



The Most Reverend Charles C. Thompson
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December 13, 2017

Dear Pastors, PLCs and DREs,

For several years parishes in the Archdiocese of Indianapolis have participated in Catholic Relief Services' Lenten Rice Bowl program as a Lenten prayer, fasting and almsgiving observance. For the next two years we plan to use the CRS Rice Bowl to highlight Pope Francis' "Share the Journey" campaign to call attention to the plight of migrants, immigrants and refugees.

I hope you will consider taking part in the CRS Rice Bowl. You can find more information about the Share the Journey campaign at www.archindy.org/sharethejourney.

We are called to love our neighbor, but "Who is my neighbor?" CRS Rice Bowl will help us answer that question. We are invited to reflect on how an encounter with our neighbors can be transformative.

I encourage you to order a CRS Rice Bowl and Lenten Calendar for each family in your community. These materials are available in both English and Spanish free of charge. You may also visit crsricebowl.org or crsplatodearroz.org to find additional resources, including:

- New resources specific to the Share the Journey campaign
- Lenten devotions and prayers
- Reflections for faith-sharing communities and youth ministry groups
- Lesson plans, videos and activity sheets for Catholic school teachers and religious educators
- Ideas for community gatherings and simple Lenten meal events
- A Lenten app that delivers prayers and resources directly to your mobile device

Thank you for inviting families in your faith community to an enriched Lenten journey through CRS Rice Bowl. Together, we will do our part to respond to Christ's call to build a culture of encounter.

With assurance of my prayers, I remain

Sincerely yours in Christ,

+ *Charles C. Thompson*

Most Reverend Charles C. Thompson
Archbishop of Indianapolis