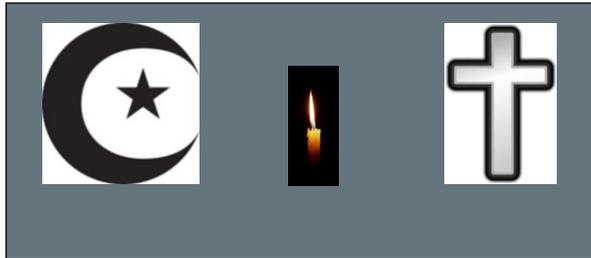


Welcome to the MCA Pairing Project!



QUESTIONS:

What is the MCA?

The Muslim Catholic Alliance is a vibrant interfaith organization that grew out of the 2003 signing of the historic *Agreement of Understanding & Cooperation*. This agreement came about after years of Muslims and Catholics dialoguing on a regular basis and developing a special friendship of respect and sharing of their faith traditions. Since the signing, representatives of each faith community have met monthly to discuss topics of interest, plan educational programs and engage in social justice activities together. As an alliance, we also attempt to support one another in times of religious stress and tension.

What is the pairing project?

This project is an attempt to grow this special friendship beyond our organization and into our respective worship communities. The MCA is encouraging mosques to pair with Catholic parishes in their area for the purpose of establishing closer relationships through shared activities, conversations on spiritual issues, or social work.

Who participates?

It is the hope that members of all ages and backgrounds from within the Catholic and Muslim communities participate. The pastors and Imams have agreed this is a valuable project and that their faith communities would benefit from a closer, hands-on relationship with people from other faiths.

How do we choose a project?

Once you get a small group of interested people together, you may all decide what type of project you would like to do. Please see the *Ideas for Partnering Activities* sheet for great ideas of where to start and different possibilities. Some groups may choose to meet only in the summer, others may meet monthly, or more often. It is totally up to you.

What is the follow up?

Once a year, the MCA will gather over a meal with all the partnering groups to share experiences and suggestions for future activities.

Key to Success

Have fun together. Be respectful and involve the group in the choosing of the activity.