

## WEEK 5: REVIEW

### OPTION FOR THE POOR AND VULNERABLE

We are called to build a society in which the needs of people who are most poor and vulnerable are considered first. Jesus tells us that when we help our sisters and brothers in need, we do this for him.

#### STORIES OF HOPE

This Lent, we reflected on how the Eucharist unites us with God and one another, and how the Lord invites us to see him in our global family.

We saw Christ in Uganda, through Adolf and Florence, who learned new farming methods so they can provide food for their family and help their neighbors grow better crops.

We saw Christ in El Salvador, in the Amaya family. Like the body of Christ, each family member contributes to support the household. We saw Christ in Sandra's sacrifices, learning how to keep chickens to ensure her family and community can thrive.

We saw Christ in Indonesia, through Evita and her disaster preparedness group. Together, they have helped keep their community safe during natural disasters and healthy with food from their communal garden.

Lastly, we have seen Christ in you—in your prayers, sacrifices and almsgiving. As we near Holy Week, let us continue to imitate Christ to uphold the dignity of our sisters and brothers around the world.

#### FACTS TO CONSIDER

- “Then the righteous will answer him and say, ‘Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you drink? ... And the king will say to them in reply, ‘Amen, I say to you, whatever you did for one of these least brothers of mine, you did for me.’” —Matthew 25:37, 40.
- “The Eucharist ... is the Sacrament par excellence of love. Christ offers himself and breaks himself for us and asks us to do likewise so that our life might become bread that feeds our brothers and sisters.” —Pope Francis



Photo by Stuart Tibaweswa for CRS

- “In teaching us charity, the Gospel instructs us in the preferential respect due to the poor and the special situation they have in society: the more fortunate should renounce some of their rights so as to place their goods more generously at the service of others.” —Saint Paul VI, *Octogesima Adveniens*



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

## OPTION FOR THE POOR AND VULNERABLE

45 MINUTES

### OBJECTIVE

Through the final CRS Rice Bowl Story of Hope, students will reflect on their Lenten journey and explore the Catholic social teaching principle of Option for the Poor and Vulnerable.

### MATERIALS

- Week 5 story, available at [crsricebowl.org/stories](http://crsricebowl.org/stories).
- Paper and pens or pencils for each small group.

### DISCUSSION (15 MINUTES)

1. Read the story from week 5.
2. Reflect:
  - What have you learned from the families in Uganda, El Salvador and Indonesia?
  - What does it mean to you 'to see Christ' in another person?
  - Why do you think we have a special responsibility to help people who are poor and vulnerable?

### ACTIVITY (25 MINUTES)

1. Explain the principle of Option for the Poor and Vulnerable. Remind students that Jesus tells us to give special care to people who are most in need and that it is our Christian duty to stand up for others.
2. Invite students to share examples of this principle.
3. Divide the class into small groups. Have each group write a short skit that demonstrates the principle of Option for the Poor and Vulnerable. Then have each group act out the skit in front of the class.

### CLOSING PRAYER (5 MINUTES)

1. Ask students to think about one thing they can do to keep our global family in mind, even after Lent ends.
2. Have each student say one word that describes their prayer for God's help for our sisters and brothers.
3. Close with the Our Father.

### AT HOME

1. Share with your family about your skit and how you want to remember and help our global family members once Lent ends.
2. As a family, read and discuss the daily reflection found in your **CRS Rice Bowl Lenten Calendar**.
3. Attend Mass as a family and give thanks to God for being part of the body of Christ.

### IF YOU ONLY HAVE

**10**

**MINUTES**

1. Read the week 5 story.
2. Lead Discussion step 2.