



Dear Sisters and Brothers,

Grace and peace to you in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

In the Archdiocese of Seattle, our parishes and communities bring together people from many nations, languages, and cultures. We are blessed with a Church that reflects the beauty of the Body of Christ. As such, when we talk about multicultural ministry, I do not see it as another program or initiative. Multicultural ministry simply calls us to recognize who we are as one People of God.

As Pope Leo XIV said last June, "At Pentecost, the Apostles spoke the languages of those they met, and the confusion of Babel was finally resolved by the harmony brought about by the Spirit." (Audience, June 8th, 2026). At many parishes I visit in the Archdiocese of Seattle, it feels like Pentecost every Sunday. During the Lord's Prayer, I can often hear several different languages praying simultaneously. Like Pentecost, every person knows what the other is praying. If you ever attend a Papal Mass, you will notice the same thing. For me, this unique experience foreshadows the heavenly banquet we all hope to partake. As Lumen Gentium beautifully observed, "It follows that though there are many nations there is but one people of God, which takes its citizens from every race, making them citizens of a kingdom which is of a heavenly rather than of an earthly nature." (Lumen Gentium, 13)

My friends, our diversity must call us to deeper conversion. The Gospel invites us to move beyond comfort and familiarity so that our parishes may truly become homes for all. We are called to learn from the faith traditions carried by our brothers and sisters from different cultures, to listen to each other with humility and respect, to welcome our immigrants, and to ensure that every person knows they are welcomed and valued in the life of the Church. As St. Paul reminds us in his letter to the Galatians, "There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus" (Gal. 3:28).

May the Holy Spirit continue to guide our Archdiocese as we grow as a Church that truly reflects the diversity and unity of the People of God.

With gratitude, I remain

Sincerely yours in Christ,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Frank Schuster".

Most Rev. Frank Schuster, D.D., S.T.L.  
Auxiliary Bishop of Seattle  
Multicultural Ministry