

WEEK 3: THE PHILIPPINES

DIGNITY OF WORK AND RIGHTS OF WORKERS

Jesus spent years working as a carpenter. Work is important to help people fulfill their potential. And everyone must receive a fair wage to provide for themselves and their families.

STORY OF HOPE

Raul and Rhodora Enecillo live on their farm in Northern Samar, Philippines, with their two granddaughters. Their dream is that their grandchildren will graduate from college.

For years, Raul and Rhodora worked hard as coconut farmers, but it was tough to make a living. On top of that, periods of heavy rain made farming difficult.

Then Raul and Rhodora participated in a Catholic Relief Services program where they received training and assistance to build their own fishpond. The fish grew bigger and soon they were able to sell them at the market. The pond also provided food for the family so they could enjoy nutritious meals together.

Now, Raul and Rhodora have added two more fishponds, along with pigs and chickens. With the extra income, their granddaughters can study hard and finish school.

“I have many dreams for my family and my grandchildren,” Raul says. “I hope I can give them something good.”



Photo by Geala Garcia for CRS

FACTS TO CONSIDER:

- With its location near the equator and on the Pacific Ring of Fire, the Philippines is one of the world’s most disaster-prone countries, with an average of 20 typhoons per year, as well as earthquakes, landslides and volcanic eruptions.
- The Philippines is composed of more than 7,000 islands and is slightly larger than Arizona. It is inhabited by more than 200 species of mammals, including monkeys, lemurs, pangolins and mongooses. Hundreds of species of birds also live in the Philippines.
- CRS has provided assistance in the Philippines since 1945 through agriculture support, emergency response and recovery, shelter programming, disaster risk reduction and resilience, and peacebuilding efforts.



For downloadable photos, visit crsricebowl.org/photos and watch the video from week 3 at crsricebowl.org/stories.

DIGNITY OF WORK AND RIGHTS OF WORKERS

45 MINUTES

OBJECTIVE

Through the story of Raul and Rhodora of the Philippines, students will explore the Catholic social teaching principle of the Dignity of Work and the Rights of Workers.

MATERIALS

- Week 3 story and video—available at [crsricebowl.org/stories](https://www.crsricebowl.org/stories).
- Week 3 Activity Sheet: Grades 7-8.
- Pencil.
- Crayons, colored pencils or markers (optional).

DISCUSSION (15 MINUTES)

1. Read the story from week 3. Use the video to supplement the story.
2. Reflect:
 - What stood out to you in the story?
 - Do you think it would be difficult to change your livelihood—the type of work you do to earn a living? Why or why not? Why would someone do this?
 - In what ways do your family members help you achieve your dreams?

ACTIVITY (25 MINUTES)

1. Explain the Catholic social teaching principle of the Dignity of Work and the Rights of Workers. Discuss how Jesus spent years working as a carpenter. Work allows people to use their God-given talents and interests for the common good. And everyone must be paid fairly to support themselves and their families.
2. Have students complete the Week 3 Activity Sheet: Grades 7-8.
3. If time permits, have students share one of their responses with a peer.

CLOSING PRAYER (5 MINUTES)

A prayer offered by St. Paul VI to St. Joseph on May 1, 1969:

*O Saint Joseph, Patron of the Church!
You, who side by side with the Word made flesh, worked each day to earn your bread, drawing from him the strength to live and to toil; you who experienced the anxiety for the morrow, the bitterness of poverty, the uncertainty of work: you who today give the shining example, humble in the eyes of men but most exalted in the sight of God: protect workers in their hard daily lives, defending them from discouragement, from negative revolt, and from pleasure loving temptations; and keep peace in the world, that peace which alone can ensure the development of peoples.*

Amen

AT HOME

1. Share your activity sheet with your family.
2. As a family, read and discuss the daily reflection in your **CRS Rice Bowl Lenten Calendar**.

IF YOU ONLY HAVE

10
MINUTES

1. Read the week 3 story. Use the video to supplement the story.
2. Lead Discussion step 2.

Name: _____



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Write in the answers to the following questions.

Why do Raul and Rhodora value education?

Why did Raul and Rhodora start building fishponds?
