

Steps for Collecting CRS Rice Bowl Gifts

STEP 1

Choose how your community will give.

Encourage online giving first as the easiest way for your community to help people facing hunger and poverty. You can also continue collecting physical Rice Bowls for participants who prefer that meaningful tradition.

Option 1: Invite individuals to give directly online

Encourage participants to donate directly to CRS by scanning the QR code on their Rice Bowl or giving online at crsricebowl.org/give. Twenty-five percent of each donation will go back to your diocese to support local hunger- and poverty-alleviation efforts.

Option 2: Create a community online giving page

Create a CRS Rice Bowl community online giving page so participants can make their Lenten gifts online while still giving as part of your parish, school or community. Follow the steps at crsricebowl.org/communitygiving to create your page, then share your custom link in bulletins, newsletters, social media posts, announcements and emails.

Option 3: Offer in-person Rice Bowl collection

Keep physical Rice Bowl collection available for families and participants who prefer to return their Rice Bowl in person. If you choose this option, plan ahead for collecting, emptying, counting and submitting gifts.

Tip for in-person collection: Be prepared to empty the Rice Bowls, count money and handle checks. Recruit volunteers to help!

STEP 2

Invite your community to give generously.

Use a prayer, announcement or CRS Rice Bowl ritual to invite your community to give generously. Point

people to online giving first and remind participants that physical Rice Bowls are available especially for families who may want to encourage their children to give alms during Lent. Visit crsricebowl.org/parishes for ideas.

STEP 3

Share online giving links early and often.

Share direct and community online giving links in bulletins, newsletters, social media, announcements and printed materials.

If you are also collecting physical Rice Bowls, clearly share when and where they should be returned. Download the collection poster at crsricebowl.org/parishes.

STEP 4

Prepare for Rice Bowl returns, if collecting in person.

If collecting physical Rice Bowls, recruit volunteers to help count money. Ask participants to convert their CRS Rice Bowl donations to checks made out to your parish or school for easier counting. Combine gifts into one check, write "CRS Rice Bowl" on the memo line, and send to:

Send one check to your diocese or directly to CRS:
Catholic Relief Services at:

Attn: CRS Rice Bowl
P.O. Box 5278
Tipton, IA 52772-0517

STEP 5

Thank your community and share the impact of their gifts.

Include one of the Thank You Ads in your bulletin and share our Thank You Video and Digital Ads in your newsletter or on your social media pages. Visit crsricebowl.org/parishes to find the ads and see other creative ways to thank your community.