

Tips for Virtual Engagement

Use these suggestions—and your own creativity—to promote CRS Rice Bowl in your community before, during and after Lent.

Before Lent

- **Ensure families have their CRS Rice Bowls.** Plan a designated date, time and location for your community to pick up their CRS Rice Bowls or direct them to crsricebowl.org/families to print their own DIY Rice Bowl label.
- **Plan a virtual CRS Rice Bowl kick-off event.** Consider hosting a virtual prayer service by adapting the Prayer to Begin the Lenten Season found at crsricebowl.org/parishes. Decide if it will be a livestreamed or interactive event. For an interactive event:
 - Invite families to make a prayerful space in their homes using candles, purple cloth, a cross or other religious symbols to use during the event and throughout Lent.
 - Select readers from different families ahead of time to make the event more participatory.
 - Show the introduction video “A Journey to 3 Countries” to get your community excited about what they will be learning about throughout Lent.

During Lent

- Feature the weekly prayer intention and/or Story of Hope in your parish or school’s online bulletin or newsletter and on social media.
- Remind your community that they can access all the CRS Rice Bowl resources online at crsricebowl.org, including the calendar, Stories of Hope, worksheets and activities, Stations of the Cross and more.
- Promote and invite your community to join CRS Rice Bowl’s virtual events being held throughout Lent.
- Invite families to make the weekly meatless recipes and share their photos on your parish or school’s social media platforms using #CRSRiceBowl.
- Live stream the Stations of the Cross.

- Ask families to make a video of themselves praying one of the Stations of the Cross. Encourage them to make an altar based on the station assigned to them and consider incorporating music. Ensure you have all the stations assigned and compile the videos into one video to share with your community.
- Create an online [Community Giving page](#) and share it with your community to make giving easy throughout Lent.

After Lent

- Host a virtual prayer service to end Lent and CRS Rice Bowl using the Offertory Prayer to End the Lenten Season found at crsricebowl.org/parishes.
- Remind your community of the ways they can turn in their CRS Rice Bowl gifts:
 - Give online at crsricebowl.org/give.
 - Donate by phone by calling 1-877-435-7277.
 - Mail your gift to:
Catholic Relief Services
CRS Rice Bowl
P.O. Box 17090
Baltimore, MD 21297-0303
 - If you have an online Community Giving page, invite families to make their donations during the prayer service, and watch your community get closer to reaching its goal!
- Schedule a designated date, time and location for your community to turn in their CRS Rice Bowl donations if they do not want to give online or via mail.