



Picture above: Bishop Zarama blessed a medical van belonging to St. Joseph Primary Care on June 5, 2025, at the Catholic Center.

Picture below: Peter Le, Executive Director of St. Joseph Primary Care, received a papal honor award at the Holy Name of Jesus Cathedral on February 12, 2025.

St. Joseph Primary Care Newsletter

ISSUE NO. 10 - 2025



Dear Friends of St. Joseph Primary Care,

The Jubilee year of 2025 is an important moment for St. Joseph Primary Care. On February 12, the Diocese of Raleigh marked its 100th anniversary by giving Papal Honor awards to Peter Le, our Executive Director, and 15 others for their outstanding service. On March 17, we expanded our outreach by getting a recreational vehicle, which we are turning into a medical mobile van to help communities across North Carolina and beyond. Inspired by the Holy Spirit, we, at St. Joseph Primary Care, work to live out our mission: to show the "love of God and to love our neighbors [those we serve] as ourselves" by offering excellent, accessible health care and affordable options, including free or low-cost services.

On June 5, Bishop Zarama blessed the medical van, now called "**Grace-Mobile**." Since then, GraceMobile has completed four medical missions—the first three in Western North Carolina and the fourth in Newton Grove, Eastern NC. GraceMobile has also helped with several outreach programs at St. Ann Catholic Church in Clayton.

As we approach our 12th anniversary in 2026, we acknowledge that the upcoming year may present significant challenges for the two million North Carolinians who risk losing health insurance if Medicaid is not funded. Regardless of these uncertainties, we remain steadfast in our commitment to support and care for our neighbors.

On behalf of our board of directors, we extend our gratitude to our patients, supporters, and volunteers for enabling us to fulfill the Gospel message: to love God and care for our neighbors as ourselves. We deeply appreciate your ongoing support and generosity. May God bless you and your family always. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Peter Le
Executive Director

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QSy301INscA>



Peter Le received the Cross Pro Ecclesia et Pontifice, which means "For the Church and the Pontiff" in Latin. Established by Pope Leo XIII in 1888 and made a permanent papal honor in 1898, this award recognizes extraordinary charitable work.

The Wonders of St. Joseph

St. Joseph Primary Care is looking forward to celebrating our 12th anniversary in 2026. To prepare ourselves, it's good to reflect and thank God for the great things he has done. To highlight the upcoming anniversary, we focus on the nine wonders of St. Joseph that we received since we first opened our doors.

#1 - His Helping Hand

After our grand opening on August 8, 2014, we were seeking a lawyer to file Form 1023 with the IRS to have St. Joseph Primary Care recognized as a nonprofit organization. We didn't know anyone until St. Joseph mysteriously sent DLA Piper, an international law firm based in Raleigh, for pro bono work. We met the attorney, who wanted to help, but he said he wasn't familiar with the Form 1023 filing process. He needed time. Shortly afterward, St. Joseph sent us another mysterious law firm, Batten Lee, LLP, our way. **To our utter surprise**, the two law firms had the same address, both on the third floor. DLP Piper was at the left in suite 350A, Batten Lee was at the right in suite 350B, and neither attorney knew the other. When we met them at their office, the attorneys asked us, "Do you want to meet on the left or on the right?" On that day, we were mesmerized by the Miracle Worker of St. Joseph.

#2 - An Exception

Two months before our grand opening, we contacted Fellowship of Associates of Medical Evangelism (FAME) in Indiana to request donations of medical equipment. But we were turned down. Thirty minutes after hanging up the phone, they called back and made an exception. As a result, we received two pallets of medical equipment valued at over \$10,000.

#3 - Who are you?

In a few months after our grand opening, we received a carbon copy letter from the Bishop of Raleigh, Most Reverend Michael F. Burbidge. The letter addressed to the Pastors of the Raleigh Deanery encouraged them to support the ministry of caring at St. Joseph Primary Care. On February 12, 2015, we attended the Deanery meeting and received a \$10,000 check from our priests. **Note:** For a startup organization wanting to collaborate with the Catholic church, this acted by our bishop and pastors was truly the work of a miracle. Well! St. Joseph is the miracle worker.

