



## Operation Rice Bowl Prayer

God of all people, Hear us as we join in prayer with our brothers and sisters in need. Bless our Lenten fasting, learning, and giving. May your generous love for your people be our guide as we reach out to all who live with hunger and poverty. Amen.

## Operation Rice Bowl

This year St. Peter's parish Community will participate in Operation Rice Bowl. We will begin distribution of the Rice Bowls on February 7<sup>th</sup> at all Masses. Children in St. Peters School and Confirmation Classes will also be given a Rice Bowl to participate. Within the Rice Bowl is a calendar that you can use to guide your Lenten observance. Ash Wednesday is February 17<sup>th</sup> so this will give you time to prepare read your Rice Bowl calendar and prepare for your Lenten journey.

Rice Bowls encourage us as individuals, families and communities to **PRAY** together during Lent, **FAST** in solidarity with those who hunger and have at least one sacrificial meal a week; **LEARN** more about our global community and the challenges of poverty overseas and in different countries; and **GIVE** sacrificial money to the Rice Bowl - from savings from your food budget which will go to those in need.

After the earthquake in Haiti we wondered "to which aid agencies do I contribute that can best assist the rescue efforts?" Church, government and news media identified Catholic Relief Services as an efficient, well-managed aid agency. Not only does this organization assist during times of disasters, they are pivotal in providing development aid and direction to some of the world's poorest countries.

For 35 years Catholic Relief Services' (Operation Rice Bowl -bold) has offered Catholics in the United States a way to connect with our brothers and sisters overseas.

Our participation in Operation Rice Bowl ensures that Catholic Relief Services can continue to provide assistance to those in need in more than 100 countries. Seventy-five percent of our gifts will go to CRS to help farmers in Bolivia receive training to improve crop yields, children in Afghanistan gain more opportunities for quality education, communities in Ethiopia access reliable water sources even during times of drought, and fund many other vital projects throughout the world, including Rwanda, Africa where our sister parishes are located. Twenty-five percent of our gifts remain in our diocese and support local hunger and poverty alleviation efforts.

More information can be found at: <http://orb.crs.org/>

For more information at St Peter's email; [visitation@wi.rr.com](mailto:visitation@wi.rr.com) or call Marlene at 945-0128