Bishop’s Thank You Letter

*Your (arch)bishop can adapt this letter to thank parishes for participating in CRS Rice Bowl.*

Dear Pastor/Parish Administrator/Principal/Parish or School Community,

Thank you for participating in CRS Rice Bowl this Lent. What started as a way for Catholics in the United States to respond to the famine in Africa in 1976 has evolved into a Lenten tradition bringing us closer together as one church and one human family.

This year**, [insert number of participating communities]** from our (arch)diocese participated in CRS Rice Bowl and raised a total of **[insert total diocesan contribution]** for those living in poverty.

**Seventy-five percent** of the alms given through CRS Rice Bowl will go to Catholic Relief Services to support humanitarian aid projects that bring vital hope and live-saving aid to the poorest of the poor overseas.

**Twenty-five percent** of CRS Rice Bowl donations will stay here in our (arch)diocese to help those suffering from poverty and hunger in our own community.

**[insert details about organization[s] receiving 25 percent.]**

Thank you for making Lenten sacrifices that will lift up our brothers and sisters living in poverty. Together, we can respond to Christ’s call to help those in need and ensure everyone, near and far, has enough nutritious food to thrive.

Yours in Christ,

**[Signature]**