#4 - Not a figure lifted!

Whenever we needed equipment, strangers would mysteriously show up and deliver it to our doorstep, so we didn't have to lift a finger to move it.

Example 1: When we received the two pallets of medical equipment from FAME, two painters loaded them into our office. The painters were three hours delayed in painting our office. If they came on time, we had no way to unload them.

Example 2: A year later, we needed a phlebotomy chair. We got a mysterious phone call from a stranger in Moncure, NC. He had a brand new chair and was on his way to Raleigh to donate. He brought in the clinic and placed them right where we wanted them.

ST. JOSEPH MIRACLE WORKER

PRAY FOR US

#5 - \$5,000 from a stranger

When we needed an EKG machine but didn't have \$5,000 to buy one, after many prayers, we decided to buy one anyway. Two hours after placing the order, the postman delivered our daily mail. Out of that, there was a mail, and inside was a \$5,000 check from a stranger.

#6 - Four Zeros

During the COVID-19 pandemic, we received four quarters in a donation from an elderly lady. A few days later, we received five donations in the mail on one day. The first mail was a \$100 cash donation from a priest in Texas. The second was a \$1,000 check. The third and fourth were \$2,000 each. Finally, the last check was for \$5,000 from a priest in Raleigh. Within a few days, we received a \$1 donation that St. Joseph added an additional 0000 to, making \$10,000, plus a \$100 bill as a cash bonus.

#7 - No Danny Boy

In 2021, while we served at a community outreach at St. Francis Catholic Church, Eileen Leamy, one of our volunteers, played cello. A woman came and thanked her for playing her favorite song, "Danny Boy." Eileen was in awe because she had never practiced or played that song. Many years ago, Eileen said a priest blessed her before a performance and said that he would bless her so that she could play what God wanted the people to hear. On that day, St. Joseph blessed Eileen to play "what the people want to hear," with or without Danny Boy.

#8 - The Angel - Chi Nguyen



In summer of 2014, we needed a bilingual CNA but couldn't find one. One day, St. Joseph surprisingly sent us an angel out of nowhere. We met Chi Nguyen,

a CNA who spoke fluent Spanish, Vietnamese, and English at a party. Soon, Chi volunteered for nearly a year and now is a physician assistant.



Why name it “St. Joseph Primary Care”



a ministry of caring in Jesus' name

When my wife, Dr. ThuHuong Trinh, asked me to support her in resigning from her medical position and in starting a not-for-profit clinic, I wasn't ready. At that time, I was on sabbatical from my role as a software developer at the Duke Cancer Institute. We were making good money and benefits, and our children were very young. However, after a month-long discernment, I agreed with her. It wasn't an easy decision, but a quote from St. Francis de Sales helped make it possible, for he said, “The God who helped us in the past is helping us now and will continue to help us in the future.” Now was the time to draft a business plan. We wanted to structure it as a faith-based 501(c)(3) organization. To name the business, Saint Joseph clearly stood out. He was a foster father to Jesus and a man of faith. In his dream, he obeyed and married Mary. After Jesus was born, again, it was in his dream that he took



Mary and Jesus and migrated to Egypt. America gives us so many blessings. Our dreams are giving back to the community. At first, we thought of being called “St. Joseph Family Practice” or “St. Joseph Family Care.” Eventually, we settled on “St. Joseph Primary Care” with the subname “a ministry of caring” because we wanted to be a ministry and not just a business. This year, we modified to be “a ministry of caring in Jesus' name.” This way, we hope other Christian denominations can connect with us. St. Joseph, pray for us.



DIocese of RALEIGH Office of the Bishop
7200 Stonehenge Drive • Raleigh, North Carolina 27613-1620 • (919) 821-9731 • Fax (919) 821-9755

November 5, 2014

Dear Pastors of the Raleigh Deanery,

I write to you to make you aware of a laudable ministry operating within the Raleigh Deanery, and I encourage you to learn more about it.

