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### **ANTHONY K. PLACES THIRD IN MARYKNOLL CONTEST**

On Wednesday, April 8<sup>th</sup> Anthony K., a sixth grader from Saint Michael School, was presented the *Maryknoll Magazine's* Essay Contest Award and a check by *Maryknoll* Father Robert Jalbert. Father Jalbert presented Anthony with the award for his winning essay entitled "My Faith Grows," which was about Anthony's father being a witness for Jesus in Honduras, after Communion and before the final blessing. This year's writing contest topic was "You Will Be My Witness" and attracted more than 5,000 entries nationwide.

Students competed in two age categories — grades 6-8 (Division I) and 9-12 (Division II) — and submitted essays composed of 500-750 words. A panel of Maryknoll missionaries and employees chose a winner from each category for 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Place honors. The six student winners will share nearly \$3,000 in cash prizes.

Anthony's essay won Third Place for Division 1 and his picture will be in the May/June issue of *Maryknoll*. After Anthony read his winning essay at the St. Michael Church podium, his family, the parish, and the 6-8 graders applauded as he was presented with the award. He wrote about his father's trip to Honduras with the St. Michael delegation and described his thoughts about the poverty he saw along with the faith and happiness of the people he met. He also wrote of his father's work to collect medicine and raise money to be sent to the parish. Anthony's complete essay can be found on the "School News" link of the school website in the "For the Students...By the Students" section.

Afterwards, Father Robert spoke about what Anthony's father received back from the people of Honduras which should encourage us all to serve those around us in need. Anthony told Father Robert that he'd like to go back to Honduras with his father as soon as possible – his dad is still raising money to support the people of Honduras with basic medical supplies. Father Mike ended Mass by speaking about the need for us all to go forth and be witnesses of faith to each other.

Maryknoll Fathers and Brothers, formerly known as the Catholic Foreign Mission Society of America, was founded in 1911 with the support of the Bishops of the United States to be the chief mission outreach of the American Church. They are currently serving the Church, especially the poor, in 27 countries worldwide. For more information, visit them at [www.maryknollsociety.org](http://www.maryknollsociety.org).

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