

Meet Edward

The Whyalla West Parish of Our Lady Help of Christians endeavours to be inclusive and welcoming of people with a disability be it physical or intellectual.

A couple of years ago Edward who was then about 50 years old, realizing that one of the regular altar boys was leaving the Parish to go to University in Adelaide, asked Father Tony if he could take his place. The reply was yes.



Here is what a person wrote, when writing about the parish in early 2005.



"Another great asset! One of our regular altar boys here, Edward, is "mentally challenged", but does meticulously, what he has to do. I think it is great that he is included. He stands up, in robe, hands joined, looking like an angel! "

The Parish also has a practice of having Lenten Groups. Sr Marie offered to hold a Lenten Group at the Community House. Edward joined this group and made a valuable contribution. He was well accepted by the group. He enjoyed the music, the pictures on the handouts and sharing his prayers.

Edward is supported to run his own Paper making Business two days a week. He comes to the Community House two days a week and joins in activities such as the Singalong and Dance for Exercise. He likes to use the Computer and type out special notes for people. Celebrating his birthday is also very special and important to him. He likes to give speeches as well.

*Written by Sr Marie O'Shea sgs
Community House Coordinator and OLHC Parishioner*

*The Whyalla West Parish of Our Lady Help of Christians is
in the Diocese of Port Pirie in South Australia.*