Catholic parishioners Dr. Thu Trinh and Peter Le, husband and wife, recently opened a not for profit clinic which provides quality primary health care to both paying clients and to the poor who are unable to pay. Today, St. Joseph Primary Care (SJPC) has 29 clients, mostly through word of mouth. For this clinic to flourish and provide its ministry to the poor who are unable to pay for health care, the client base of paying clients must increase, and to do this its message needs to reach larger numbers of people.

I write to recommend that you consider meeting with Dr. Trinh, her husband Peter and their team of dedicated supporters if they call to speak with you regarding the most effective and appropriate way of reaching your parishioners with their message. In order for the practice to reach stable ground from which it can expand to a full-time operation which can cover the cost of care for all health care recipients, SJPC will benefit from the support of our local parish communities to reach potential beneficiaries and donors.

Mr. John Riedy, long time parishioner and former Diocesan Business Manager, Chancellor, and Diocesan Finance Council member is working with Dr. Trinh and Mr. Le on the financial plan and organization for this ministry. I know John would be happy to review the finances of this ministry with you or your parish leadership. John's contact information is

Please know of my prayerful support for this ministry. May Our Lord Jesus bless you and your parishioners, and may Mary Our Mother watch over all those who are in need of access to quality health care, both now and always.

Fraternally in Christ,

Michael F. Burbidge

Most Reverend Michael F. Burbidge
Bishop of Raleigh

#9 - From Fear to Awe & Wonder

by Peter Le



I was nervous about making a business decision to buy the RV to use as a mobile medical van. I asked God for two specific signs that I was doing His will.

First, I asked for a sign to receive a \$20,000. Shortly afterward, on Christmas Eve in of 2024, I received the exact amount from a priest in Newland, NC.

Second, I applied for a loan and thought it could not be approved since St. Joseph Primary Care is a not-for-profit organization. So, I asked for a sign for the bank to approve the loan. Not only did the bank approve the

loan and offer a low interest rate, but they also prepared to make a \$3,000 donation. Plus, they did it in haste at my command.

I learned about discernment the day before this occurrence from St. Ignatius of Loyola. Instead of “fear,” I should show “reverence” for God through the spirit of “awe and wonder” and marvel at God's work. Additionally, I discovered that when Christ calls us to follow him, we need not fear telling him what ails us, for he only wants us to delight in Him. With that, I moved from fear to reverence for God and found delight in God.



The Vision of St. Joseph Primary Care

Shortly after St. Joseph Primary Care (STJPC) opened for business, I wrote down this vision for how the ministry of caring at STJPC would move forward. I admitted that I was and am a little unclear about how it is possible to accomplish the vision St. Joseph has planned for us. However, by the grace of God, we accomplished many of our goals. Though we may not know where we are going, do not see the road ahead, and cannot know for certain where it will end, thankfully, with the help of St. Joseph and God's mercy, we are now at the crossroads into Phase IV - Missionaries of the Poor.



Phase I:
Building a Catholic Healthcare
Duration: 2014 - 2017

Phase II:
Church-Health Ministry Initiative
Duration: 2018-2019

Phase III:
Healthcare & Evangelization
Duration: 2020 - 2025

Phase IV:
Missionaries of the Poor
Duration: 2026 - 2030

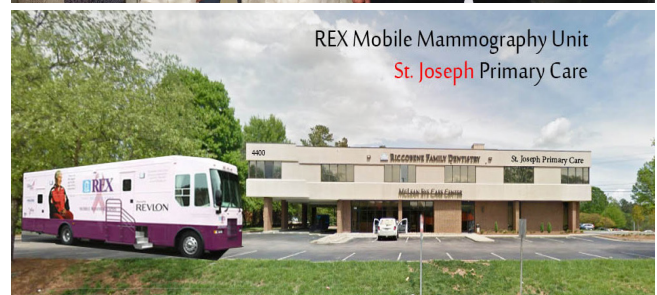
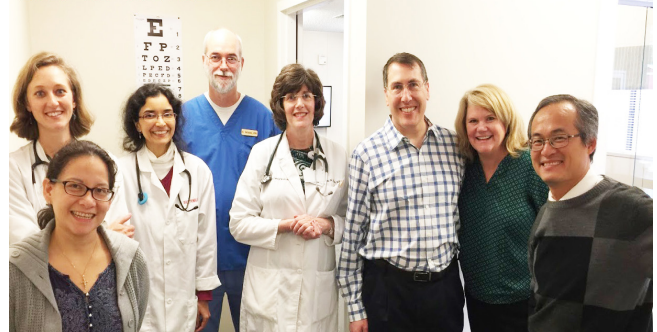
Phase I - Building a Catholic Healthcare

