



St. Ann's Center's  
160th Anniversary Celebration

# *Hope Blossoms*

Our Roots Run Deep

Thursday · May 13, 2021

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Program Book for Our

**Virtual Gala**  
**Benefiting St. Ann's Center for**  
**Children, Youth and Families**

*Celebrating 160 years of supporting  
vulnerable women and their children*

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# Our Roots Run Deep

## About Our Theme

Our theme for Hope Blossoms 2021 is “Our Roots Run Deep” - representing our 160-year history of supporting vulnerable mothers and their children in the Washington D.C. region. Throughout our sixteen decades, there have been many “roots” which have helped us to grow and fulfill our mission.

Our very founding was rooted in the conviction of the Daughters of Charity to care for orphans and pregnant women in crisis. Their conviction became a mission, and in 1860 three Daughters of Charity sisters founded our first care center in Washington, D.C. Three years later, this mission was confirmed and expanded when President Abraham Lincoln signed an Act of Congress incorporating us as St. Ann's Infant Asylum, as we were then called.

The tradition of care that began during the Civil War served to define and re-define St. Ann's Center through the momentous historical events of the 20th Century, including two World Wars, the 1918 Flu Pandemic, and the Great Depression.

Our strong roots also allowed us to branch out and adapt as the D.C. region itself grew and expanded. In recent decades, St. Ann's Center shifted from primarily caring for children to supporting vulnerable young mothers and their children on their journey toward stability.

From our founding to the present day, our roots have also run deep amongst friends and benefactors. In times of challenge and in times of plenty, St. Ann's Center benefactors consistently support our work and keep alive the mission of our 19th-Century founders. You continue to sustain both our facilities and programs while also directly impacting the lives of our individual mothers and children who call St. Ann's Center home.

In short, you help us continue to grow. Without you, our work is not possible. Thank you.

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# Welcome Message

Dear Friends,

Welcome to Hope Blossoms 2021!

Thank you for joining our virtual celebration of St. Ann's Center's 160th Anniversary. On this milestone occasion we celebrate our founders, the Daughters of Charity, as well as the friends, supporters and volunteers who have helped St. Ann's fulfill our mission across sixteen decades.



Tonight we specially recognize two individuals whose efforts on behalf of St. Ann's give us hope for the decades yet to come. Our dual recipients of the Michele Heidenberger Volunteer Award are high school students Miguel Coppedge and Jake Garner, who I like to refer to as "St. Ann's Youngest Philanthropists."

Miguel is an advocate, volunteer, and philanthropist who by age 10 became a best-selling author of three books including: "The Adventures of Fireman" and "Friendly Officers." A portion of his book sale proceeds go to St. Ann's, where he was a foster baby before being adopted. Miguel has also organized book and coat drives for St. Ann's and has volunteered reading stories to our children.

Jake is a volunteer who at age eight began supporting St. Ann's by giving up his birthday gifts to raise funds for our housing programs. Jake's engagement has blossomed into years of fundraising, supporting our food bank, and shopping for St. Ann's families during Thanksgiving and Christmas.

On behalf of St. Ann's staff and Board of Directors, I would like to extend our thanks to the Hope Blossoms Committee for the great care and time they have given in planning our first-ever virtual gala. I would also like to thank our many sponsors and partners who generously support St. Ann's Center through this annual celebration.

Thank you for tuning in to Hope Blossoms. We hope you enjoy our virtual program. We look forward to the opportunity when we can gather with you in person once again!

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Sister Mary Bader". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Sister Mary Bader, DC  
CEO

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# Your Impact

By supporting St. Ann's Center tonight, you are making a transformational difference in the lives of the mothers and children we serve each day. Your generosity enables our young families to experience:



Safe Housing



Nurturing  
Atmosphere



Licensed  
Child Care



Educational  
Assistance



Clinical & Social  
Work Services



Employment  
Counseling



Life Skills  
Classes



Parenting Skills  
Classes

This comprehensive care enables our families to have hope for the future. Thank you!

