



Sisters of the Holy Family

April, 2011

To seek out and advocate for the poor and needy, especially families, for the Kingdom of God.

Las Vegas Holy Family Sisters Coming Home!

Four Holy Family Sisters living in San Francisco went to Las Vegas, Nevada in 1932, at the request of Bishop Thomas P. Gorman, to minister to the families building Hoover Dam and to teach religion to the children. At that time Las Vegas had only one Catholic church – St. Joan of Arc. Over time the number of Sisters grew to 11 as the work increased and the city grew.

Our Sisters ministered to all Catholics of Las Vegas, North Las Vegas, Boulder City, Sloan, and Blue Diamond. As the city grew in population, so did the number of Sisters caring for the Catholic families

in every Parish as each was built. When Catholic schools were built, the Holy Family Sisters continued their work with public school children and their families. Later the Sisters of the Holy Family served in Henderson, Pittman, Whitney, Indian Springs, Moapa, Overton and Nellis Air Force Base.

The Sisters have done many other works in addition to the parish Religious Education Programs. Sisters

have directed the Diocesan Religious Education Program – developed and hosted Teacher Training Courses; Pastoral Care Training for parish ministers; Visitation to the sick in hospitals and homebound.

Mother's Day Celebrations

Eucharistic Liturgy
Saturday, May 7
Motherhouse Chapel
4:30 p.m.

**Southern Theme
Champagne Brunch**
Sunday, May 8
Reserved seating only
10:00 a.m. or 12:30 p.m.

\$40* Adults
\$15* Children
age 3 and under, free

Call 510-624-4580 for information and reservations

*fair market value is \$25/10



The Variety Day Home

In 1955, The Variety Club of Southern Nevada asked the Sisters to run their nonprofit day home, *Divine Providence Variety Day Home*, on the “west side” for the children of low-income working parents. What started out small – staffed by only four Sisters and serving about 100 children each day – began to grow. By the 1980s the Day Home was offering services to children as young as infants through kindergarten and was caring for more than 200 children, five days a week, while parents worked.

In time, the name became simply the *Variety Day Home* and expanded

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Spring Raffle

- If you have received your raffle tickets, mail them back to us quickly!
- We will draw the ticket on May 9 at 5:00 p.m..
- If you need additional tickets, please call 510-624-4580.

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services to become a neighborhood Family Resource Center, conducted English classes for immigrant parents, served as a Family to Family Center, became a United Way Teacher Training Center, and hosted the State of Nevada Even Start Program in that area of the city.

Needless to say the staff grew to more than 50, and was able to offer training while employing many residents from the local community.

The Sisters of the Holy Family continued to administer the program until the end of 2000, when the leadership of the Day Home was turned over to the employees from the local West Side Community.



Sisters Diane Maguire and Barbara Sheahan, coming home from Las Vegas

The Sisters are so proud also to have a dedicated group of Associates who are committed to the same charism and works as the Sisters. While living with their own families, these wonderful, holy people have enriched the lives of the Sisters in innumerable ways. Their ministries will continue.

Throughout these 79 years the one constant fabulous gift 'has been the presence, hard work, dedication and support of all the wonderful people who have helped the Sisters and walked alongside us every step of the way. Our work couldn't have been done without you, thanks be to God. Our love and prayer-filled gratitude will always be with you!



Sister Charles McCarthy receiving the "Heart Award" from the Variety Club



Sister Marie Julie Casattas, coming home from Las Vegas

The 2011 Week of the Young Child is April 10-16 and the theme is *Early Years Are Learning Years*

Friday, April 22
Earth Day

April 22
Good Friday

April 24
Easter Sunday

Friday, April 29
Arbor Day

Santa Cruz
Vacation Home
for Rent!



The Sisters are pleased to offer for rent, Casa Garcia, our vacation home in Santa Cruz, California

Great location for vacation or retreat!
Call or email for availability and information
and/or reservations: 510-624-4500