



Sacred Heart Hospital

Katharine Rhoten (back row, middle) and her brother Spencer collected more than 250 toys that they donated to Sacred Heart Hospital in Eau Claire on Jan. 28. Also pictured is their mother Kristin Everett and Monsignor Edmund Klimek, senior priest chaplain at Sacred Heart Hospital.

Katharine's Wish delivers toys to Sacred Heart Hospital

SPECIAL TO THE CATHOLIC TIMES

EAU CLAIRE — On Jan. 28, more than 250 toys were delivered to Sacred Heart Hospital through the Katharine's Wish program.

Delivered by Katie (Katharine) Rhoten, 14, and her brother Spencer, 9, the toys will be distributed to children throughout the hospital who are in need of a little extra comfort.

In January 2008, Katie underwent a critical hospitalization while on a family vacation, where she was diagnosed with type 1 diabetes. While at a Florida hospital, scared and con-

fused by all the tests, she was given a stuffed animal for every poke or procedure. After her recovery, she took that experience and vowed to help other children who were sick and scared.

In the past five years, Katie has donated thousands of new toys, stuffed animals and books to hospitals in northern Wisconsin on the anniversary date of her diabetes diagnosis. Katie vows to continue this project and expand the number of children reached, until a cure for type 1 diabetes is found.

For more information, or to make a donation, please visit katharineswish.org.