

2008 INTERCOLLEGIATE LEAGUE DEVELOPMENT CONFERENCE

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St. Joseph's College Parish Council



HISTORY OF ST. JOSEPH'S COLLEGE COUNCIL

Founded in April 2005 as a League university council, St. Joseph's College Parish Council has increased its membership threefold since its inception two years ago. Young women in the university community are very enthusiastic about the development of a women's group based on the principles of a Christian sisterhood that promotes spiritual growth, service activities and social events. Likewise, the St. Joseph's College community, including faculty, parishioners and other student groups, has been very receptive, and the relationship has been mutually beneficial.

Some members are involved in Edmonton's Bizarre Women's group, and the council has participated in a variety of activities related to the Bizarre Women, including the DVD produced by Salt + Light Catholic Media Foundation. Members have attended zone and diocesan meetings, and diocesan, provincial and national conventions. St. Joseph's College Parish Council looks forward to continued growth and development, as well as strengthening ties to other parish councils.

2008 INTERCOLLEGIATE CWL DEVELOPMENT CONFERENCE

To inspire and empower women from universities across the country to start their own councils, the St. Joseph's members are hosting an Intercollegiate CWL Development Conference in August 2008. This endeavour will help the League to attain its goal of every Catholic woman being invited to become a member. After facing a number of challenges, council members have learned invaluable lessons and gained experience that could prove very useful to university women across Canada in starting their own councils. By encouraging more women to join and live their lives fully in faith, the mission of the League in providing service "For God and Canada" will be enhanced. Conference attendees will go to workshops on organizing and sustaining a council on a university campus, as well as listen to speakers on a variety of issues related to Catholic faith development. Sisterhood in faith will be fostered through social activities and networking within both the university and parish communities. As faith development is also an integral aspect of this conference, the unique position of St. Joseph's College can offer excellent speakers and intriguing discussion about pressing issues facing young Catholic women today.

HOW YOU CAN HELP

St. Joseph's council members believe the conference will result in increased membership across Canada, with a focus on university and college women. There are a number of ways

that councils and members can invest in the future. Speak to young women in your home parishes, family, and friends and encourage them to attend the conference. Your own parish council may choose to sponsor the travel costs for one of these young women, as she is likely a university student with limited financial resources. Consider contributing financially, either as a parish council or on your own, to help offset the costs associated with hosting the conference by purchasing our T-shirts and aprons. Order forms will soon be available from the Edmonton Diocesan Council website at www.e.cwl.ab.ca. Financial donations will also be accepted.

All contributions are greatly appreciated. St. Joseph's College Parish Council thanks its League sisters for investing in the future of the League and young women in Canada.

For more information, contact Angela Espejo or Stephanie Wehlage at cwl.stjoes@gmail.com or forward mail to 11515 - 80th Avenue, Edmonton, AB T6G 0R7. †

INTERCOLLEGIATE CWL DEVELOPMENT CONFERENCE DETAILS

Who: university and college women across Canada

What: attend a conference about starting CWL councils on university/college campuses

When: one weekend in August 2008

Where: St. Joseph's College, University of Alberta, Edmonton, Alberta

Why: to promote the League and its benefits to young women who are not yet members

How: by hosting a conference with a minimal registration fee (which includes meals, accommodations, etc.), the council hopes that young women on a limited budget will be able to afford to attend. In order to subsidize the registration costs of each attendee, a variety of fundraising activities have been undertaken. The goal is that each woman will only have to pay for her transportation to and from Edmonton. To help make the conference affordable for attendees, Edmonton members will be asked to help out by billeting students and cooking meals.

If you know a woman who might be interested...

- discuss the benefits of membership
- share St. Joseph council's stories
- provide her name, e-mail address, university, and home diocese to cwl.stjoes@gmail.com