

# Honoring Our Founders



## St. Joseph the Worker

St. Joseph's Health was named after Saint Joseph the Worker.

St. Joseph the Worker was a carpenter and his mission was to use his skills and talents to create beautiful, useful items out of wood. This was his mission in life - to produce useful pieces that improved the quality of life for those in his community.

Following St. Joseph the Worker's example of service we are called to live our **Core Value of Excellence**: We hold ourselves accountable to the highest possible standards of clinical and service quality.

## Who do we call our Founders?

St. Joseph the Worker

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton

St. Vincent de Paul

Mother Mary Xavier Mehegan

## Why are the Founders important?

The Founders provide the foundation for what we do here at St. Joseph's Health.

They inspire and teach us how to accomplish the mission of the healthcare system.

Through their lives of service and commitment they teach us to live St. Joseph Health's Core Values.

### Dignity

We believe that human life is sacred and every person will be treated with respect.

### Charity

We embrace all who seek our help by bringing God's love and compassionate care.

### Justice

We advocate for the needs of all, especially the most vulnerable.

We are committed in all our endeavors to be ethical, fair-minded and honest.

### Excellence

We hold ourselves accountable to the highest possible standards of clinical and service quality.

### Stewardship

We use our resources, both human and financial, in a responsible manner with a special commitment to the care of those who are poor, vulnerable and underserved.



The Founders  
of the Sisters of Charity of Saint Elizabeth  
and St. Joseph's Health

## St. Joseph's Health Mission Statement

St. Joseph's Health is a healing ministry of the Catholic Church sponsored by the Sisters of Charity of Saint Elizabeth. We are committed to provide exceptional quality care which sustains and improves both individual and community health, with a special concern for those who are poor, vulnerable and underserved.





### St. Elizabeth Ann Seton

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton was a wife, mother, widow, and convert to the Catholic faith. Although she endured many trials and tribulations, she always responded to life's demands with love and compassion. Her legacy includes establishing several religious congregations in the United States, one of which is the Sisters of Charity of Saint Elizabeth, sponsors of St. Joseph's Health. She also began the first Catholic girls school in the nation and was the first American-born citizen to be canonized by the Catholic Church.

Following St. Elizabeth Ann Seton's example of service, we are called to live our **Core Value of Charity**: We embrace all who seek our help by bringing God's love and compassionate care.



### St. Vincent de Paul

St. Vincent de Paul was a priest who lived in France during the 16<sup>th</sup> century. Through his priestly service, he was exposed to the suffering and poverty of his time. For St. Vincent, the poor were the very face of God. In response, he dedicated his life to serving the poor. His legacy includes establishing (with the help of St. Louise de Marillac) the Daughters of Charity, whose members are dedicated to serving the poor.

Following St. Vincent de Paul's example of service, we are called to live the **Core Value of Justice**: We advocate for the needs of all, especially the most vulnerable. We are committed in all our endeavors to be ethical, fair-minded and honest and to our Core Value of **Stewardship**: We use our resources, both human and financial, in a responsible manner with a special commitment for the care of those who are poor, vulnerable and underserved.



### Mother Mary Xavier Mehegan

Mother Mary Xavier Mehegan founded the Sisters of Charity of Saint Elizabeth in 1859. Eight years later, in 1867, she founded then-St. Joseph's Hospital. At the time, Paterson was an industrial city full of immigrants who came seeking employment in the mills and factories. These workers suffered injury and sickness, many of them having no place to go for medical care.

In response to this great need, Mother Xavier sent a small group of sisters to open St. Joseph's Hospital.

Following Mother Xavier's example of service, we are called to live the **Core Value of Dignity**: We believe that human life is sacred and every person will be treated with respect.