Bishop’s Endorsement Letter

*Your (arch)bishop can adapt this letter and send it to parishes and schools in your (arch)diocese to invite them to participate in*

*CRS Rice Bowl.*

Dear Friends in Christ,

During Lent, we’re invited to deepen our relationship and unite our hearts more fully with God and with one another. We can do this in an intentional way through the Catholic tradition of prayer, fasting and almsgiving. CRS Rice Bowl—Catholic Relief Services’ Lenten faith-in-action program—invites us to encounter God and our global family by practicing these Lenten pillars and by reflecting on how the Eucharist—the Bread *of* Life—compels us to share bread *for* life with all members of our human family.

This year, journey with CRS to Uganda, El Salvador and Indonesia to learn how issues like hunger and climate change are impacting our sisters and brothers around the world. Find out how families—with the support of faith communities like yours—are working hard to provide nutritious food for their children, build sustainable livelihoods and create healthy and thriving futures. Through stories, videos and lesson plans, your community will learn about our Gospel call to care for our common home so we can respond to global issues such as hunger and malnutrition and push back on climate change.

CRS Rice Bowl provides resources to bring Lenten spirituality to life for families, parishes and school communities while continuing to connect Catholics in our (arch)diocese with our global human family. I encourage you to order a CRS Rice Bowl poster to display in your communal space and enough Rice Bowls with Lenten calendars for each family in your community. These **free** materials are available in English and Spanish. You may also visit [**crsricebowl.org**](http://www.crsricebowl.org/) or [**crsplatodearroz.org**](http://www.crsricebowl.org/es/) to find additional resources, including:

* Devotions, like the Stations of the Cross, and prayers.
* Lesson plans, videos and activity sheets for Catholic school teachers and religious educators.
* Ideas for community gatherings and simple Lenten meal events.

Thank you for inviting families in your faith community to join us for an enriching Lenten journey through CRS Rice Bowl. Together, we can respond to Christ’s call to help people in need and ensure everyone reaches his or her God-given potential.

Yours in Christ,

**[Signature]**