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# Program

## **6:00pm** Introduction - Tonya Sharpe

Opening Prayer - Sister Mary Bader

Program Master of Ceremonies - Michael Steele

Musical Performance - Terrence Cunningham

A Young Mother's Story - Aja

Opportunity to Support St. Ann's - Tommy McFly

Marking St. Ann's 160th Anniversary

Awards Presentation - Tonya Sharpe and Jason Reynolds

Awards Presentation - Cardinal Wilton Gregory

Musical Performance - The String Queens

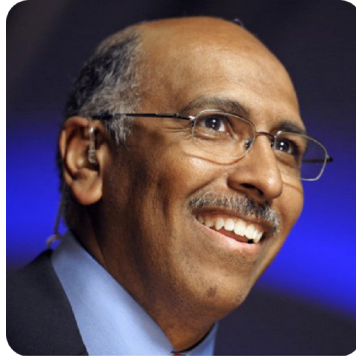
## **7:00pm** Closing Statements - Michael Steele and Sister Mary Bader

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# Master of Ceremonies

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**Michael Steele**

When he was elected Lieutenant Governor of Maryland in 2003, Michael Steele made history as the first African American elected to statewide office. As chairman of the Republican National Committee, Michael Steele was charged with revitalizing the Republican Party. A self-described "Lincoln Republican," under Steele's leadership the RNC broke fundraising records.

As Lt. Governor of Maryland, Mr. Steele's priorities included reforming the state's Minority Business Enterprise program, improving the quality of Maryland's public education system, expanding economic development in the state and fostering cooperation between government and faith-based organizations to help those in need.

Mr. Steele's abilities as a communicator and commentator have been showcased through his current role as a political analyst for MSNBC. He has appeared on Meet the Press, Face the Nation, HBO's Real Time with Bill Maher, Comedy Central's The Colbert Report and The Daily Show. In addition to his work in television, Mr. Steele co-hosted the daily radio program, Steele & Ungar on the POTUS Channel on SiriusXM and is the host of the podcast The Michael Steele Podcast.

Born at Andrews Air Force Base in Prince George's County, Maryland, Mr. Steele was raised in Washington, DC. Upon graduating from Johns Hopkins University ('81), he entered the Order of St. Augustine where he studied for the priesthood. He is a graduate of Georgetown Law Center ('91), an Aspen Institute Rodel Fellow in Public Leadership and a University of Chicago Institute of Politics Fellow. He currently serves on the Board of Directors of Catholic Charities, Archdiocese of Washington.

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# Honorees

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**The Mary McGrory  
Advocacy Award**  
*is presented to*  
**The Daughters  
of Charity**

## THE AWARD

The Mary McGrory Advocacy Award was inaugurated at our 150th Anniversary Gala in honor of its namesake, a passionate advocate and dear friend to St. Ann's, whom our children lovingly called "Mary Gloria." This award recognizes individuals whose work brings attention to the needs of some of the community's voiceless: homeless and vulnerable youth and young mothers.

## THE HONOREES

In 1860, three members of the Daughters of Charity – Sister Dionysia O'Keefe, Sister Catherine Reddy, and Sister Sienna Harty – founded St. Ann's Center in response to the need for care for infants and single mothers in the nation's capital. Three years later, President Abraham Lincoln signed an Act of Congress incorporating St. Ann's Infant Asylum, as we were then known.

The Daughters of Charity guided St. Ann's through momentous historical events including two World Wars, the 1918 Flu Pandemic, and the Great Depression. As D.C. itself grew and expanded, the Daughters adapted St. Ann's focus from primarily caring for children to supporting vulnerable young mothers and their children on their journey toward stability.

The Daughters' innovations include the creation of our day care center (1949), a children's emergency residential care center (1975), a respite care program for handicapped children (1977), infant day care (1984), St. Ann's High School (1993), and the establishment of Faith House (1996), Hope House (2013), our Food Pantry (2016) and our ESL Program (2017).

