

# Catholic Archdiocese of Perth

1913 –

URL: <http://www.perthcatholic.org.au>

## Details

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The Catholic Archdiocese of Perth began when Catholic Diocese of Perth was elevated in 1913. The Archdiocese continued to be active in the establishment and operation of children's institutions and Homes in Western Australia. It was also involved in the Catholic Immigration Scheme, and ran the agencies Catholic Family Welfare Bureau (later Centrecare) and the Professional Standards Resource Group WA. Many residential facilities and placement agencies for children have also been run by Catholic religious orders or social welfare service agencies.

The Archdiocese of Perth is located in Perth, the capital city of the State of Western Australia. It is bounded in the north by the Diocese of Geraldton, in the east by the South Australian border, and in the south by the Diocese of Bunbury and by the Southern Ocean in its south-east corner. Perth is the Metropolitan See for the Province of Western Australia which includes the Dioceses of Bunbury, Geraldton and Broome. The Archdiocese of Perth has historically had significant influence over the out of home care activities in these other Dioceses.

The Archdiocese has established the agencies Centrecare Children's Cottages and Djooraminda.

The Catholic Diocese of Broome was also involved in out of home care and Missions in the Kimberleys.

Giving evidence to the Select Committee of the Legislative Council on the State Children Act Amendment Bill in October 1918, Archbishop Patrick Clune reported there were 462 children in Catholic orphanages and industrial schools (326 'Government' and 136 'private' children). The Archbishop gave evidence for the Catholic institutions regulated under the State Children Act 1907 and said that 'the most critical time' for the young people was 'when they leave' the institution. He was advocating that the institutions were 'quite as capable' as the State Children Department in finding employment, apprenticeships and 'service' positions for these young people. The Archbishop was keen to remind the Committee about the 'tacit understanding' on which the churches based their involvement in industrial schools and orphanages: that they 'should have free play in regard to religious and moral influences' and that any additional legislation that 'would interfere with those influences up to the age of 18 would not be good'. The Archbishop agreed that he 'had not a shadow of complaint' with the existing system of regulation and would be 'satisfied with any other reasonable change which might be made'.

The Catholic Archdiocese of Perth provides assistance to people who have experienced sexual, emotional, or physical abuse in 'care' in Catholic institutions in Western Australia via its Western Australian Professional Standards Office.

## More info

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### Chronology

- Catholic Diocese of Perth (1845 - 1913)

- **Catholic Archdiocese of Perth (1913 – )**

## Related Entries

### Related Organisations

- [Catholic Family Welfare Bureau \(Perth\) \(1970 - 1977\)](#)  
The Catholic Family Welfare Bureau was an agency of the Catholic Archdiocese of Perth.
- [Centrecare Children's Cottages \(1978 - 1992\)](#)  
The Catholic Archdiocese of Perth established Centrecare Children's Cottages and appointed its management committee.  
Date: 1978 - 1992
- [Sisters of St John of God \(1895 - current\)](#)
- [Catholic Episcopal Migration and Welfare Association \(1947? - 1970\)](#)  
The Catholic Episcopal Migration and Welfare Association was the organisation that coordinated the placement of child migrants from Britain and Malta on behalf of the Catholic Archdiocese of Perth.
- [Broken Rites \(1992 - current\)](#)  
Broken Rites monitors allegations of abuse by Catholic Church clergy, including those within the Archdiocese of Perth.
- [Catholic Care \(1977 - 2001\)](#)  
Catholic Care became an agency of the Catholic Archdiocese of Perth in 1981.  
Date: 1981 - 2001
- [Identitywa \(2001 - current\)](#)  
Identitywa became an agency of the Catholic Archdiocese of Perth in 2001.  
Date: 2001 -
- [Djooraminda \(1992 - current\)](#)  
The Catholic Archdiocese of Perth appointed the management committee that governed Djooraminda until it became part of Centrecare in 2002.  
Date: 1992 - 2002
- [Wandering Mission \(1944 - 1979\)](#)  
Wandering Mission was established by the Catholic Archdiocese of Perth.  
Date: 1944 -
- [Catholic Diocese of Broome \(1897? - current\)](#)  
The Catholic Diocese of Broome is included in the Catholic Archdiocese of Perth.
- [Oblates of Mary Immaculate \(1894 - current\)](#)
- [Pallottines \(Society of the Catholic Apostolates\) \(1901 - current\)](#)
- [Sisters of Mercy, Perth Congregation \(1846 - 2011\)](#)

### Holds

- [Wandering Mission Sacramental Registers \(December 1948 - July 1981\)](#)

## Resources

- Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission, [Bringing Them Home: Report of the National Inquiry into the Separation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Children from their Families](#), 1997
- [The Catholic Encyclopedia](#), New Advent, 2009
- Coldrey, Barry M., *The Scheme: the Christian Brothers and Childcare in Western Australia*, 1993
- Walsh, John, [Submission No 41 to the Senate Inquiry into Children in Institutional Care](#), 23 July 2003
- House of Commons Health Committee, [Minutes of Evidence Taken Before the Health Committee on 4 June 1998 \(Health - Third Report\)](#), 4 June 1998
- Name withheld, [Submission No 363 to the Senate Inquiry into Children in Institutional Care](#), 17 March 2005

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