

On Mission in Western Labrador Area

Looking Back From October, 2022

Submitted by Sister Ruth O'Reilly



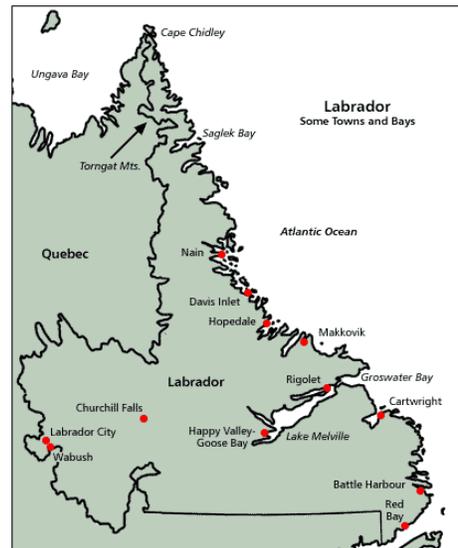
My mission and ministry journey in Labrador was both a blessing and a gift. The journey began in 1994 when Bishop Henri Goudreault requested a Presentation Sister to come to Churchill Falls as Administrator of St. Peter's Catholic Community, with a population of approximately 190. In 1994 Sister Mary Dower, our Congregational Leader, missioned me to St. Peter's Parish and I accepted. I found the people of all faiths very welcoming and accepting.

The Catholic people took great pride in their Parish. They had ownership of their Parish Community as the Priest came only once a month. For the other weeks of the month we (parishioners and I) did the Liturgy of the Word. The Parish Council was well organized. My ministry was that of Spiritual Animator—taking care of sacraments etc. Catholic teachers assisted in Sacramental preparation. My three years in Churchill Falls, Labrador were very special and as I remember my time there, I am filled with gratitude for the people I ministered to and with.

I left Churchill Falls, Labrador in 1997 and went to Labrador City for one year. During that time, I facilitated an Adult Faith Program with 38 wonderful women and men for nine months. I left Labrador City in June 1998, with a heart filled with gratitude for my four years in Labrador.



Sister Sarah Hynes had come to Churchill Falls in the Fall of 1994. She received a warm welcome from the parishioners, and they loved her. While in Churchill Falls, she did Catechetical work, Liturgy of the Word, and home visitations.



Sarah spent only two months in Churchill Falls. Sister Norberta Ryan was the Pastoral worker in Labrador City and had taken ill. Sister Mary Dower called Sarah and asked her to go to Labrador City to be with Sister Norberta, who had gone there in 1993. While in Labrador City, Sarah did Pastoral Ministry similar to what she had done in Churchill Falls. Truly the people in Labrador City loved them and Sarah and Norberta loved being in ministry there among the people.



Sarah stayed there for two years and then went on mission to Dominica. Norberta had also been previously missioned to Davis Inlet in Labrador in 1984 and spent wonderful years there.

You can see more on our **Davis Inlet** and **Dominica** ministries on our Ministry page.