

Communio Week in Schools

Information Sheet

Communio is a name given to a plan to help the needy people in our own Diocese of Geraldton.

We as a Church, support needy people in other parts of Australia and the world through Catholic Mission and Caritas. Various people themselves support other countries through other organisations as well. Money collected through Communio though **goes to the needy people here in our own Diocese.**

The word is a Latin one which means ‘Communion – union with’. In other words it says that in our Church we are linked to and connected to people all around the Diocese. Needy people are part of us and our family. In fact all needy people are part of Jesus and therefore a part of us because Jesus said *“Whatsoever you do to the least of my brothers and sisters, you do to me”*.

Each year we have Communio Week in Schools. This is a time to learn more about some of the people that our Diocese supports, to pray for these people and to raise funds for them. Various activities are suggested during the week to help young people understand and be involved in all this

Centacare. This organisation was set up over twenty five years ago and reaches out in a big way to people in our Diocese. Regardless of race, beliefs, colour or circumstances – all are helped in many ways.

Such people assisted are:-

- Individuals and families who need counselling
- Parents in their important role of relating to and caring for their children
- Children who have separated parents and difficulties in relationships
- Separated parents who seek help to do the best for their children
- People who need food and some basic financial help.
- Unemployed people – helping them train for work
- Children who have to be witnesses in court
- People with personal problems or with mild disabilities who find it hard to get work
- Victims of violence
- Drought Relief – counselling for farming families struggling because of drought conditions.

Centacare is in Geraldton but has centres in Carnarvon, Exmouth and Yalgoo. However it reaches out beyond these places to the Midwest and other rural areas according to needs that can be met by this organisation.

Nazareth House Nursing Home. Our contributions also support the great work done by the Sisters and Staff at Nazareth House where one hundred and twenty people, either frail aged or with dementia, are lovingly cared for.

DrugArm. A State organisation for young people and those who want help with drug addiction. It has a base in Geraldton which we support.

Other outreach. Then there are individual people and families who sometimes find themselves in difficult financial circumstances which our Priests and Sisters working in our Parishes know about and bring to the Bishops notice for support.

Communio Week in Schools takes place in Second Term. Adults in Parishes get the opportunity to support Communio at the end of the year during Advent when a campaign is launched as we prepare for Christmas. In this way parishioners can include the needy of our Diocese in their Christmas Gift.