160 years since our founding, the Daughters of Charity continue to lead and influence St. Ann's mission of supporting our young families on their journey towards healing and independence.

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# Honorees

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**The Michele Heidenberger Volunteer Award**  
*is presented to*  
**Miguel Coppedge and Jake Garner**

## THE AWARD

The Michele Heidenberger Volunteer Award is named in honor of a long-serving and devoted St. Ann's volunteer. Michele, an American Airlines flight attendant, was tragically taken from us in the crash at the Pentagon on September 11th, 2001. We honor her memory and years of dedicated service by presenting this award to an individual or group whose volunteerism has had a significant impact on vulnerable women and children.

## THE HONOREES

Miguel Coppedge is a D.C. high school student, advocate, volunteer, and philanthropist who by age 10 became a best-selling author of three books: "The Adventures of Fireman," "The Case of The Stinger" (sequel to first book) and "Friendly Officers." Miguel donates a portion of his book sale proceeds to St. Ann's Center, where he resided as a foster baby awaiting adoption into his loving family. Today Miguel is a entrepreneur and inspirational speaker who has been honored by numerous media for his work promoting reading at D.C.-area schools, daycares, and after school programs. Miguel continues to give back to St. Ann's, organizing book drives, coat drives, and holiday gift drives for St. Ann's families.

Jake Garner is a high school student in Stafford County, VA. When he was just eight years old, Jake decided he wanted to support St. Ann's Center by giving up his birthday gifts to raise funds for our housing programs. Jake's early passion for helping others through St. Ann's has turned into a years-long legacy of supporting our food bank, helping fund-raise, and shopping for St. Ann's families during the holidays. In his spare time, Jake pursues his passion for theater arts through his role as Prop Master at the Mountain View High School Theatre Department.

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## Past Honorary Hosts

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Mary Jo & Tim Mullin (2019)  
Trish & Neil Cullen (2018)  
Maria & Tom Roginski (2017)  
Colleen & John Williams (2016)  
Jill & Paul McNamara (2015)

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## Past Award Recipients

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### **Mary McGrory Advocacy Award**

Corinne Cannon (2019)  
The Honorable Marielsa A. Bernard (2018)  
Cathy Lanier (2017)  
Monica & John Thompson III (2016)  
Mark Shriver (2015)  
Rev. Msgr. John Enzler (2014)  
Bobby Abbo (2013)  
Barbara Harrison (2012)  
Sister Josephine Murphy (2010)

### **Michele Heidenberger Advocacy Award**

Vincent C. Burke, III (2019)  
Chuck Short (2018)  
Tommy McFly (2017)  
Sarah von Pollaro and Urban Petals (2016)  
The Zinzi Family (2015)  
Valerie Guste Johnson and Keys for the Homeless Inc. (2014)  
Scott Bell and Chesapeake Finishing, Inc. (2013)  
Jane Cahill (2012)

### **Outstanding Corporate Partner Award**

Lattice Group (2017)  
Live Nation - Jiffy Lube (2015)  
ABC7/WJLA (2013)  
Chevron (2012)

### **St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Service Award**

CUA Law School (2013)

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# Thank You

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*We would like to extend a special thank you to the following individuals and groups who have helped to make Hope Blossoms a success:*

