



Lights OF THE World



Celebrating the good works & dedication of faithful people everywhere

Rylie Hernandez

A little girl with a big heart for service

At just 11 years old, Rylie Hernandez is already making a difference around the world. This little girl has a heart for service and a passion for helping others less fortunate. So when Brother Lombardo had Rylie's fifth grade faith formation class choose a mission to research and present for National Vocation Awareness Week in Hendersonville, North Carolina, Rylie was a step ahead of the game.

Rylie first heard about Catholic World Mission from her cousin who went on a mission trip to Haiti, which opened her heart to the desire to participate in a disaster relief mission. This young child took it upon herself to contact Catholic World Mission and gather as much information as she could find. Rylie Hernandez became Catholic World Mission's "young ambassador." After each student presented their ministry, Rylie wanted to go deeper and really engage her fellow classmates in her heart for service.

As she was not yet old enough to go on a mission trip, Rylie wanted to know how she could support Catholic World Mission now. "I like to help with problems; it's like figuring out a mystery," says Rylie. After brainstorming with her teacher, Rylie and the rest of her fifth grade faith formation class organized a bake sale held one Sunday at their parish, Immaculate Conception Catholic Church. In just one hour, the children sold cupcakes and brownies raising \$641. All of this money was donated by the students to Catholic World Mission. According to Rylie, "If kids can raise \$641 think what adults can do!" In addition to the money raised from the bake sale, Rylie donated \$150 of her own money to support the disaster relief pillar of Catholic World Mission. Rylie

Hernandez is such a beautiful example for all of us. No matter our age or our financial status, we are all called to serve and we can make a difference in this world.

Rylie's message to others is: "Don't give up. One small thing can make a difference. What started out to be getting a grade on a project brought the class and their families together."

"Thank you for your help in teaching my daughter the importance of helping others and following God's plan," said Rylie's mother, Michelle, to Catholic World Mission. While we appreciate the Hernandez' humility, the Catholic World Mission team is in fact grateful to Rylie for teaching all of us a beautiful lesson of a servant's heart.

Rylie's and Immaculate Conception's gifts are being put to good use for victims of disaster in Haiti and Kenya, providing tools to help families reach self-sufficiency. In Tent City, Acra in Haiti, where earthquake victims have been residing since 2010, the donation from Rylie and Immaculate Conception will provide teacher salaries for an entire year, plus materials to construct eight benches in the school house. To read more about Tent City, Acra in Haiti please visit the Catholic World Mission webpage.



You are the light of the world ... your light must shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your heavenly Father.

Mt. 5: 14-16

**For more Lights of the World
CLICK HERE**

Catholic World Mission honors Rylie and all those who use their talents to be a Light of the World.