



# St. Francis / St. Joseph Catholic Worker *Autumn 2006*

◆ P.O. Box 14274 ◆ Cincinnati, Ohio 45250 ◆ 1437 Walnut Street ◆ (513) 381-4941 ◆

## 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.

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### Dorothy Day Birthday

Throughout November, we commemorate the life of Dorothy Day who spent her life in service to the poor and homeless. Dorothy Day who is the inspiration for our house was born Nov. 8<sup>th</sup> 1897 and died Nov. 29<sup>th</sup>, 1980. We celebrate her life as we follow her example in

our house of hospitality.

### 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.

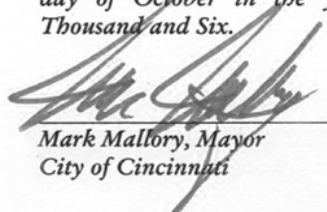
***Now, Therefore, I, Mark Mallory,***  
Mayor of the City of Cincinnati do hereby proclaim

November 12<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup>, 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



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



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

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### **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



### **Staff Worker Calvin Hawkins Mirrors Responsibility**

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.

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Mark C. Schmieder

Brennan Hill

Joyce Kiernan

Michael Harmon

Arlene Turner

**House Manager: Karl Fields**

## 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)



## You're Invited ! ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PARTY Saturday, December 16<sup>th</sup> 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!



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