**Michael Steele**

*for your generosity in serving as our Host & Emcee*

**Wilton Cardinal Gregory, Archbishop of Washington**

*for presenting tonight's Mary McGrory Advocacy Award*

**Jason Reynolds and Tonya Sharpe**

*for presenting tonight's Michele Heidenberger Volunteer Award*

**Terrence Cunningham and The String Queens**

*for sharing your musical gifts with St. Ann's this evening*

**Tommy McFly**

*for your support of St. Ann's and your presence tonight*

**St. Ann's Board of Directors**

*for your dedication to St. Ann's*

**Hope Blossoms Event Committee**

*for your care, creativity, and enthusiasm*

**St. Ann's Volunteers and Staff**

*for your tireless dedication and support*

**Washington Trophy Center**

*for crafting the awards being presented tonight*

**Chef Geoff**

*for donating your signature Cava and tonight's raffle prize*

**Joyful Pretzels**

*for providing the delicious chocolate covered pretzels*

**Infinite Icon Enterprises**

*for producing tonight's event*

**Chromagraphics / Corporate Communications Group**

*for your printing services*

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# Board of Directors

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Tonya Sharpe, *President*  
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Elaine Baugham-Young (Emeritus)  
Mary Lou Kretschmer (Emeritus)  
Anne E. Schneiders, Esq. (Emeritus) †

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# Event Committee

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Lynda Anderson	Tricia Lloyd
Mary Armstead	Kelly McCarty
Kammie Bell	Mary McCormick
Connie LaRossa Fabiano	Barbara Ann Kelly Myers
Jill Grisco	Amanda Reisig
Luke Hester	Maria Roginski
	Meg Slovenkay

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## Sponsors

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Judy and John Ritz

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Kammie and Scott Bell

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### **GUARDIAN**

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Colleen Mahoney

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Mary Noel and Bill Page

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## Sponsors

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Ellen and Bryan Cullen

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## Sponsors

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Courtney and Scott Pastrick

Sue and Vernon Pizzi

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Signs by Tomorrow, Rockville, MD

Nino R. Vaghi Foundation

**THANK YOU TO ALL OUR SPONSORS FOR  
SUPPORTING OUR 160TH ANNIVERSARY!**





St. Ann's Chapel



St. Ann's Building Dedication



St. Ann's High School Graduation



St. Ann's Staff and Volunteers



Physical Therapist with Infant



Thanksgiving at St. Anns



Miguel Coppedge  
& St. Ann's Staff



Mother & Daughter  
at St. Ann's



**WILTON CARDINAL GREGORY**  
Archbishop of Washington

*together with the Auxiliary Bishops*

**THE MOST REVEREND ROY E. CAMPBELL, JR.**  
**THE MOST REVEREND MARIO E. DORSONVILLE**

*and the*

**CLERGY, RELIGIOUS AND LAY FAITHFUL**

*of the*

**ARCHDIOCESE OF WASHINGTON**

*congratulate*

**THE DAUGHTERS OF CHARITY**  
**MARY McGRORY ADVOCACY AWARD**

*and*

**MIGUEL COPPEDGE AND JAKE GARNER**  
**MICHELE HEIDENBERGER**  
**VOLUNTEER AWARD**

Thank you for your faithful support of St. Ann's,  
which has been dedicated to caring for vulnerable  
children and at-risk mothers for 160 years.



Archdiocese of  
Washington





# *The Board of Directors at St. Ann's Center*

Would like to congratulate  
and thank our honorees

*The Daughters of Charity*  
*Miguel Coppedge*  
*Jake Garner*

For your dedication and  
continued work to support  
the many families  
at St. Ann's Center.





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160 years and two pandemics later, St. Ann's Center  
still stands as an extraordinary testament  
to the good work of the Daughters of Charity.

Thank you to all those who have served the women and  
families of St. Ann's and to all who continue to serve.

Sister Mary, you and your amazing staff and volunteers  
are an inspiration to us all – an essential reminder of  
the importance of using our resources to help fellow  
members of our community.

All of us at Elite are gratified to support such an  
amazing organization.

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In Loving Memory of

**Steve Heidenberger**

January 21, 1955 – August 13, 2020

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# *Congratulations!*

The Bell Family wishes  
to congratulate  
St. Ann's Center on  
160 plus years of  
serving women,  
children and the  
community.

The roots certainly  
run deep!

