



THE DIOCESE OF KALAMAZOO

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February 1, 2010

Dear Priests, Deacons, and Parish Administrators,

Parishes and Missions that are participating in the Lenten Program of Catholic Relief Services entitled "Operation Rice Bowl" should have received their ORB materials in January. Mailed separately by CRS was a booklet entitled "2010 Community Parish Guide." There are many useful items in this booklet. "Introduction" (pp. 1-2) is an excellent explanation of ORB and "How to Organize Operation Rice Bowl" (pp. 3-4).

Included in this same booklet are: "Activity Suggestions" (pp. 5-6), Bulletin Announcements for all of Lent (pp. 7-8), Prayer Intentions for each Sunday of Lent (p. 9), Prayer Service (pp. 10-11) and Homily Notes for all of Lent (pp. 12-14). There are many other useful items in the "2010 Community Parish Guide."

ORB begins with the distribution of materials on Ash Wednesday, February 17<sup>th</sup> or the first Sunday of Lent, February 21<sup>st</sup> and ends on Easter Sunday, April 4<sup>th</sup>. Anything you can do to educate and to promote Catholic Relief Services' Operation Rice Bowl will be deeply appreciated.

Catholic Relief Services is a wonderful relief and development organization. Between 1976-2009 the Diocese of Kalamazoo has collected \$1,126,917.41 for ORB. CRS has received \$845,188.06 (75%) for development projects overseas and the Diocese has received \$281,729.35 (25%) for local projects to assist the poor. Asking the Lord to bless you and your parish community, I am



Yours in Christ,

*Sister Susan*

Sister Susan Ridley, OP  
Director  
Office of Christian Service

Check out CRS' website: [orb.crs.org](http://orb.crs.org)