



Northern Michigan Catholic Foundation
311 East Front Street
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For Immediate Release: Thursday June 11, 2020

The Northern Michigan Catholic Foundation Awards \$22,000 to Local Catholic Schools & Parishes

Traverse City, Michigan – The Northern Michigan Catholic Foundation announced this week that they have awarded a total of \$22,750 to parishes and Catholic Schools in northern Michigan. Grants were made possible through the NMCF Cornerstone Fund and the COVID-19 Emergency Relief Fund.

NMCF created the COVID-19 Emergency Relief Fund designed to support parishes and schools who most needed assistance throughout northern Michigan. The fund was made possible by the generous support of donors seeking to help alleviate the financial burden placed on our local Catholic schools and parishes by the COVID-19 pandemic. Through this fund eight, parishes and schools were supported, including a \$5,000 grant to Divine Mercy Parish and School located in Manistee and \$2,500 to support Grand Traverse Area Catholic Schools.

“Our board believes in the power of Catholic education to build our faith communities and support our church. We know that our parishes and schools have served our faithful through this crisis,” said Joel R. Myler, NMCF Chairman of the Board of Directors, “The NMCF COVID-19 Emergency Relief Fund was established to connect donors and parishes across the diocese, and support our churches and schools as they weather this significant storm.”

In addition to grants from the COVID-19 Emergency Relief Fund, NMCF awarded school specific grants through their 2020 Winter School Grant Program. This included seven grants to Catholic schools totaling \$10,000.

Programs funded through NMCF’s winter grant cycle included rosaries for every classroom at St. Mary Cathedral School in Gaylord, furniture to start a preschool program in Rogers City, the purchase of new Catholic textbooks and education materials in West Branch and Prudenville, and support of middle school and high school retreats in Petoskey and Lake Leelanau.

NMCF was first established in 1998 and has served the Catholic organizations, schools, and parishes within the northern Michigan Catholic community for more than 20 years. “Our mission is simple,” said NMCF President Christie Perdue, “We work to support the spiritual, educational and social needs of our Roman Catholic Community. We do this by working with donors and organizations to build endowments that support the future sustainability of these organizations and the faith communities they serve.”

The Northern Michigan Catholic Foundation has more than 65 funds and \$20 million in assets. The funds at NMCF specifically support a variety of organizations, including parishes, schools, local Catholic organizations such as St. Vincent DePaul, Catholic cemeteries, Catholic missions such as Hispanic Ministry and youth programs, along with scholarship funds. The NMCF Board of Directors also oversees unrestricted funds which work to support areas of need within the Catholic communities of northern Michigan.

For more information about the Northern Michigan Catholic Foundation please contact Christie Perdue, President at 231-922-9070. For a full list of 2020 grants from NMCF please visit their website www.nmcatholicfoundation.org.



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The Northern Michigan Catholic Foundation serves the donors, parishes, schools, Catholic organizations and missions that exist to build and sustain Catholic communities of faith throughout northern Michigan. NMCF works with organizations and donors to build endowment funds, which annually produce income for the Catholic missions they are dedicated to support. Currently, NMCF has more than 65 funds and a total of \$20 million in assets.