



ARCHDIOCESE FOR THE MILITARY SERVICES, USA  
The Most Reverend Timothy P. Broglio

January 20, 2016

To the Clergy and the Faithful of the Archdiocese for the Military Services, USA

Ash Wednesday is almost here. We will be marked with the sign of our mortality and invited to draw closer to Christ who is merciful. The means have served for centuries: prayer, fasting, and almsgiving.

You and I are part of an amazing tradition whereby Catholics of the United States participate in giving families around the world the tools they need to rise above poverty and provide for themselves—and their communities thanks to the “CRS Rice Bowl effect.”

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

I encourage all military Catholic faith communities in this archdiocese to use CRS Rice Bowl for Lent 2016.

Please be sure to order a CRS Rice Bowl and Lenten Calendar for each family in your community. These materials are available in both English and Spanish and are free of charge. You may also visit [crsricebowl.org](http://crsricebowl.org) to find additional resources, including:

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

Thank you for uniting your community in acts of mercy which will ensure an enriched Lenten journey through CRS Rice Bowl. Together, we can make this year’s CRS Rice Bowl effect greater than ever.

Sincerely in Christ,

(Most Reverend) Timothy P. Broglio  
Archbishop for the Military Services