Food for Thought

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There are non-practising Catholics who are genuine believers and there are also many who practise but who may not really believe.

Diarmuid Martin, Archbishop of Dublin

For thousands of years you have lived in this land and fashioned a culture that endures to this day. And during all this time, the spirit of God has been with you... Your culture, which shows the lasting dignity of your race, must not be allowed to disappear. Do not think that your gifts are worth so little that you should no longer bother to retain them... Share them with each other and teach them to your children. Your songs, your stories, your paintings, your dances your languages must never be lost... The gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ speaks all languages. It esteems and embraces all cultures.

Pope John Paul II
A Defence of the Rights of the Aborigines

If strangers live with you in your land, do not molest them. You must count them as your own and love them as yourselves — for you were once strangers yourselves in Egypt. I am your God.

Leviticus 19:34

When one excited young woman ran up to me and exclaimed, “I’m going to study Buddhism. It’s so cool!” I said, “Wow. Did you ever think of studying the religion that teaches that God became what we are so we could become what God is?” “Ooh, that sounds cool. What one’s that?” she asked. “Catholicism,” I answered, the faith in which she had been baptized and confirmed.

Richard G. Malloy

I have many friends here in Angola... Last week I was talking to six people from four different countries and cultures: Angola, South Africa, Philippines and India... At the end of the evening we sat around and talked about where we are from and where we have been raised. I told them that I was raised in a little fishing village in Northern Canada. We are all so much alike, and what makes me laugh makes them laugh, my concern and priority is my family just like them, and what makes me cry also makes them cry. The only thing different was the colour of our skin. So we are 99.99% the same. We all agreed 100%.

Wilber McGrath
Shell employee