Mayor Proclaims St. Francis-St. Joseph Catholic Worker Week
Open House November 18th to Celebrate

In recognition of our 20 years at 1437 Walnut Street serving the homeless and hungry, Mayor Mark Mallory has proclaimed the week of November 12-18 “St. Francis-St. Joseph Catholic Worker Week” in Cincinnati.

All are invited to join with us Saturday, November 18th from 3:00 to 5:00 pm as we celebrate with an Open House reception.

The Mayor’s proclamation recognizing the success of our mission was issued to coincide with National Hunger and Homelessness Awareness Week. During this week, we join the National Homeless Coalition’s efforts to bring greater awareness to Cincinnati of the problems of the hungry and homeless here in our community.

How Are We Doing?

We have made remarkable inroads in our service to the homeless. In 2004, 30% of our formerly homeless house guests went onto independent living with a job and a home. Last year, 40% of the men we served achieved this goal.

Our progress continues due to excellent staff and a committed Board. Our staff, who were all homeless at one time and are actively in recovery, continue to inspire and dedicate their lives to the service to the homeless.

Staff Growth

Ron and Harrison, former guests of the House, have come back to join us as part-time staff. Both Ron and Harrison valued the opportunity the House gave them and stepped up to their own homes and full-time employment. Now, they have returned to us working this additional part-time job to serve others.

As Skip and Anthony move on to better employment, we thank them for their time with us and wish them blessings in all they do. The House continues to have as its goal, for all involved with us, the development of human
Proclamation

City of Cincinnati

Be It Proclaimed:

Whereas, the St. Francis-St. Joseph Catholic Worker House is celebrating 20 years on Walnut Street giving hospitality and hope to the homeless in Cincinnati; and,

Whereas, the St. Francis-St. Joseph Catholic Worker House has provided a thrice weekly Soup Kitchen, open to all, serving an average of 1,500 people a month in Over-the-Rhine; and,

Whereas, the St. Francis-St. Joseph Catholic Worker House has joined with the Cincinnati Coalition for the Homeless to advocate for the homeless while working toward sustainable solutions for homelessness.

Now, Therefore, I, Mark Mallory,
Mayor of the City of Cincinnati do hereby proclaim

November 12th-18th, 2006
as
“St. Francis-St. Joseph Catholic Worker House Homeless Awareness Week”

in Cincinnati.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I
have hereunto set my hand and
caused this seal of the City of
Cincinnati to be affixed this tenth
day of October in the year Two
Thousand and Six.

Mark Mallory, Mayor
City of Cincinnati
Volunteer Tom Billman
Formatted for You

Tom Billman as the volunteer layout editor of this newsletter exemplifies “taking personal responsibility for changing conditions,” which is at the heart of the Catholic Worker philosophy. Tom has been a tremendous service to the House over the past eight years, quietly and reliably shaping up our newsletter. Thanks to Tom, we can connect to you in a visually appealing format for a smooth read. And it’s all volunteer work for which we are deeply appreciative.

In addition, Tom Billman is the keyboardist of the Terra Azul Band. With Tom and other band members playing for us at our annual Christmas Party, it’s always a great time. And their name? Terra Azul means “Blue Earth” in both Spanish and Portuguese.

Like many on staff, Calvin Hawkins was a guest of the House years ago. But in 1999, it was a short stay for Calvin – he couldn’t adhere to the strict House policy “no drugs, no alcohol, no exceptions.” Calvin wasn’t ready yet. When Calvin came from Atlanta in 1998, he soon found himself homeless due to “a life run by alcohol and drugs.” It took Calvin over a year and a half on the streets before he looked for treatment. Calvin quickly recalls that on March 19, 2001 he began 6 months in treatment and 6 months of after care at The Drop Inn Center.

Calvin worked at the Drop Inn Center throughout his treatment. “I got a job at the Catholic Worker House in June 2001, and currently, I’m still working both,” Calvin told us. “Today I have over 5 1/2 years in. I’m real grateful that the Worker House was here to help me become employable again. I have great responsibility on both of my jobs. People trust me today and that’s good feeling. Every day I get a chance to see where I came from.

Our financial needs continue to increase. Thanks to all who support us.

Happy Thanksgiving from
St. Francis-St. Joseph Catholic Worker House

Staff Worker Calvin Hawkins
Mirrors Responsibility

Earth” in both Spanish and Portuguese.

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OUR MISSION
St. Francis/St. Joseph House of Hospitality strives to provide hospitality to homeless men. We recognize that God created each human being with great dignity and respect. The community of those of us who live and work at St. Francis/St. Joseph House of Hospitality desire to uphold this principle and to serve our guests accordingly. (Rev. 12/11/98)

BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Mark C. Schmieder
Brennan Hill
Joyce Kiernan
Michael Harmon
Arlene Turner

House Manager: Karl Fields

You’re Invited!
ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PARTY
Saturday, December 16th 6:30 P.M.

All are invited to Christmas Dinner with music and songs led by members of the Terra Azul band. The Spirit is always with us at this party & we hope that you will be too!