



Our Lady of Fatima Church. Clarenville, NL
(May 31, 1981 – Today)

*A short History of
Our Lady of Fatima
Church,
Clarenville, NL*

In 1944, Leonard Singleton and his family arrived in Clarenville, Newfoundland. They were the only Catholic family in the community and there was no Catholic church. In 1944, Jack Basha also arrived in Clarenville and in 1945 built a theatre in Clarenville. The first Mass was celebrated in this theatre by Reverend Cullen of Gambo in 1946.

When the theatre was sold, annual Mass was celebrated in the Singleton's kitchen by Reverend Cullen. As Mass was celebrated yearly; this family walked eighteen miles from George's Brook to Lethbridge along the railway track and from there got a ride to Sweet Bay or Bonavista.

In 1948, Clarenville was under the jurisdiction of Whitbourne parish and the Redemptorist Mission priests would celebrate Mass in one of the Singletons' homes. In 1950, Our Lady of Fatima parish reverted back to the jurisdiction of Gambo parish. Reverend Walter Walsh celebrated Mass once every two or three months. After the death of Reverend Walsh, Reverend M. Hynes celebrated Mass once a month.

In 1959, a collection was started to build a church under the guidance of the Redemptorist priests and Reverend M. R. Hynes. Land for the church was donated by the Singleton family. The first Mass was celebrated in the spring of 1960. Bishop J. M. O'Neill officially blessed Our Lady of Fatima church in 1963. From 1965-1967, Reverend Neil Macdonald celebrated Mass most Sundays. Over a number of years, Clarenville parish was under the jurisdiction of a number of other parishes. Rev. Michael Hynes appointed parish priest (1967-1974).

On May 23, 1981, Reverend Larry George officially closed Our Lady of Fatima church that was built in 1959. The much larger church was blessed and officially opened on Sunday, May 31, 1981 by Bishop Faber MacDonald.

*Priests who served this Parish from
1967*

Priest	From	To
Rev. Michael Hynes	1967	1974
Rev. Brendan McCarthy	1974	1975
Rev. J. Kevin Barker	1975	1980
Various Priests	1980	1986
Rev. Michael Hynes	1987	1998
Rev. Aloysius Antle	1988	1990
Rev. A. Wayne Cummings	1990	1993
Rev. Ramon Bolatete	1993	1995
Rev. Edward Brophy	1995	1996
Rev. Sebastian Fernando	1997	1998
Rev. John Adde-Nweah	1998	2000
Rev. Tom Duffenais	2000	2002
Rev. Anthony Hageman	2002	2003
Rev. Gregory Eduah	2003	2004
Rev. William Hearn	2004	