

## WEEK 3: EL SALVADOR

### CALL TO FAMILY, COMMUNITY AND PARTICIPATION

Humans are social by nature. We need each other. Like the early disciples, we are called to come together and grow as a community—in our classrooms, church and families.

#### STORIES OF HOPE

In Sandra's home in Morazán, El Salvador, everyone helps with the chores by lighting the firewood to cook, making breakfast or grinding corn.

Santos, Sandra's husband, is a farmer, but extreme weather has reduced his harvests and, therefore, his income. Seeking to earn extra money, Sandra began selling food. When she heard about a Catholic Relief Services project on raising chickens, she didn't hesitate to join. She learned about preparing food for chickens and how to vaccinate them.

Sandra began to apply her knowledge with the chickens provided by the project. Now her family has access to their own eggs, saving them money on food. Sandra wants to support other families so she teaches them everything she has learned.

Our Catholic faith teaches us all people should participate in society, seeking the well-being of all, especially that of our sisters and brothers in need, just as Sandra does.

#### FACTS TO CONSIDER

- El Salvador is the smallest and most densely populated country in Central America, with more than 6 million people living there. The country has 14 administrative divisions called departments.
- Deforestation—when trees are cut down or removed—puts El Salvador at risk to natural disasters. The country is the second most deforested in the Western Hemisphere.



Photo by Oscar Leiva/Silverlight for CRS

- The Prospera project—in which Sandra Amaya participated—focuses on improving food security of the most vulnerable households located in Morazán and two other departments in El Salvador, so that they can recover from the impact of COVID-19 and the losses suffered due to drought and other extreme weather events from climate change.



For downloadable photos, visit [crsricebowl.org/photos](https://crsricebowl.org/photos) and watch the video at [crsricebowl.org/stories](https://crsricebowl.org/stories).

# CALL TO FAMILY, COMMUNITY AND PARTICIPATION

45 MINUTES

## OBJECTIVE

Through the story of Sandra in El Salvador, students will learn about the Catholic social teaching principle of Call to Family, Community and Participation and consider what community means and why it is important to share our gifts with others.

## MATERIALS

- Week 3 story and video, available at [crsricebowl.org/stories](http://crsricebowl.org/stories).
- Week 3 Activity Sheet: Grades 7-8.
  - *Prior to class, print out one copy for every six students in your class. Cut the map along the lines into six puzzle pieces*

## DISCUSSION (10 MINUTES)

1. Locate El Salvador on the map. What other countries are nearby? How close is El Salvador to your home?
2. Read the story from week 3. Use the video to supplement the story.
3. Reflect:
  - Who did we meet in this story?
  - Why do you think Sandra decided to teach other families what she learned?
  - Name the communities of which you are a part. How do these groups strengthen and benefit you? How do you contribute to these groups?

## ACTIVITY (30 MINUTES)

1. Explain the principle of Call to Family, Community and Participation: We, human beings, are social by nature and God invites us to come together as a community, whether in our classroom, workplace or family. As members of the body of Christ, we are called to work together, share our gifts and look out for one another.
2. Separate students into groups of six and have each group sit in a circle. Ask all members to close their eyes except one in each group.

3. Give students the following instructions:
  - Each student will be given a puzzle piece to their group's puzzle. The group must put the puzzle together; however, students with their eyes closed cannot talk. Students with their eyes open can talk but cannot use their hands.
4. Give each student a puzzle piece. For the students with their eyes open, place their piece on the table in front of them. Give students time to put their puzzles together.
5. Share that a puzzle is incomplete without all its pieces, as a community is incomplete without all its members. Our call as disciples is to identify and respond to the challenges in our communities, working together and helping each other so that everyone thrives.
6. Ask students to name some of the challenges and potential solutions facing their own neighborhoods and school communities.

## CLOSING PRAYER (5 MINUTES)

As Catholics, we believe our community includes those who have gone before us. One of the ways we can ask them to pray for us is through the Litany of Saints. Pray together the Litany of the Saints, found on the next page.

## AT HOME

1. Talk with your family about how you can be more involved in your faith community. Consider joining a meal ministry, a Bible study or other activity at your church.
2. As a family, read and discuss the daily reflection found in your **CRS Rice Bowl Lenten Calendar**.

## IF YOU ONLY HAVE



1. Read the week 3 story. Use the video to supplement the story.
2. Lead Discussion step 3.

THE LITANY OF SAINTS

*(Excerpt)*

Holy Mary, *pray for us.*

Holy Mother of God...

Holy Virgin of Virgins...

St. Michael...

St. Gabriel...

St. Raphael...

All you Holy Angels and Archangels...

St. Joseph...

St. John the Baptist...

All you Holy Patriarchs and Prophets...

St. Peter...

St. Paul...

St. Andrew...

St. James...

St. John...

St. Thomas...

St. James...

St. Philip...

St. Bartholomew...

St. Matthew...

St. Simon...

St. Jude...

St. Matthias...

St. Barnabas...

St. Luke...

St. Mark...

All you Holy Apostles and Evangelists...

All you Holy Disciples of the Lord...

All you Holy Innocents...

St. Stephen...

St. Lawrence...

St. Vincent...

St. Fabian and Sebastian...

St. John and Paul...

St. Cosmas and Damian...

All you Holy Martyrs...

St. Sylvester...

St. Gregory...

St. Ambrose...

St. Augustine...

St. Jerome...

St. Martin...

St. Nicholas...

All you Holy Bishops and Confessors...

All you Holy Doctors...

St. Anthony...

St. Benedict...

St. Bernard...

St. Dominic...

St. Francis...

All you Holy Priests and Levites...

All you Holy Monks and Hermits...

St. Mary Magdalene...

St. Agatha...

St. Lucy...

St. Agnes...

St. Cecilia...

St. Anastasia...

St. Catherine...

St. Clare...

All you Holy Virgins and Widows...

All you Holy Saints of God...

