



Brisbane Archdiocesan Commission for Ecumenism & Inter-religious Relations

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Dear Friends in the Muslim Community

Eid Mubarak!

On behalf of Archbishop Mark Coleridge and the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Brisbane, I am delighted to send you a copy of the annual message for Eid-ul Fitr from the Catholic Church, this year for the first time, personally signed by Pope Francis.

The Pope addresses the Muslim community as “dear friends” and speaks about the importance of *Promoting Mutual Respect through Education*. He stresses the need to respect the dignity and rights of all people and acknowledges the pain and damage caused by assaults on individuals or on their places of worship. It is vital for peace and harmony in our world that we promote in our Christian and Muslim communities, and especially among our young people, respect for one another.

In Brisbane, we have already laid good foundations. Christian and Muslim leaders have met on a number of occasions and we have the opportunity to learn more about each other by participating in events such as the recent Iftar dinners. These help to build understanding and friendship. There are also many excellent examples of our young people building bridges as Catholic and Muslim schools visit one another and Muslim speakers are invited to address students in Catholic schools. These are wonderful initiatives which hopefully will continue to develop.

Archbishop Coleridge asks me to convey his personal greetings at this important time and wishes you and your community joy and peace as you celebrate with family and friends.

May God continue to bless you

Yours sincerely

Margaret Naylon

***Margaret Naylon
Executive Officer***