

Preparing for Lent 2018

We have begun creating our faith formation materials for Lent 2018!

This coming Lenten season, we'll pray with the Parable of the Good Samaritan and the spiritual pillars of prayer, fasting and almsgiving to reflect on how an encounter with our neighbor can be transformative for our faith lives and for the lives of those facing hunger, poverty, or violence which forces them to migrate from their homes.

In Lent 2018, join CRS Rice Bowl as we go out to encounter our neighbor as *companions* on the journey!



THROUGH PRAYER, we encounter Christ in our lives and in every member of our human family.

THROUGH FASTING, we encounter the obstacles that keep us from serving God and neighbor.

THROUGH ALMSGIVING, we encounter God's love and share it with our brothers and sisters in need.



Journey to Encounter ...



Majd in Iraq Finding a new home in a refugee community.

Cesia in Nicaragua Gaining skills to build opportunity.





Safiata in Burkina Faso Creating resilience with new farming techniques.

Andrise in Haiti Bringing new educational practices to the classroom.





Alefa in Malawi Accessing seeds and the tools she needs to support her family.

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2018 Order Updates

For organizations that are responsible for updating their orders—it's time to update 2018 orders!

Participating parishes and schools were instructed to update their order by returning the pre-paid postcard on their Thank You mailing at the end of Lent 2017. They can also call 800-222-0025 or go to crsricebowl.org/order.

DDs responsible for updating orders for participating organizations in their dioceses via a spreadsheet received the spreadsheet from the CRS Rice Bowl team in at the end of May.

Spreadsheets with order updates are due back to the CRS Rice Bowl team on <u>Friday</u>, <u>August 25th</u>.

Revenue Reporting

Process

As you continue to receive Lenten gifts from parishes and schools, we wanted to share that we've updated a few tools for diocesan staff engaged in tracking, administering and facilitating the revenue process in a diocese.

Here are some of those tools we'd like to invite you to use and share with diocesan finance offices and others regarding the revenue reporting process for CRS Rice Bowl:

- <u>Revenue Stewardship Policy</u> PDF
- <u>CRS Collection vs. CRS Rice Bowl</u> PDF
- Administering the local 25% PDF



"Dear friends, Lent is the favourable season for renewing our encounter with Christ, living in his word, in the sacraments and in our neighbour."



Pope Francis
2017 Lenten Message

Turning in Lenten Alms

Please encourage the parishes and schools in your (arch)diocese to send their 2017 contributions to your Diocesan Finance Office or to CRS directly via the CRS Rice Bowl <u>website</u>, app or by mail *with contributions designated to 'CRS Rice Bowl.'*

Collect all of your contributions, retain 25% of the total to use in your (arch)diocese for local hunger and poverty alleviation efforts, and send 75% of the total to CRS, clearly marked as "CRS Rice Bowl" to:

> Catholic Relief Services Attn: CRS Rice Bowl P.O. Box 17090 Baltimore, MD 21297-0303

Reporting Form Webinar

This year's Revenue Reporting Form has been updated and is available <u>here</u>.

Interested hearing how to walk through the form? We recorded a <u>webinar</u> available at <u>crsricebowl.org/revenue</u>.

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