

January 20, 2024
Bishop of Nagoya Diocese
Goro Matsuura

Report on the Noto Peninsula Earthquake Damage and Response (4)

"Caritas Noto Support Center" of the Diocese of Nagoya has started its activities.

+Peace of the Lord

As we have already announced, the Support Center established in Kanazawa Church started its activities on January 20 (Sat.). The initial support activities that we have continued up to now will be expanded into systematic, long-lasting support activities centered on the center.

We have named this center the "Caritas Noto Support Center". This is not a Caritas Japan center, but only a center of the Catholic Diocese of Nagoya, however, among the activities centering on this center, the expenses for support activities outside the church are paid by Caritas Japan. In this sense, it can be said that support for local people is practically provided by Caritas Japan, and since Caritas Japan is recognized as an organization that is trusted by the general public, we have decided to use the name "Caritas" externally as well. Therefore, from now on, we will operate as "Caritas Noto Support Center" as the title indicates.

On the other hand, the center's main support is to provide assistance to church-related facilities and affected congregations and communities, and especially to Catholic kindergartens that were affected by the disaster.

The Support Center has been established, and from now on, the Center will be able to provide you with reports on the situation and activities in the area through a variety of means.

We have already received donations from many people and organizations, and we cannot thank them enough. In particular, the land and buildings of Wajima Church have been devastated and there is nothing we can do to help, and even if the adjacent Umi no Hoshi Kindergarten were to be restored and opened, we would not be able to let the children play outside. We ask for your continued prayers and support.

January 17 was the 29th anniversary of the Great Hanshin-Awaji Earthquake. There are still victims of the Great East Japan Earthquake who are in a difficult situation. Through our involvement with the Noto Peninsula earthquake victims, we would like to continue to remember and pray for these people as well.

In Gratitude