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## ST. VINCENT DE PAUL HONORS EXEMPLARY VOLUNTEERS AT 2008 FELLOWSHIP BANQUET

**CINCINNATI – June 6, 2008**– The Society of St. Vincent de Paul (SVDP), Council of Cincinnati recently honored volunteers & members who exemplify the spirit of kindness and humility in their service to others at its Annual Fellowship Banquet. Rev. Jim Bok celebrated the mass at St. Joseph Church. Cincinnati City Manager Milton Dohoney Jr. was the guest speaker.

Each year SVDP, an organization that's over 700 volunteers strong, recognizes outstanding work in the Cincinnati community with awards in several categories: Top Hat Award, honoring a St. Vincent de Paul volunteer; the Ozanam Award, honoring a volunteer who is not a member of St. Vincent de Paul but exemplifies the spirit of compassion; and the Fire of Faith Award, which honors a volunteer for his or her spiritual leadership. Service awards are also bestowed for length of service.

Robert Glassmeyer, Top Hat Award recipient, has been a member of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart volunteer group in Reading for more than 10 years. He is the group's Spiritual Advisor. He truly exemplifies the St. Vincent de Paul's spirit of love and service. After retirement in 1990, Bob became a deacon and assists with weddings, baptisms and funerals. He is very active in ministering to the sick during home visits and hospital visit. He is a past recipient of the "Hospice Award". Bob also serves as the Chaplin of the Reading Fire Department. He resides in Reading.

Juanita Stayton was awarded this year's Ozanam Award for her many years of service in the Pleasant Ridge and Kennedy Heights communities. For the last 25 years Juanita has worked at the Caring Place helping those in need of clothing and food. She is a frequent visitor at nursing homes playing bingo and providing refreshments. At Nativity Church she volunteer

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as a sacristan and a Eucharistic minister. After daily mass she joins other parishioners to pray the rosary. Juanita has taught CCD at Nativity and has been a long time member of the St. Ann's Society. Juanita's life journey exemplifies quiet, humble service to the Gospel. Ms. Stayton resides in Pleasant Ridge.

Richard Stenger received the Fire of Faith award for his tireless service as a caring, spiritual neighbor. Mr. Stenger has been a devoted St. Vincent de Paul volunteer since 2002. At St. John the Baptist Church he is a Eucharistic Minister, a server at the morning mass and a member of the funeral choir. Richard also brings communion and friendship to the home bound. He and his wife Joyce provide assistance to two resident nuns at the parish and other elderly parishioners. Richard will do everything he can to assist a person in need – both materially and spiritually. He is a resident of Harrison.

Four other SVDP volunteers received length of service awards, totaling nearly 200 years of service. They are Dick Deidesheimer of St. Margaret Mary and a resident of North College Hill; Paul Wessler and Ed Saur from St James in Wyoming and Charles Burridge of Guardian Angel and a resident of Mt. Washington.

About St. Vincent de Paul

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul (SVDP) has been helping Greater Cincinnati and Hamilton County residents in need with the basic necessities of life for nearly 140 years. The organization works personally with those in need, regardless of race or creed, to bridge the spiritual, emotional and financial gaps in their lives through home visits provided by neighborhood-based volunteer groups, and groundbreaking initiatives like the Charitable Pharmacy. The Society of St. Vincent de Paul continues to be a leading community service organization, recently recognized by The CincinnatiUSA Regional Chamber of Commerce as Non-Profit of the Year. For more information, go to [www.SVDPcincinnati.org](http://www.SVDPcincinnati.org).

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