



# DIOCESE OF DAVENPORT

February 11, 2021

Dear Pastors, Parish and School Administrators and Religious Education Directors,

## **We are called to love our neighbor!**

This year, CRS invites you to journey to Madagascar, El Salvador and Timor-Leste to learn about the root causes of hunger and how communities—with the support of CRS and faith communities like yours—are making sure they have the right nutritious food to thrive. Through [stories of hope videos](#), your community will learn about the global issue of hunger and malnutrition.

Please join more than 14,000 faith communities in 180 dioceses across the U.S. in prayer, fasting and almsgiving and continue Jesus' mission to care for all those in need this Lenten season. God invites us to reach beyond ourselves and encounter the needs of all our brothers and sisters around the world. We invite your parish and school to journey with CRS.

CRS Rice Bowl is the Lenten program of Catholic Relief Services, the official international humanitarian agency of the Catholic community in the United States.

The **CRS Rice Bowl Collection** begins Ash Wednesday, February 17, 2021. Funds raised in the CRS Rice Bowl collection support development projects in nearly 100 countries overseas, and 25% of the funds stay in our Diocese to support local hunger and poverty efforts. [Learn more here.](#)

If you have not received supplies, please contact the office of Social Action. You can also order supplies at no cost in either English or Spanish online at [crsricebowl.org](http://crsricebowl.org) or by calling 1-800-222-0025. You can find additional materials at the [CRS Rice Bowl website](#). Also we encourage you to download this year's [Coordinator's Guide](#) which contains resources to help integrate CRS Rice Bowl into your faith community.

## **Resources:**

- [Hosting a Successful Rice Bowl Program](#)
- [Tips for virtual Rice Bowl engagement from CRS](#)
- [Parish Resources](#)
- [DIY Rice Bowl label](#) – print and adhere it to a container

Thank you for considering CRS Rice Bowl as a part of your ministry and your parishioners' faith journey! If you have any question please feel free to contact us at 563-888-4212 or [hopkins@davenportdiocese.org](mailto:hopkins@davenportdiocese.org).

Sincerely,

Kent E. Ferris, OFS  
Director of Social Action & Catholic Charities, Diocese of Davenport  
563-888-4211