

WEEK 5: REVIEW

SOLIDARITY

We are all God's children and, as one family, are deeply connected to people in our communities and around the world. When one of our sisters or brothers suffers, we all suffer. When one of our sisters or brothers has hope and joy, we all have hope and joy.

STORIES OF HOPE

Over the past few weeks, we traveled to Guatemala, Bangladesh and Rwanda, where families are doing some pretty amazing things. Let's review what we learned from our sisters and brothers in these countries:

- We all have dreams. What we do to achieve these dreams makes a difference in our lives and the lives of our family and community.
- Many children around the world are malnourished, and their parents and community are going the extra mile to make sure they get better.
- Sometimes it takes a lot of work and a desire to learn new things to succeed.

Although Lent is near the end, there's still time to continue the three pillars of prayer, fasting and almsgiving to grow with God and our global family. Just like how you have to practice reading or math or playing your favorite sport or instrument, we have to practice these pillars regularly—even when it's not Lent.

FACTS TO CONSIDER:

- Saint John Paul II wrote about solidarity in his encyclical *Sollicitudo Rei Socialis*, explaining that solidarity means a firm commitment to the good of each individual because we are responsible for each other.



Photo by Amit Rudra for CRS

- Catholic Relief Services works with the Catholic Church, partners and program participants in more than 100 countries to help people live in dignity. We reach more than 140 million people with food, shelter, job training and other lifesaving support.
- The COVID-19 pandemic has greatly increased world hunger. The World Food Programme estimates nearly 1 billion people do not have enough to eat. With prayers and support from people like you, CRS can help millions of women, men and children access nutritious food to stay healthy.



For downloadable photos, visit crsricebowl.org/photos and read the story from Week 5 at crsricebowl.org/stories.

SOLIDARITY

45 MINUTES

OBJECTIVE

Students will learn about the Catholic social teaching principle of Solidarity as they review what they learned from the Stories of Hope throughout Lent.

MATERIALS

- Week 5 story—available at crsricebowl.org/stories.

DISCUSSION (15 MINUTES)

1. Ask students to recall what three countries you explored during Lent and to show where those countries are located on the map.
2. Read the story from Week 5.
3. Reflect:
 - How did the dreams of the people we met this Lent help their communities?
 - What is one of your dreams? How will your dream help other people?
 - How will you continue praying, fasting and giving to help our global family after Lent ends?

ACTIVITY (25 MINUTES)

1. Explain the Catholic social teaching principle of Solidarity. We are all God's children and as one human family we are deeply connected to people around the world—wherever they may be. We are affected by the joy and suffering of all.
2. Provide students with a copy of the Week 5 Activity Sheet: Grades 7-8, or have students take out their prayer journal they started the first week of Lent or a blank piece of paper. Ask them to spend the remaining activity time reflecting on their Lenten journey and sharing about it with God. Share the following writing prompts:
 - a. What have you learned?
 - b. What helped you feel closer to God?

- c. What challenges did you face?
- d. What will you do going forward to stay connected to our sisters and brothers around the world?

CLOSING PRAYER (5 MINUTES)

An excerpt from Pope Francis' encyclical *Fratelli Tutti*:

Lord, Father of our human family,

You created all human beings equal in dignity: pour forth into our hearts a fraternal spirit and inspire in us a dream of renewed encounter, dialogue, justice and peace. Move us to create healthier societies and a more dignified world, a world without hunger, poverty, violence and war.

May our hearts be open to all the peoples and nations of the earth. May we recognize the goodness and beauty that you have sown in each of us, and thus forge bonds of unity, common projects, and shared dreams.

Amen

AT HOME

1. Say a special prayer for the people you learned about this Lent and our global family.
2. As a family, read and discuss the daily reflection in your **CRS Rice Bowl Lenten Calendar**.

IF YOU ONLY HAVE



1. Read the Week 5 story.
2. Lead Discussion step 3.

Name: _____ Activity Sheet: Grades 7–8

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WEEK 5

QCCPS RICE Life and Dignity of the Human Person



Bring out the prayer journal you started the first week of Lent. Reflect on your Lenten journey and share about it with God. What have you learned? What helped you feel closer to God? What challenges did you face? What will you do going forward to stay connected to our sisters and brothers around the world?

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