- 1- Grand Opening on 8/8/2014.
- 2- Received support from the Diocese of Raleigh on 11/5/2014.
- 3- Meeting with pastors from the Raleigh Deanery on 2/14/2015.
- 4- Visiting seven Catholic churches and sharing the vision of St. Joseph Primary Care with the parishioners.
- 5- Forming a network of volunteer Catholic medical professionals.
- 6- First outreach program known as "Day of Caring" at St. Michael Catholic Church, serving 320 parishioners, where seven physicians, one dentist, six nurses, one pharmacist, and 55 volunteers joined our mission on 10/3/2015 and 10/21/2016.
- 7- Second outreach program, known as "Free Flu Shot Clinic," where people received flu vaccine at St. Michael (10/3/15 & 10/21/16), St. Raphael (10/18/15 & 9/18/16), Sacred Heart Cathedral (10/16/16), and Our Lady of Lavang (10/2/16)
- 8- The third outreach program was implemented, known as "Free Mammogram," collaborated with REX Healthcare on 3/9/2017.

- 9- Grand Opening at St. Ann Catholic Church on 8/8/2017.
- 10- Day of Caring was held on 2/3/2018 where 101 people received free medical care including hearing and eye exams.
- 11- The fourth outreach program, known as "Day of Grace," (a.k.a. Sunday free clinic) was introduced on August 27, 2017.
- 12- Responding to the relief of Hurricane Florence in Mount Olive on 9/30/2018.

* In phase II, St. Joseph Primary Care developed a vast network of volunteers and collaborate with 16 Catholic churches.

DAY OF GRACE



Phase II - Church-Health Ministry Medical Clinic @ St. Ann Catholic Church

Goal: Working together with churches, medical professionals, and volunteers to practice medicine among the marginalized communities.

On 8/8/2017, St. Joseph Primary Care joined St. Ann Catholic Church in Clayton to open a second clinic to care for our neighbors in Johnston County. When Fr. Peter Grace, pastor at St. Ann, introduced us to the community, he said, "Today is a blessing day for St. Ann, Mary's mother, to work with St. Joseph, her son-in-law."

"Whatever you did for one of these least brothers of mine, you did for me."
Matthew 25:40



CHURCH-HEALTH MINISTRY

4400 Falls of Neuse Rd., Suite 101, Raleigh, NC 27609
MEDICAL CLINIC @ ST. ANN CATHOLIC CHURCH - 4057 US-70 Business, Clayton, NC 27520

(919) 386-6866

STJOSEPHPRIMARYCARE.ORG

Phase III Healthcare & Evangelization

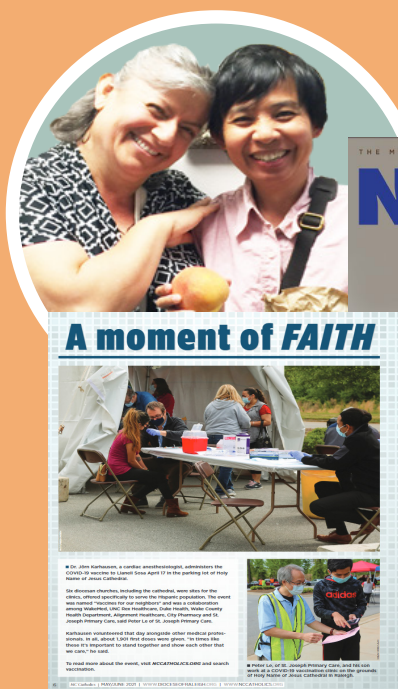
We reached three goals in phase III by using healthcare to evangelize. First, we connected the Church-Health Ministry with local hospitals. Second, we worked to bring people back to church. Third, we aimed to "develop a new kind of health care."

