

## Special Briefing on the Muslim Open Letter to Christian Leaders:

### "A Common Word"

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**Thursday 6 December: 10.30 - 13.00**

*St Ethelburga's Centre for Reconciliation and Peace  
78, Bishopsgate, London EC2N 4AG  
Free of charge*

In October, 138 Muslim scholars, religious leaders and intellectuals issued a statement – "A Common Word" – declaring the common ground between Christianity and Islam. The message is addressed to leaders of the world's Christian churches and its signatories come from all major schools of thought in Islam.

In his initial response, the Bishop of London, the Rt Rev and Rt Hon Richard Chartres, said: *"The significance of this "open letter and call" should not be underestimated....This is a substantial letter which speaks of the unity of God from a Muslim perspective. It demands a substantial response which approaches the same theme from a Christian perspective."*

**Dr Chris Hewer**, the St Ethelburga Fellow in Christian-Muslim Relations, has offered to lead a briefing session for clergy and church workers, which will cover:

- The background to the statement, its status and signatories
- Reading the text and its context
- Implications and practical suggestions for relations between Christians and Muslims in London
- Discussion of possible lines to be developed in a response.

The full text and on-going responses to it can be downloaded from its dedicated web-site: <http://www.acommonword.com>

Places, which are limited, can be reserved at [events@stethelburgas.org](mailto:events@stethelburgas.org) or phone 020 7496 1610