

## **REFLECTION ON THE LIFE OF SISTER ALICE WALSH**

**October 31, 1928 – January 18, 2026**

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**PBVM NL Unit Leader**

**January 2026**

“In the beginning was the Word and the Word was with God and the Word was God”. There was a woman sent by God whose name was Alice Walsh. She was not the light but she came to bear witness to the light.

Alice Walsh was born on 31<sup>st</sup> October 1928 in Kilbride to Helen Green and Augustine Walsh. She was the last surviving member of a family of 11. Alice told me one day she was about 7 years old when the family moved to Grand Falls Windsor. That is the time Brendan and herself became close friends. Alice joined the Presentation Sisters in September 1948 and made final vows in 1954. She was then known as Sister Felicita.

Alice in her school ministry, either teaching or leading as Principal, found herself in many places throughout the island, Corner Brook, Gander, Trepassy, Placentia, Harbour Breton. Having retired from education ministry at the age of 65 Alice went to Picadilly as Pastoral Administrator. Alice used to tell me she baptised children/adults, she married couples, she ministered the last rites, she buried people, she unmarried people, she gave advice, she listened...the list is endless. We used to laugh together when I called her the Pope!

I always enjoyed my visits with Alice. She had a mischief in her and it displayed itself in the twinkle in her eye. She had a great capacity to be grateful, grateful for all the blessings in her life, and in latter years grateful for the care she received on the Nano Nagle Floor. She was very sad to say her final goodbye to Sr. Brendan Lynch ... as she said they were school friends who grew up together and ministered together as Presentation Sisters. Then her big shock was the sudden death of her dear brother Albert. Alice found these two events hard to live with and she began to fail. I asked her one day “Alice, what happened you?”. She replied, “I think I gave up”. She was the last of the family and her dear friend Brendan was gone. During my visits with her Alice spoke of her loving family ... she dearly loved you all and spoke so highly of her nieces

and nephews and the next generations. At 97 she had watched you all grow up and no doubt she prayed that your lives would be good and easy. Alice will still be your devoted Auntie who will continue to take care of you always.

Alice had a great ability to listen to people. She had that unique ability to make each person feel they were the only person that mattered in the world. She was such a prayerful woman that people trusted her and knew they would be on her prayer list. She had a powerful personal relationship with the Sacred Heart. She would say to me...I asked Jesus to do such and such!!!!!!!!!!

Alice's impact on everyone who came into her company proved what a true follower of Nano Nagle she was. Nano's light shone brightly to the people of Cork in her day, and Alice shone her lantern of prayer, ministry and compassion to all with whom she came in contact. She was a true daughter of Nano and a valued member of our Presentation Congregation.

Alice was a woman who was centred in God as her alpha and omega and who faced the dark and light of her personal Faith journey with a slow and steady movement along the path of trusting in God's provident care. This trust does not come easily to any of us and it contains many moments of woundedness, vulnerability and pain as well as experiences of joy and delight.

Alice, we will miss you. We will miss your fun, your beautiful smile, your mischief, your presence. We thank you for being that beautiful woman, that beautiful Sister, who impacted us as much as everyone else. We believe that you are now in the presence of God, Nano, and all your loved ones, and that you will continue to walk with us on the road ahead. And until we meet again may God hold you in the palm of his hand.