

Operation Rice Bowl-Frequently asked questions

Please use whatever works best for your Parish.  There are many other resources you may find useful at crsricebowl.org/parish.   Please encourage participants to pray, fast, and give alms this Lent using the Lenten calendar and CRS Rice Bowl.  75% goes to International assistance, and 25% is returned to our own Diocese to feed the hungry.

* Many schools, parishes, RE have the Rice Bowls returned Easter week (many have a reminder announcement on Easter/bulletin where to return them (during the following week or following Sunday).
* Some just have a designated “collection area” in the sanctuary, or gathering space from Easter onward.
* Some use this offertory prayer (see prayer below) at an ORB closing ceremony or as part of Mass, which makes your community’s Lenten efforts more concrete and visible.
* We ask each Parish to cash checks, count change and combine them into one donation for Operation Rice Bowl.  Submit one check along with the standard transmittal form stating “Operation Rice Bowl”.  Therefore, checks should be made out to the Parish.  Many parishes recruit volunteers (Youth groups or confirmation candidates) to help count change, or they ask families to count their rice bowls at home, and bring a check to the Parish (memo line ORB), rather than the actual bowl of coins.

Offertory Prayer

Loving God,

You call us to be good stewards of creation and of all the gifts you have blessed us with.

As we end our Lenten journey, walking with our brothers and sisters around the world who are hungry and in need,

we pray that these our Lenten sacrifices, may be an offering of solidarity and a promise of continued work on behalf of all poor and vulnerable people.

As good stewards of your many gifts, may we always remember to love our neighbors as ourselves.

And wherever we feed the hungry, give drink to the thirsty or clothe the naked, may we remember that we are encountering the risen Christ.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.  Amen

Thank you for your preparation, and dedication to implement and have successful participation in Operation Rice Bowl at your Parish.  Please let me know if I can be of assistance.

Cindy St. Aubin

World Mission Coordinator