

# PARISH HOSPITALITY

(U.S.C.C.B.\*)

*The welcome and hospitality that we ask our parishes to extend to newcomers must include active efforts on the part of the pastor and parish staff, individuals and families, parish councils, liturgy committees, social concern entities, youth groups, and other parish organizations to undertake the special effort necessary to learn about the cultures in their midst and to exchange visits with worship communities and parishes where different cultural groups make their homes. Special events such as international dinners, common social events, and multicultural parish feasts can help to introduce the various members of the parish to other cultures and can lead to greater exchanges between groups. The parish is encouraged to sponsor forums in which members of different cultures can openly share their unique backgrounds and identify areas of unity.*

**\*Used with permission from the resource materials provided with the U.S.C.C.B. document:  
WELCOMING THE STRANGER AMONG US: UNITY IN DIVERSITY**

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This welcoming best practice is a form of parish hospitality.  
The following list was developed to provide a few 'greetings'  
in different languages as a form of parish welcoming.

## GREETINGS IN MANY LANGUAGES

### FILIPINO

WELCOME  
THANK YOU  
HELLO  
PEACE  
GOD BLESS YOU

MALIGAYANG PAGDATING  
SALAMAT PO  
MALIGAYANG BATI (literal = Happy Greetings)  
KAPAYAPAAAN  
KAAWAAN KA NG MAYKAPAL

### FIJIAN

WELCOME  
THANK YOU  
HELLO  
PEACE  
GOD BLESS YOU

NI MATA VINAKA MAI  
VINAKA  
BULA  
VAKACEGU  
VAKALOUGATATAKI KEMUNI NA KALOU

### ITALIAN

WELCOME  
THANK YOU  
HELLO  
PEACE  
GOD BLESS YOU

BENVENUTO  
GRAZIE  
CIAO  
PACE  
DIO TI BENEDICA

### KENYAN

WELCOME  
THANK YOU  
HELLO  
PEACE  
GOD BLESS YOU

KARIBU  
ASANTE  
JAMBO  
AMANI  
MUNGU AKUBARIKI

### NIGERIA (3 major languages):

#### *IGBO*

WELCOME  
THANK YOU  
HELLO  
PEACE  
GOD BLESS YOU

LLO LA  
DALU  
NDE EWO  
UDO  
CHUKWU GOZIE UNU

**YORUBA**

WELCOME  
THANK YOU  
HELLO  
PEACE  
GOD BLESS YOU

EKAABO  
ESE E  
EKU  
ALAAFIA  
OLUWA WAS PELU YIN

**HAUSA**

WELCOME  
THANK YOU  
HELLO  
PEACE  
GOD BLESS YOU

LAFIA  
NA GODE  
SAANU  
SALAMAA  
ALLAH SAKA MAR

**POLISH**

WELCOME  
THANK YOU  
HELLO  
PEACE  
GOD BLESS YOU

WITAMY  
DZIEKUJE  
CZESC  
POKOJ  
SZESC BOZE

**PORTUGUESE**

WELCOME  
THANK YOU  
HELLO  
PEACE  
GOD BLESS YOU

BEM-VINDO  
OBRIGADO or OBRIGADA  
OLA  
PAZ  
DEUS O ABENCOE

**SLOVAK**

WELCOME  
THANK YOU  
GOOD DAY  
PEACE BE WITH YOU  
GOD BLESS YOU

VITAJTE  
DAKUJEM  
DOBRY DEN  
POKOJ VAM  
NECH VAS PAN BOH POZEHNA

**SPANISH**

WELCOME  
THANK YOU  
HELLO  
PEACE  
GOD BLESS YOU

BIENVENIDA  
GRACIAS  
HOLA  
PAZ  
DIOS TE BENDIGA

**SUDANESE**

WELCOME  
THANK YOU

MERHABA  
SHUKRAN

**VIETNAMESE**

WELCOME  
THANK YOU  
HELLO  
PEACE  
GOD BLESS YOU

CHAO MU'NG  
CAM O'N  
CHAO BAN  
HOA BINH  
XIN CHUA CHUC LANH CHO BAN

(Every effort has been made to attain an accurate translation)