



January 2012

To: Principals, Faculty and Staff

From: J.L. Drouhard, CRS Archdiocesan Director
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**Subject: Catholic Relief Services' Lenten resources/ Operation Rice Bowl
Ash Wednesday is February 22, 2012**

"Whatever you did for one of these least...you did for me." (Matthew 25:40)

Greetings!

If your school ordered Catholic Relief Services' **Rice Bowl** materials for Lent 2012, a bulk shipment has already arrived, including Rice Bowls with inserted Lenten calendars, posters, Educator's Guides, CD-ROM/DVD and a [Coordinator's Guide](#).

For those of you whose schools are **not participating** in Rice Bowl, this letter is meant to provide you with a sample of the CRS' Lenten resources available to you as well as for consideration to participate in this program! Materials are free. And even though there is a giving component to Rice Bowl (the Scriptural call to give alms), the other three aspects are equally important: prayer, fasting, and **learning**. CRS has continued to improve its learning resources component with an eye toward Catholic schools.

Please call us to order any of the materials at any time!

Available in any amount needed for your school (also available in Spanish):

1. Rice Bowl with Lenten calendar insert
2. [Educator's Guide](#)
3. Poster

4. CD-ROM/DVD with all of the educational resources.

Also, CRS has more Lenten resources at <http://orb.crs.org> (e.g. additional lesson plans and Stations of the Cross). (Tambien, Operación Plato de Arroz: <http://orb.crs.org/es>.)

What we do ask of each parish and school, as a matter of stewardship and accountability, is that funds raised, if any, in connection with CRS Rice Bowl materials, be forwarded on to our office, and not used for other purposes.

I am available to faculty/staff/parents groups for a short presentation on the Rice Bowl program and the connection our prayer, fasting, learning and giving has with people locally and overseas.

Your commitment to global solidarity in all ways is very much appreciated. You are helping others enter into the Lenten journey in this unique way, and you are assisting the worldwide Church in its outreach of charity and justice. **Thank you!**

I can be directly contacted at:
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Rice Bowl prayer for 2012

God of the poor, we long to see Your face.
You tell us, "whatever you did for one of these least you did for me."
May we recognize You in each of our brothers and sisters.
May our prayers and fasting unite us with those who hunger.
May we share of our blessings with those in need.
This we ask in Your name. Amen.