

**St. Joseph, Husband of Mary R. C. Church
7260 West Sahara Avenue
Las Vegas, NV 89117
(702) 363-1902**

**BAPTISM PREPARATION CLASS
For
PARENTS & GODPARENTS**

**All classes are held in the
ST. JOSEPH CATHOLIC CENTER
(There is no pre-registration or fee required for the classes)
Please check for Baptism Class Dates in the Bulletin**

Parent/Godparent Requirements to Baptize at St. Joseph, HOM

#1: Effective March 1, 2009, parents MUST be registered members of St. Joseph, Husband of Mary for a minimum of (3) months before the scheduling of a Baptism. This requires filling out a registration form which is available in the office or on the website. Parents registered at another parish and wishing to baptize at St. Joseph, Husband of Mary must obtain a "Letter of Freedom" from their parish and are not required to register at St. Joseph's. You should only be registered in one parish.

#2: Parents MUST attend the St. Joseph, HOM Parents Baptism Preparation Class & receive their certificates in order to baptize in our church.

#3: Godparents must attend a Godparent Class and give their certificate/letter to the parents of the child ASAP. Parents will need this paperwork in order to make an appointment with Norma/Jessica to set their baptism date. Godparents may attend the same class as parents at St. Joseph, HOM. If Godparents are from out-of-town/state they may attend the class at the parish where they are registered and forward their certificate to the parents. Please see reverse side for specific Godparents requirements.

#4: Parents will need the child's 'Original' Birth Certificate at the first appointment. A copy will be made for the baptism file. Please check the original birth certificate for any mis-spellings of names, etc. as the Baptism Certificate MUST be made out 'exactly' as the birth certificate reads. If there is a mis-spelling you must have it corrected and a new birth certificate issued before we can change the Baptism Certificate.

#5: When above paperwork has been acquired....parents may call Norma/Jessica (363-1902) for an appointment to review the paperwork and set a Baptism Date. DO NOT mail, e-mail or fax paperwork to the parish.

#6: We DO NOT reserve Baptism dates in advance. All paperwork MUST be in before Baptism date can be set. Therefore, DO NOT plan a party date until you have met with Norma/Jessica and all paperwork has been reviewed.

#7: Except for Medical or Military Emergencies...all Baptisms are held on Sundays at 3:30 p.m. However, baptisms are not held on the 5th Sunday of a month (e.g. September 30th & December 30th).

According to Canon Law, Godparents MUST meet ALL the following qualifications:

- 1. Be at least 16 years old.**
- 2. A practicing Catholic who has all three sacraments of initiation: Baptism, Holy Communion, and Confirmation. (Godparents MUST be CONFIRMED Catholics. Proof of Confirmation is REQUIRED (e.g. Confirmation Certificate or a Sealed Letter from Parish where Confirmed). If not baptized Catholic, they can be a Christian Witness: A baptized Christian of a different denomination, in good standing in their Church community.**
- 3. A practicing Catholic who attends Mass on Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation.**
- 4. May not be cohabitating/living together without marriage.**
- 5. If married, current marriage must be a valid Catholic marriage.**
- 6. Cannot be a parent of the candidate.**
- 7. Must be willing to fulfill role as a Godparent by ‘helping the baptized person to lead a Christian life’.**