1st goal: The late Pope Francis declared 2020 the Year of St. Joseph, marking the 150th anniversary of St. Joseph's designation as patron of the Catholic Church. Little did we know that on April 17, 2021, St. Joseph Primary Care was leading a historic collaboration between WakeMed, UNC Rex Healthcare, Duke Health, Wake County Health Department, Alignment Healthcare, City Pharmacy, and Urban Ministries, along with six diocesan churches and a local bank, to care for our neighbors during the COVID-19 pandemic. It was a rare and perhaps the only time in history that churches and healthcare professionals in Wake County came together for one common good, caring for the people. On that one day, we cared for 1,901 people.

2nd goal: St. Joseph Primary Care has always been aligned in accordance with the

tradition of Christian healthcare and the teachings of the Christian faith. Thus, we aim our ministry in a church setting where we bring people together to "care, welcome, and serve" one another. Whenever we offer our services, we are "bringing people back to the church" in a unique way.

3rd goal: Our business model is a "Direct Primary Care" (DPC). When we started in 2014, DPC was somewhat foreign to people, and we had to explain the concept. But now, it has become a trend in the healthcare industry. In a small way, we are glad to accomplish our third objective.



St. Joseph Primary Care

a ministry of caring in Jesus' name

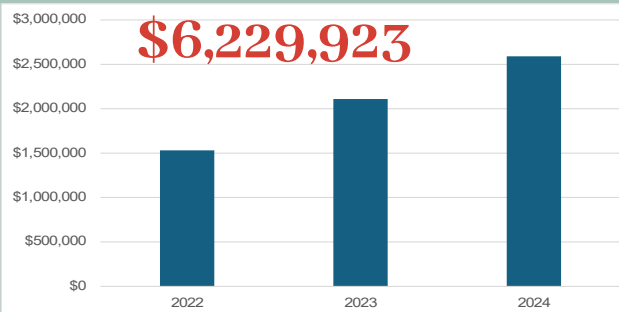


PHASE IV MISSIONARIES OF THE POOR

The goal of this phase is simple: each Diocese (in the United States) ought to have a Catholic medical clinic modeled like St. Joseph Primary Care. At first glance, this goal seems impossible, and it may be so. However, here are some interesting facts worth pondering. Fact 1: In 2023, my first book was published by Ave Maria Press at the University of Notre Dame (title: *My Life of Grace: How I Found Hope and Purpose in Suffering*). Since then, I have traveled throughout America and Ireland to give talks on the “gift of suffering.” I have appeared on multiple television and radio stations, including EWTN. In a small way, the “ministry of caring in Jesus’ name” has already begun, and it slowly forms in a most unexpected way. Fact 2: Last year, when Hurricane Helene destroyed many parts of Western NC, we spent nearly six weeks, on almost every weekday and weekend, caring for our neighbors. Western NC is part of the Diocese of Charlotte. We intend to care for them for many more years. Fact 3: I serve on the advisory board of Regina Caeli Clinic in New Hampshire. Fact 4: Every now and then, I received phone calls from people out of state who wanted to open a Catholic clinic like St. Joseph Primary Care in their states. With that said, could it be that the vision for St. Joseph Primary Care, phase IV, has already begun? Lastly, I would like to share a quote from St. Frances Xavier Cabrini, who famously said, “The Heart of Jesus does things in such a hurry that I can barely keep up with Him.” After all, in the short time she had lived in America, she successfully built 67 charitable institutions, including hospitals, schools, and orphanages.



