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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Mount Mary College to Hold Mid-Year Commencement December 15, 2012 Evening Step-Singing ceremony marks 100-year tradition

MILWAUKEE (December 14, 2012) – Mount Mary College will conduct its mid-year commencement ceremonies on Saturday, December 15, 2012 at 11:00 a.m. in the College's Alumnae and North Dining Rooms located in Bergstrom Hall at 2900 N. Menomonee River Parkway, Milwaukee. More than 110 students will be awarded degrees, including 50 bachelor of arts and bachelor of science degrees; 25 bachelor of science in nursing joint degrees with Columbia College of Nursing; 30 graduate degrees; and 6 certificates.

Jennifer Hockenbery, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Philosophy and Philosophy Department Chair, and recipient of the College's 2012 "Excellence in Teaching" Award, will address the graduates.

In addition to the formal commencement ceremony, a Baccalaureate Mass will be held on Friday, December 14th at 6:00 p.m. in Our Lady Chapel. It will be followed by Step Singing, a tradition that began in the early years of the college 100 years ago. Graduating seniors will welcome family and friends, describe the history of the tradition, sing songs, read poetry, and pass on their "light of learning" to those in their lives who have helped with their education. A reception sponsored by the Alumnae Association will immediately follow.

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Mount Mary College, founded in 1913 by the School Sisters of Notre Dame, was Wisconsin's first four-year, degree-granting Catholic college for women. Located on an 80-acre campus in Milwaukee, the College offers more than 30 undergraduate majors for women and eight graduate programs for women and men. Mount Mary also emphasizes study abroad, service learning, and social justice initiatives. Its more than 1600 students enjoy small class sizes (average 14) and over 90 percent of full-time students receive financial aid or scholarships. Through classroom instruction and community service, Mount Mary develops women to be leaders in their professions and their communities, serving as role models to inspire achievement in others. Visit Mount Mary at <u>www.mtmary.edu</u>.

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