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

## BAPTISM PREPARATION CLASS DATES FOR PARENTS & GODPARENTS

## Thursday, March 21 from 6:00-8:00pm Thursday, April 25 from 6:00-8:00pm Thursday, May 23 from 6:00-8:00pm

Classes will take place in either the church hall or a room called Corpus Christi both are across from each other in the courtyard. There is no pre-registration or fee required for the class.

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

#1: When the paperwork listed below has been acquired, parents may call Norma for an appointment at 702-363-1902 to review the paperwork and set a Baptism date. DO NOT mail, e-mail or fax paperwork to the parish.

#2: 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. Parents registered at another parish and wishing to baptize at St. Joseph, Husband of Mary must obtain a "Letter of Freedom" from their pastor.

#3: Parents must attend the St. Joseph, HOM Parents Baptism Preparation Class and sign in in order to receive their certificates in order to baptize in our church.

#4: Godparents must also attend the class and give their certificate to the parents of the child. Parents will need this paperwork in order to make an appointment to set up their baptism date. If Godparents are from out-of-town they may attend the class at the parish where they are registered and forward their certificate to the parents. Please see bottom of page for specific Godparents requirements.

#5: 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.

#6: We DO NOT reserve Baptism dates in advance. All paperwork must be in before a Baptism date can be set.

#7: Except for Medical or Military Emergencies...all Baptisms are held on the first and third Sundays of the month at 3:30pm.

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

1. Be at least 16 years old.

A practicing Catholic who has all three sacraments of initiation: Baptism, Holy Communion, and Confirmation. The parents must bring the Godparents Confirmation Certificate to the appointment. If not Catholic, they can be a Christian Witness (someone who was baptized in another Christian faith).

- 2. A practicing Catholic who attends Mass on Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation.
- 3. If married, current marriage must be a valid Catholic marriage.
- 4. May not be cohabitating/living together without marriage.
- 5. Cannot be a parent of the candidate.
- 6. Must be willing to fulfill role as a Godparent by 'helping the baptized person to lead a Christian life'.