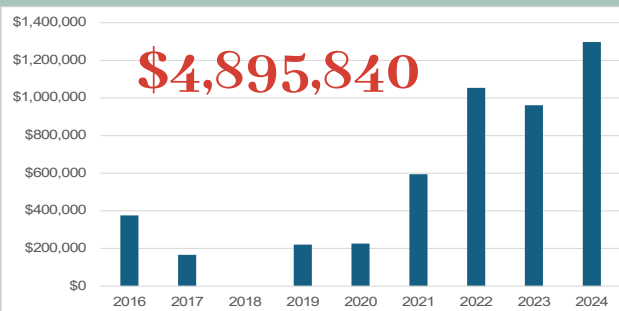
WE CHAMPION ACCESS TO HEALTHCARE



E.D. DIVERSION SAVING

2022: \$1,530,792
2023: \$2,108,535
2024: \$2,590,596

This number represents the 1,230 uninsured patients we served, and if they went to the Emergency Department (E.D.) instead to St. Joseph Primary Care, this would cost hospitals this amount.



VALUE OF SERVICES

2016: \$376,027 2020: \$226,058 2024: \$1,297,256
2017: \$165,740 2021: \$594,917 2025: --
2018: -- 2022: \$1,053,503
2019: \$220,893 2023: \$961,446

The value of the services includes free and charitable care, free flu and tetanus vaccines, free mammograms, and zero-cost medications. (1) Some of these services were provided by our partners. (2) If we were billed these services to the health insurance providers, we would get these amounts.



CARING FOR OUR NEIGHBORS (Patients)

2016: 423 2021: 283 + 3,128
2017: 431 2022: 342
2018: 254 2023: 429
2019: 277 2024: 459
2020: 255 2025: 459

This number represents the number of people we served at outreach events. Some are served by our partners.

INCOME STATEMENT

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Revenue/Income	\$ 85,934	\$ 186,594		\$ 140,486	\$ 252,455	\$ 283,422	\$ 273,262	\$ 246,357	\$ 322,204	\$ 422,633
Expense	\$ 75,657	\$ 181,500		\$ 133,175	\$ 226,058	\$ 283,421	\$ 252,744	\$ 280,205	\$ 257,525	\$ 435,152
Profit/(Loss)	\$ 10,277	\$ 5,094	\$ -	\$ 7,311	\$ 26,397	\$ 1	\$ 20,518	\$ (33,848)	\$ 64,679	\$ (12,519)

*Outstanding Loan Balance for Medical Van - \$55,000

OUR HEARTFELT GRATITUDE FOR YOUR SUPPORT

- Friends, Volunteers, and Benefactors
- The NC Association of Free and Charitable Clinics -Americares
- The Catholic Community of St. Francis of Assisi - St. Ann Catholic Church
- Diocese of Raleigh -Human Life Dignity Grant - Endowment of the Poor Grant
- Fr. Bond @ St. Bernadette and St. Lucien Catholic Church
- The Jesuit Community at St. Raphael Catholic Church



WE ARE ACCEPTING NEW PATIENTS!

We offer a high-quality, affordable, comprehensive health care, with unlimited office visits, no copay, discounted labs, medications, and other benefits.

The membership fee starts at \$120 per month. Dr. ThuHuong Trinh is a family medicine physician with over 25 years of experience.

For more information, please contact us.

(919) 386-6866

STJOSEPHPRIMARYCARE.ORG INFO@STJPC.COM

"May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit."
Romans 15:13

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!



DAY OF GRACE MEDICAL TEAM



Christian Lopez

Please say hi to our new staff, Christian Lopez. He graduated from East Carolina University (ECU) with a Master's in Kinesiology. He's an excellent soccer coach and is currently studying for the MCAT, with the hope of attending medical school in the near future. He can be reached via email at christian@stjpc.com or by calling the main number at (919) 386-6866.

ST. JOSEPH PRIMARY CARE

-a ministry of caring in Jesus' name

Main office
4400 Falls of Neuse Rd., Suite 101
Raleigh, NC 27609

Medical Clinic @St. Ann Catholic Church
4057 US-70 BUSINESS
Clayton, NC 27520

(919) 386-6866 | (fax) (919) 386-6867

info@stjpc.com
WWW.STJPC.COM