

A pastoral letter to parishioners concerning the development of the Diocese of Corner Brook and Labrador

My dear friends,

Following many years of discussion and prayerful reflection on the best way to serve the pastoral needs of the people in several Canadian dioceses, including the Diocese of Labrador City-Schefferville, it was decided to request a change in boundaries that better reflects current realities. For the Diocese of Labrador City-



Schefferville it was determined that it would be appropriate to promote a configuration that both respects provincial borders and takes into consideration population shifts, transportation routes, and similar developments.

During the summer months we received a DECREE from the Congregation for Bishops and the Congregation for the Evangelization of Peoples in which Pope Benedict XVI places the parishes and missions in the Labrador portion of the Diocese of Labrador City-Schefferville Diocese with the Diocese of St. George's and gives the arrangement a new name: **the Diocese of Corner Brook and Labrador**. The change is effective when the Decree is promulgated, and that will take place today, **September 9, 2007**, at the Cathedral of The Most Holy Redeemer and Immaculate Conception in Corner Brook. Bishop Martin Currie, Bishop of Grand Falls, has been delegated by Archbishop Luigi Ventura to read the promulgation. Excerpts of the decree will be read in parishes throughout the new diocese.

Please pray for the Diocese of Corner Brook and Labrador, that we will be, as the new motto for the diocese describes, *ONE HEART AND SOUL*. It is the evocative description of the early Christian community found in the Acts of the Apostles. May it reflect the spirit that guides us all into a future filled with promise and possibility!



Sincerely in Christ and Mary Immaculate,

+ Douglas Crosby, OMI

Bishop of Corner Brook and Labrador.

September 9, 2007