



*2026 Saint Luke Award Honoree*  
*Sister Mary Bader, DC*

*Having served vulnerable men, women and children throughout her years in ministry, Sister Mary Bader, DC, has seen the crucial role mental health and other support services play in transforming lives.*

**A Lifetime of Care and Service**

A native of Washington, D.C., Sister Mary serves as a Provincial Councillor for the Daughters of Charity, Province of St. Louise, based in St. Louis, Missouri.

Prior to her appointment as Provincial Councillor, Sister Mary served as Chief Executive Officer at St. Ann's Center for Children, Youth, and Families in Hyattsville, Maryland - a role she served in for nearly 20 years, from 2005 to 2023.



A Georgetown Visitation High School graduate, Sister Mary earned her Bachelor of Arts degree in Child Study at Tufts University, Medford, Massachusetts and her Master of Arts degree in Education from The Catholic University of America.

She joined the Community of the Daughters of Charity (DC) in June 1991. Following initial formation, she served as an Elementary School Teacher at St. Patrick School in Richmond, Virginia, then as a Teacher, and later as Principal at Mother Seton Academy in Baltimore.

Sister Mary has served as a member of numerous boards for Washington, D.C.-based nonprofits, including Providence Hospital, St. Anselm's Abbey School, and So Others Might Eat (SOME). In her religious community she has served on various committees, including those for addressing needs related to homelessness and insecure housing. She serves on the Daughters' Commission for the community's 2026 Provincial Assembly, and she previously served as the local superior for the Sisters residing at St. Ann's Residence in Hyattsville from 2014 to 2023.

**Gratitude for SLI's Mission of 'Healing the Healers'**

Speaking about the work of Saint Luke Institute, Sister Mary said: "During my years of ministry, I have known many religious and clergy, especially religious sisters, who have turned to SLI for the uniquely important mental health care and spiritual support its staff provides. The



longstanding partnership of the Daughters of Charity and SLI is mirrored in the service each provides – compassion, mercy, and deep respect for every person.

"Today, as societal and economic pressures increase, women and men religious, clergy and church ministers are front-line responders to the vulnerable and the marginalized. SLI supports these crucial leaders through its efforts to 'heal the healers.'

"Further, I know SLI works hard to meet the mental health and spiritual care needs of sisters' congregations who, due to financial burden, are unable to pay for the services they provide. The generosity of SLI's donors will help ensure their services reach these communities and others that most need them."

*For additional information about the Saint Luke Institute Annual Benefit or the Saint Luke Award, visit [SLI.org/benefit](https://www.sli.org/benefit).*