Beliefs Shared by Muslims and Christians

The following material has been adapted from the Columban Centre for Christian-Muslim Relations. It is used with permission from UNIYA Jesuit Social Justice Centre.

Teacher Background: Beliefs Shared by Muslims and Christians

One God
Muslims and Christians believe that there is one God. The Arabic word Islam means to achieve peace through submission to God. Christianity and Islam aim to achieve this.

Prophet Muhammad said that 99 names belong to God. Some names with resonances (if not specific title) in the Christian Scriptures include:

- The Most Compassionate
- The King
- The Granter and Acceptor of Repentance
- The Creator
- The Provider
- The Just
- The Sustainer
- The All-embracing
- The Loving One
- The Resurrection
- The Truth
- The Protector
- The Glorified
- The Pardoner
- The Guide
- The Everlasting
- The Bestower of Peace.

Male and Female equal before God
The soul is neither male nor female. All humanity is created in the image and likeness of God.

Abrahamic roots
Judaism, Christianity and Islam all share the same roots as well as the Judeo-Christian line of prophets (Abraham, Noah, Moses)

Social Justice and Moral Teachings
Human rights, economic and social justice are highly valued by both traditions. The basic commandments and virtues are the same.

Jesus
Both traditionally teach the Virgin birth. Both acknowledge that Jesus performed miracles and raised the dead in God’s name. Both believe in the second coming of Jesus towards the end of time.

Mary
In Islam the Blessed Virgin Mary is referred to as “Our Lady Mary, peace be upon her”. Prophet Muhammad said that Jesus and Mary were the only persons born without the devil touching them.

Scriptures
Islam recognises the Books of the Torah, Psalms and the Gospels (in their original forms) as divine revelation.

Life after death
Both traditions teach accountability for our actions — the Day of Judgement, Resurrection, Heaven and Hell.

Devotions
Both Christians and Muslims pray to God, give charity, fast and make their own form of pilgrimage.