**Kammie and Scott Bell**

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**The Magnolia Family Foundation**

is proud to sponsor

**Hope Blossoms**

and to support the work of

**St. Ann's Center for Children,  
Youth and Families.**



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**Ed and Kathy Quinn**

salute

**The Daughters of Charity**

and

**Miguel Coppedge**

**and Jake Garner**

for their great work  
on behalf of


**St. Ann's Center for Children,  
Youth and Families**

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**In memory of  
Anne O'Keefe Quinn**

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*Thank you to St. Ann's for  
providing  
HOPE to Vulnerable Young Mothers & Children for  
the Past 160 Years*

*Congratulations  
Daughter's of Charity and Sister Mary  
Jake Garner and Miguel Coppedge*

*—Mary & Matt McCormick*

# *Congratulations!*

*Congratulations to St. Ann's Center  
on your 160th Anniversary.  
We are immensely proud and grateful  
for the countless lives that have been  
strengthened and saved.*

*Mary Noel and Bill Page*

*Friends of St. Ann's*

*Rockville, Md*  
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CONGRATULATIONS  
TO THE  
DAUGHTERS OF CHARITY  
AND TO  
JAKE AND MIGUEL

*Lynda and Chick  
Anderson*





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We thank God  
for the work  
that is being  
done over many  
years at  
St. Ann's Center!

**The Austing  
Family**



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**Congrats!**

*Congratulations to  
Sister Mary Bader  
on the great work  
she does at  
St. Ann's Center!*

**Stephen and  
Ellen Conley**

*Glad to support  
St. Ann's Center for  
Children, Youth and  
Families.*

*Please remember  
Steve Heidenberger who  
gave so much to  
St. Ann's Center.*

**Jules and Kerry  
LeBoyer**

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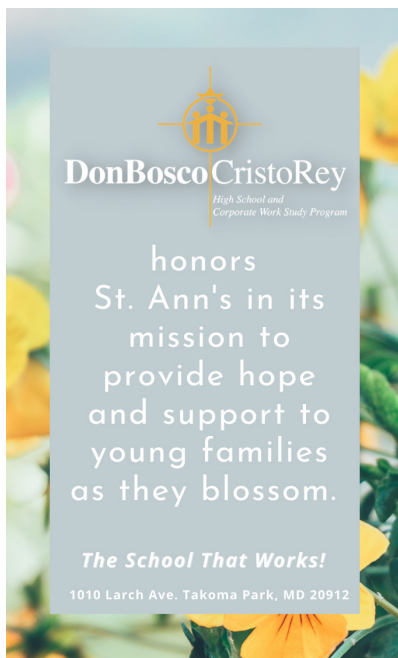
**In Memory of  
Christine  
Durbin**

**CONGRATULATIONS  
SISTER MARY AND  
THE DAUGHTERS OF CHARITY  
ON 160 YEARS OF SERVICE!**

**CONGRATULATIONS  
JAKE GARNER AND MIGUEL COPPEDGE  
ON RECEIVING THE  
MICHELE HEIDENBERGER  
VOLUNTEER AWARD**

**ST. ANN'S  
YOUNG PROFESSIONALS NETWORK**

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## Compliments of the Lacey Family

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Russell B. Lacey  
Francis P. Lacey  
Brian T. Lacey



*To Sister Mary and  
St. Ann's Center*

*Congratulations  
on 160 years of  
love and kindness!*

*Thank you for  
all that you do.*

*Sue and Vernon Pizzi*



*St. Ann's Center is committed to lifting vulnerable children, mothers and families out of poverty and homelessness. Our innovative housing and support programs build upon a family's inherent strengths by providing the tools for life-long independence and self-sufficiency.*

*Founded in 1860 by the Daughters of Charity, the mission and vision of St. Ann's Center is inspired by Catholic social teachings. Our highly-trained staff and volunteers recognize the dignity of every human life and create a vibrant community where every child and mother has the opportunity to reach their fullest potential.*

