Sample Email to Schools

*Format this text and send it to school leaders or directors of religious education to invite their communities to participate in CRS Rice Bowl this Lent.*

God invites us to reach out beyond ourselves and encounter the needs of all. This Lent, CRS Rice Bowl—Catholic Relief Services’ Lenten faith-in-action program—invites us to reflect on the Gospel story of Jesus feeding the 5,000 with just a few loaves and fishes and to consider the needs of the hungry around the world.

Journey with CRS to Honduras, Kenya and Vietnam to meet three girls and their families who are thriving with the support of CRS and faith communities like yours. Through stories, videos and lesson plans, your community will learn about the global issue of hunger and malnutrition and our Gospel call to feed the hungry.

CRS Rice Bowl makes it easy for educators to integrate Lenten spirituality and Catholic social teaching into their classrooms. And most importantly, it gives educators tools and tips for bringing Lenten spirituality into the home – where the foundation for a lifetime of faith begins.

We hope you will use CRS Rice Bowl this Lent! Here are some easy ways to get started:

1. Visit **crsricebowl.org/schools** to find all the Lenten resources available for Catholic school teachers and parish religious educators, including lesson plans and activity sheets.
   * Download **CRS Rice Bowl Educator’s Guides** – these guides are for teachers/religious educators who would like to bring Lenten spirituality or Catholic social teaching into their 1st-8th grade classrooms.
2. Order FREE English or Spanish materials online (**crsricebowl.org/order**) or by calling 1-800-222-0025.

* **Order CRS Rice Bowls (one per student)** – these cardboard bowls are used to collect each family’s Lenten alms. Each CRS Rice Bowl comes with a Lenten calendar with a reflection for each day of Lent that families can do together.

1. **Plan a CRS Rice Bowl Kickoff Event** to distribute CRS Rice Bowls to students and prayerfully begin Lent. You can use the Prayer Service to Begin Lent (found in the Educator’s Guide) as a template.

If you have any questions about CRS Rice Bowl, please contact me or [crsricebowl@crs.org](mailto:crsricebowl@crs.org).

Thank you for considering inviting CRS Rice Bowl to be a part of your students’ faith journey this Lent!

**[Signature]**