at Weston College, he was ordained in 1932. Rev. Ford received his doctorate at the Gregorian University, Rome, in 1937 and began teaching at Weston College that same year. While at Weston he earned a degree in civil law at Boston College Law School. Rev. Ford continued teaching at the Gregorian University from 1945 to 1946 and then taught at Boston College from 1948-1951. He returned to teach at Weston College from 1951-1958 then taught at the Catholic University of America in Washington, D.C. from 1958-1966. He returned to Weston College and taught from 1966-1968. After a sabbatical leave, Father Ford was named professor emeritus of Weston College in 1969.

Rev. Ford wrote extensively in the field of moral theology and was quite involved in pastoral work, often being consulted on various issues and cases involving moral theology. He continued counseling and consulting until his death on January 14, 1989.

**Scope and Content Note:**

Father Ford's collection includes extensive material reflecting his work in moral theology. Some of the categories include: abortion, addiction (alcohol and drugs), contraception, the Pontifical Commission, class notes, casus & ad audiendas confessiones, natural law, pacifism & war, sexual issues, general ethics, marriage, and so on. The collection contains notes, correspondence, clippings, brochures & pamphlets, some personal photographs and correspondence, etc.