

THAT ALL MAY BE ONE

A documentary about the Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet

www.thatallmaybeone.com

SYNOPSIS:

Two Sentence Synopsis:

Where have all nuns gone? Their unusual dress made them easy to identify, but since their move to secular clothing, the sisters have become invisible. Church scandals generate headlines but acts of kindness rarely get media coverage. This story hopes to change that by examining the good work and enduring legacy of the Sisters of St. Joseph.

125-word Synopsis:

Where have all the sisters gone? Their unusual dress once made them easy to identify, but since the Second Vatican Council and the move to secular clothing, nuns have become invisible. Not so the vibrant Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet, the CEOs of a religious 'Fortune 500' nonprofit corporation. Their work is a vital part of communities throughout the United States, Canada, Chile, Japan and Peru. But the number of sisters is declining. Very few young women are joining their ranks today. This story profiles the Sisters of St. Joseph in the St. Louis province and the challenges they face in sustaining their schools, hospitals and universities established when they came to America in 1836.

250-word Synopsis:

Where have all the sisters gone? Their unusual dress once made these women easy to identify, but since the Second Vatican Council and the move to secular clothing, they have become invisible. The Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet and their work are a vital part of communities throughout the United States, Canada, Chile, Japan and Peru. They are the CEOs of a religious 'Fortune 500' nonprofit corporation. This story profiles the CSJ sisters in the St. Louis province and the challenges they face in sustaining their schools, hospitals and universities established when they came to America in 1836.

The Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet were visionaries as they bought land and established their missions throughout the country. They own their Motherhouse, schools, convents, hospitals and retirement homes. Independent and self-sustaining, they are not under the direction of the diocese or Archbishop of their region. Their controversial move to independence in the 1800s made it possible for them to escape the financial problems faced by many Catholic diocese, notably the recent settlements of pedophile lawsuits. For four years, the filmmaker followed the lives and changing missions of sisters in leadership roles in the St. Louis province. This story examines how the sisters manage their operations and investments always true to their charism of serving "the dear neighbor." As their numbers decrease the documentary chronicles a disappearing way of life. In spite of the odds, these women are charming, funny, and pragmatic as they continue to make tomorrow.

