



# CATHOLIC RELIEF SERVICES

UNITED STATES CATHOLIC CONFERENCE

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## TEXT OF THE LENTEN MESSAGE FROM POPE PAUL VI FOR USE DURING LENT, 1977

(For Radio Use)

Running Time: 4:11

### Liturgical Music Opening

Announcer Voice Over: Each year His Holiness, Pope Paul VI, addresses the school children of the United States on the sacrificial aspect of Lent. This year the Holy Father discusses the meaning of Operation Rice Bowl, a special sacrificial program designed to assist the poor and the hungry of the world. His Holiness, Pope Paul VI.

Pope Paul: Dear Children, This is the Pope speaking to you from the Vatican. The season of Lent is here once again. Yes, Lent is a time for penance and sacrifice. It is a time to share with the poor of the world those good things that we ourselves enjoy.

There are many children in the poor countries who are always hungry. Their parents cannot get enough food to feed them; they can only look to the outside world for help.

Catholic Relief Services - an agency set up by your own Bishops many years ago - tries to answer the needs of these suffering people. It brings food and clothing and shelter to poor families.

Today there is a special way that you and your family can sacrifice in order to assist these people. The way to do this dear children,

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is by joining OPERATION RICE BOWL. This will help Catholic Relief Services to continue its important work for the poor of the world.

In order to be part of Operation Rice Bowl, you must first pray. Then with your family have a weekly meal of sacrifice. Eat a little less at that meal than usual, and put the money saved into your family Rice Bowl. Catholic Relief Services will take this money to buy food to feed millions of people.

Boys and girls, give of yourselves during Lent. By doing this, you will give many people the right to hope for a better tomorrow, and you yourselves will grow in Christian love - the love of Jesus and his brethren.

We now give to you and to your families and your teachers our Apostolic Blessing: in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Music

Announcer Close: This has been a special Lenten message from His Holiness, Pope Paul VI, to the school children of the United States. The theme of the message was Operation Rice Bowl, a program of fasting and sacrifice designed to aid the world's poor and hungry. This is Jack Franchetti speaking.

Music Up.