

2020 CRS Rice Bowl Maronite Catholic Church Lenten Calendar

February 23 ^d	Sunday of Cana in Galilee / Entrance into Lent
February 24 th	Ash Monday -- the Great Fast begins
March 1 st	Sunday of the Leper, Second Sunday of Lent
March 1 st -7 th	<u>HELLO WORLD!</u> – <i>Sacredness and Dignity of the Human Person</i>
March 8 th	Sunday of the Hemorrhaging Woman, Third Sunday of Lent
March 8 th -14 th	<u>HOME AND FAMILY</u> – <i>Call to Community, Family and Participation</i>
March 15 th	Sunday of the Prodigal Son, Fourth Sunday of Lent
March 15 th -21 st	<u>MEALTIME</u> – <i>Option for the Poor</i>
March 22 nd	Sunday of the Paralytic, Fifth Sunday of Lent
March 22 nd -March 28 th	<u>JOY OF LEARNING</u> – <i>Rights and Responsibilities</i>
March 29 th	Sunday of Bartimaeus the Blind, Sixth Sunday of Lent
March 29 th -April 4 th	<u>DREAMS FOR TOMORROW</u> – <i>Solidarity with our Local Community</i>
April 5 th -April 11 th	<u>HOLY WEEK</u>
April 8 th	Hosanna Sunday
April 9 th	Thursday of Mysteries
April 10 th	Great Friday of the Crucifixion
April 11 th	Great Saturday of the Light
April 12 th	GREAT SUNDAY OF THE RESURRECTION

Dear Brother Priests, Deacons and Subdeacons, Religious Men and Women,

God invites us to reach out beyond ourselves and encounter the needs of all. This Lent, CRS Rice Bowl—Catholic Relief Services’ Lenten faith-in-action program—invites us to reflect on the Gospel story of Jesus feeding the 5,000 with just a few loaves and fishes and to consider the needs of the hungry around the world. **That’s why again this year, I’m inviting your parish to use CRS Rice Bowl this Lent.**

CRS Rice Bowl provides resources to bring Lenten spirituality to life for families and parish communities, while continuing to connect Catholics in our Eparchy with our brothers and sisters in need around the world.

This year’s CRS Rice Bowl provides a unique opportunity to journey around the world to meet three girls and their families who are thriving with the support of CRS and faith communities like yours. Through stories, videos and lesson plans, we can learn about the global issue of hunger and malnutrition and our Gospel call to feed the hungry. With prayer, fasting and almsgiving, we can continue Jesus’ mission to care for all in need.

I again would like all our parishes and missions to participate in this Lenten program. **Please provide each family in your community with the attached 2019 CRS Rice Bowl Maronite Lenten Calendar.** If you did not receive CRS Rice Bowls last Lent, please visit crsricebowl.org to order one for each family. Please include “St. Maron” after the name of your parish or mission when ordering, so we can better track our Eparchy’s participation. Additional CRS Rice Bowl resources also are available on the webpage, including:

- Lenten devotions and prayers
- Lesson plans, videos and activity sheets for Catholic school teachers and religious educators
- Ideas for community gatherings and simple Lenten meal events

I have asked CRS to send a mid-Lent mailing to all participating communities in our Eparchy with a CRS-addressed envelope to send in your Lenten alms. Please contact our CRS Diocesan Director, Deacon Joseph Chebli, at (908) 578-3690 / josephchebli@gmail.com with any questions about how to incorporate CRS Rice Bowl into the life of your parish this Lent.

Thank you for inviting families in your faith community to an enriched Lenten journey through CRS Rice Bowl. Together, we can respond to Christ’s call to help those in need and ensure everyone reaches his or her God-given human potential.

Yours in Christ,

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+ Gregory John Mansour
Bishop of the Eparchy of St. Maron of Brooklyn
Chairman Emeritus, CRS Board of Directors