



GOALS OF INFANT BAPTISM PREPARATION AT ST. JOSEPH CATHOLIC COMMUNITY



1. To tap into the human experience of birth and all that this means for a family

- ordinary, yet sacred event
- triggers a series of: feelings
changing life circumstances for all involved
new relationship dynamics
- a major transition time within the family life cycle
- opportunity for growth/on-going conversion

2. To deepen the understanding and experience of the Sacrament of Baptism

- primarily within the new parents, but also within the parish community
- baptism has implications for: child
parents and family
parish community
wider Church and society

3. To foster a sense of partnership between the family and the parish community

- means looking at the strengths, role and responsibilities of each and how the two are intertwined
- especially in fostering faith development

4. To provide an experience of welcome, hospitality and support

- for the human journey...the faith journey
- does not preclude, gently “nudging” or challenging at times

Infant Baptism Preparation combines elements of family ministry, sacramental preparation, adult education and evangelization.