



STEWARDSHIP *Culture*

A Guide to Stewardship of Culture

Culture is not a barrier to faith—it's the vessel through which many people first encounter God. As Catholics, we don't reject culture; we discern, elevate, and evangelize through it. From music to food, family customs to feast days, each culture reflects the beauty of God's creativity and the dignity of the people He made.

Stewardship of culture means:

- Time given to learn about and celebrate different cultures within the Church
- Talent shared through cultural expressions of faith—music, art, prayer, tradition
- Treasure invested in building a more inclusive Church that reflects the diversity of God's family

The Church is catholic—universal. And stewardship of culture helps us live that unity in diversity.

Best Practices

- Offer to participate in multicultural Masses, processions, or heritage events.
- Each month, learn about a Catholic saint or devotion from a culture different than your own.
- Integrate cultural expressions of faith into your home, ministry, or outreach efforts—showing that Catholicism is both universal and personal.

CULTURE OPPORTUNITIES



Cultural Traditions

Celebrate feast days, devotions, or liturgical customs rooted in your heritage.



Learn Other Cultures

Attend events, liturgies, or educational programs hosted by cultural communities different from your own.



Advocate Diversity

Advocate for bilingual resources, intercultural catechesis, or hospitality ministries that honor diversity.



Share

Offer prayers, readings, music, or traditional attire representing your culture. Invite others to experience the richness of Catholicism expressed through many cultures.

The Church is enriched by the gifts and talents of all the faithful,
from every people and culture. – St. John Paul II



Faith and Culture Conversation Card

Conversation Starters

Use these questions with your family, friends, or parish group to reflect on how your cultural heritage connects with your Catholic faith and stewardship calling.

- What is a tradition from your culture or heritage that brings you closer to God?
- How did your parents or grandparents pass on faith through cultural practices?
- What foods, music, holidays, or customs reflect your Catholic identity?
- How does your culture honor elders, saints, or ancestors?
- Are there any cultural gifts—art, language, dance, hospitality—you can share with your parish community?
- How can we be more welcoming and inclusive of other cultures in our Catholic spaces?

Prayer of Gratitude for Cultural Gifts

Lord of all peoples and nations,
We praise You for the beautiful diversity
of cultures You have created.

Thank You for the songs, stories, food, and faith
that shape who we are.

Help us to cherish the traditions that draw us closer to You,
to honor the gifts passed down from our ancestors,
and to celebrate the richness of every culture in Your Church.

Make us stewards of unity,
ambassadors of welcome,
and joyful witnesses to Your love
in every language, color, and custom.
Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Stewardship Challenge

This month, I will:

- Share a cultural tradition or story with my parish or small group.
- Learn about another culture within the Catholic Church.
- Invite someone from a different background to my table or Mass.

After this I had a vision... from every nation, race, people, and tongue.
They stood before the throne and before the Lamb. – Revelation 7:9