



MEDIA RELEASE

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St. Margaret Mary Dedicates New Playground

A blessing and dedication of the new playground at St. Margaret Mary Elementary School took place on September 24, 2015. All of the 236 students in grades P3-5 gathered with school faculty and staff as well as many parents to witness the blessing ceremony performed by the Reverend Michael Ingold, pastor of St. Margaret Mary Parish.

"There are so many people to thank for their help," reflected Principal Eleanor Healy. "Many parents braved the rain to help on the day of the build, and other parents and school personnel worked diligently beforehand to research and organize the project. Others donated the cement to anchor the play structures, provided the needed construction equipment and expertise, or donated the food and water for our workers. It was amazing to see the community to come together, each offering his or her own gifts to make this dream a reality."

Funds for the entire project were raised through the grandparent sponsorships and the school's annual fundraiser, *Wines Around the World*. However, without a significant donation from Dr. Jeff and Sherri McLaughlin, who have a child enrolled at the school, the fundraising would have taken years, according to Healy. "The McLaughlins wanted to see our children enjoy the playground as soon as possible," she stated, "so they purchased all of the equipment that was installed on the playground."

The school community surprised Principal Healy by announcing that the new playground would be dedicated in her honor. A plaque with the inscription "In honor of Principal Eleanor Healy's dedicated service and outstanding leadership of St. Margaret Mary School" will be installed in spring of 2016.

St. Margaret Mary Elementary is part of [St. Mary Catholic Schools \(SMCS\)](#). The system also includes St. Mary in Menasha and St. Gabriel in Neenah and St. Mary Catholic Middle School and St. Mary Catholic High School in Neenah. SMCMS is dedicated to the individual development of each student by providing an education focused on faith, academics and service.

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