

# TIPS FOR COLLECTING CRS RICE BOWLS

### STEP 1

**Decide which collection method works best for your community.**

- **OPTION 1**  
**Participants bring their CRS Rice Bowls with contributions to the designated collection area.** Collecting the CRS Rice Bowls makes your community's Lenten efforts concrete and visible.  
TO CONSIDER: Be prepared to empty the Rice Bowls, count coins and handle checks. Recruit youth group members or Confirmation candidates to help!
- **OPTION 2**  
**Ask participants to convert their CRS Rice Bowl gifts 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 your local diocesan director (visit [crs.org/contact](https://crs.org/contact) to find your diocesan director) or to:  
**Catholic Relief Services**  
**CRS Rice Bowl**  
**P.O. Box 5278**  
**Tipton, IA 52772-0517**
- **OPTION 3**  
**Participants can use their CRS Rice Bowls at home throughout Lent and then make their donation directly to your community's Lenten efforts online on your customizable CRS Rice Bowl community giving page.**  
Follow the simple steps at [crsricebowl.org/communitygiving](https://crsricebowl.org/communitygiving) to create your page and then share your custom link with your community.
- **OPTION 4**  
**Participants donate directly to CRS.** Donate online at [crsricebowl.org/give](https://crsricebowl.org/give) or by sending a check to the address above. Twenty-five percent of your donation will go back to your diocese to support local hunger and poverty alleviation efforts.

### STEP 2

**Plan a meaningful ritual to collect CRS Rice Bowls.**

CRS Rice Bowl offers an **Offertory Prayer to End the Lenten Journey** to help your community conclude this holy season. Visit [crsricebowl.org/parish](https://crsricebowl.org/parish) for more ideas.

### STEP 3

**Publicize when and where CRS Rice Bowls will be collected.**

Announce details in a variety of ways, including in your bulletin or newsletter, on your community's social media pages, in announcements at Mass or in school, and by hanging up the collection poster you will receive midway through Lent.

### STEP 4

**Collect and count Lenten gifts.**

Recruit volunteers from your parish ministries, religious education program, youth ministry or parish school to help you count coins. Send one check to your diocese or directly to CRS at the address in Step 1.

### STEP 5

**Thank your community and let them know about the impact of their gifts.**

Include one of the **Thank You Ads** in your bulletin. Share our **Thank You Video** and **Digital Ads** in your newsletter or on your social media pages. Visit the Resources section on [crsricebowl.org](https://crsricebowl.org) to find the ads and see other creative ways to thank your community.