FEBRUARY 21, 2007

Redemptorist Father James Gilmour honored for St. Cecilia Parish Services’ commitment to the Harlem community

Redemptorist Father James Gilmour, representing St. Cecilia’s Parish Services, New York, NY, was among a dozen religious leaders honored on February 20th for their organizations’ commitment to the Harlem community. The gala celebrating Black History Month took place at the Episcopal Cathedral of St. John the Divine, New York, NY. The annual event was sponsored by Community Works of New York City and Citibank, the theme this year being “Harlem is . . . the Gospel Tradition, the Spirit of Community.”

The honorees, in addition to Father Gilmour, were Mother Reverend Cecily P. Broderick y Guerra, formerly of St. Philip’s Episcopal Church; Reverend Calvin O. Butts, III, of Abyssian Baptist Church; Reverend Dr. Eugene S. Callender (retired), of St. James Presbyterian Church; Reverend Dr. Charles Curtis, of Mount Olivet Baptist Church; Reverend James Ford (retired), of The Riverside Church; Reverend Dr. Earl Kooperkamp, of St. Mary’s Episcopal Church in Manhattanville; the Very Reverend Dr. James A. Kowalski, of the Cathedral of St. John the Divine; Lucille McEwen, of the Harlem Congregations for Community Improvement, Inc.; Imam Izak-El Mu’eed Pasha, of Masjid Malcolm Shabazz; Reverend Gregory Robeson Smith, of Mother AME Zion Church; and Reverend Wyatt T. Walker (retired), of Canaan Baptist Church of Christ.
Relatives of Father Gilmour, confreres, including Father Ed Faliskie for the Provincial Government and Father Blas Caceres of St. Cecilia’s, and members of the parish community were among those on hand for the tribute.

A month-long exhibition featuring the honorees includes photographs, biographies, archival pictures, and reflections by area students who interviewed the community leaders.

*Story by Mary Conway.*