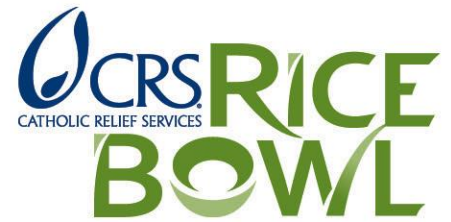


encounter LENT 2017

CRS speaker



CRS Encounter Lent 2017 Talking Points

- **Answer the Call to Encounter:**
THROUGH PRAYER, we encounter Christ, present in the face of every member of our human family.
THROUGH FASTING, we encounter the obstacles that prevent us from loving God and neighbor.
THROUGH ALMSGIVING, we encounter our brothers and sisters around the world, sharing God's gifts with others.
THROUGH SPEAKERS, we encounter stories about our brothers and sisters in need from around the world.
- **CRS Rice Bowl:** This Lent communities around the United States will participate in CRS Rice Bowl, a faith-in-action program that invites us to encounter ourselves, our neighbors and our God. As we, the global Church, prepare for this holy season of Lent, it is especially appropriate to come together in prayer as a family, reflecting on the role we each have to play in building up God's one human family.
- **CRS Rice Bowl's Impact:** In 42 years, \$250 million have been given through CRS Rice Bowl to support programs that prevent hunger and poverty around the world. Of that, \$62.5 million went to programs in the U.S. through local dioceses and \$187.5 million went to CRS programs overseas. Each year CRS Rice Bowl funds are directed to between 40 and 45 countries where CRS runs humanitarian relief and development programs.
- **Speakers:** During the next 40 days, we will encounter people— through their stories—from communities in India, Mexico, Ethiopia, El Salvador, Zambia and other places around the world with CRS Rice Bowl. Join our faith community when we have (INSERT SPEAKER) on (INSERT DATE) to hear about the people most impacted by CRS Rice Bowl.
- **Recipes:** Encounter a taste of the featured countries with simple meatless meals each Friday. Especially the dish from (INSERT Speaker Country), the home of our featured speaker (INSERT SPEAKER).
- **Calendar and Daily Reflections:** Use your CRS Rice Bowl and Lenten Calendar daily to guide your Lenten prayer, fasting and almsgiving. Read the Stories of Hope and daily reflections to inspire your Lenten journey—and guide your Lenten almsgiving.
- **CRS Rice Bowl APP:** Lent can be at your fingertips! Download the CRS Rice Bowl app. Available on iPhones and Android devices - in English and Spanish. It's an easy way to reflect each day and keep track of your Lenten fast and almsgiving.
- **DO CRS RICE BOWL:** If you're already participating in CRS Rice Bowl, participate even deeper this Lent with the provided resources, prayerful reflections and almsgiving.
- **QUESTIONS:** Have questions about CRS Encounter Lent 2017 events? Contact your CRS Representative or the speaker tour coordinator: Phoebe Hebeck, phoebe.hebeck@crs.org 410-951-7301