

# Interfaith Week

## Sacred Spaces and Special Things

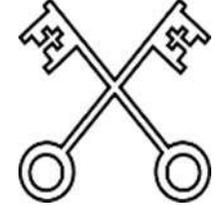
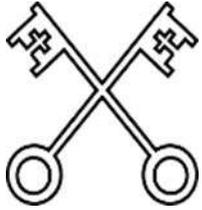
Teacher Prompt Sheet - Christianity and Islam

Name: ..... School: ..... Year: .....

A THING THAT IS SPECIAL TO ME IS - **toy, photo, book etc.**

A PLACE THAT IS SPECIAL TO ME IS - **park, playground, beach church etc.**

Sit in silence for two minutes and look around you.



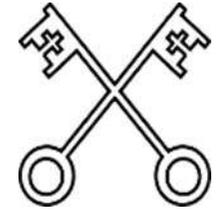
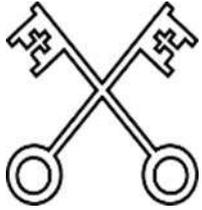
Most of the spaces, objects, windows, artwork and symbols in the Cathedral are special. They remind Christians of things, stories, beliefs, responsibilities, or special times. They make this space 'sacred'. This means it is different and more special than a place in the everyday world.

Other religions have sacred spaces too. Can you think of one? **mosque, synagogue, mandir, gurdwara, vihara**

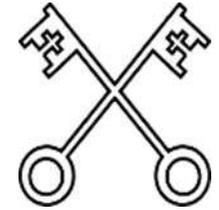
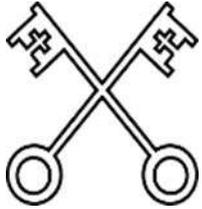
### EXPLORING A SACRED SPACE AND SPECIAL THINGS

Using your device, your task is to investigate this sacred space. Write down one fact (about each of the places that you explore) about the Cathedral or Christianity and one similar fact that you know about a mosque or Islam.

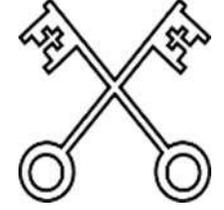
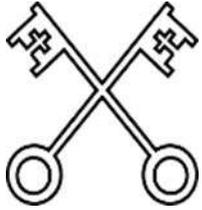
<b>Things to investigate</b> <b>Information about all of these may be found here on the <a href="#">Discover Bradford Cathedral Blog</a></b>	<b>A fact about the Cathedral or Christianity</b>	<b>A fact about a mosque or Islam</b>
<b>1. Call and response</b>  <b>The bells</b> <b>The bell tower</b>	There are twelve bells in the bell tower. They ring to tell people that worship is taking place in the Cathedral.	<b>Muslims worship in a mosque, a man calls people to pray at the mosque with the adhaan (azan).</b>  <b>A minaret is the tallest part of a mosque. From here, the muezzin makes the call to prayer.</b>



<p><b>2. Welcoming people</b></p> <p>The peace The font and baptism</p>		<p><b>Muslim greeting is Assalam Alaikum (peace be with you) and the response Walaikum Sallam (and also with you).</b></p> <p><b>To welcome a child the Adhan is whispered in their ear – usually by the parents; later Aqeeqa is often performed, head shaved (new beginning) and money or food, given to charity, giving thanks for the child – a sacrifice (Abraham and Ibrahim).</b></p>
<p><b>3. A place where people meet</b></p> <p>The nave Direction of worship Kneelers The organ and choir stalls</p>		<p><b>Masjid – place of prostration, also called a mosque, community of believers worship together. Obligatory for males on a Friday. Men and women worship separately.</b></p> <p><b>Originally Jerusalem – now Makkah (Mecca)</b></p> <p><b>Prayer mats, a clean and special place to pray.</b></p> <p><b>No music or singing in majority of mosques.</b></p>



<p><b>4. Special books</b></p> <p>The Bible The lectern Languages</p>		<p><b>The Qur'an, literal word of God when in Arabic.</b></p> <p><b>Always placed above the reader on a raised book rest usually – a rahal</b></p> <p><b>7<sup>th</sup> century Arabic the language of the Qur'an.</b></p>
<p><b>5. Special stories</b></p> <p>The windows The Bible (Old and New Testament) The pulpit</p>		<p><b>In Islam Jesus a prophet; Muhammad just a man, to be honoured as an example, but never worshipped.</b></p> <p><b>Although never depicted in Islam Mary (Mariam), Jesus (Isa), Moses (Musa), Abraham (Ibrahim) all mentioned in the Quran.</b></p> <p><b>Some mosques have beautiful stained glass, patterned windows.</b></p> <p><b>No images but calligraphy – key teachings from the Qur'an</b></p> <p><b>The minbar – pulpit in a mosque from which the Imam gives his sermon.</b></p>
<p><b>6. Signs and symbols</b></p> <p>The cross The ichthus The altar and communion Light</p>		<p><b>The crescent moon and star – a nomadic people in 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> century Arabia.</b></p> <p><b>The importance colour green – 'recite' - the revelation of the Qur'an on a green cloth, in Arabic on Mount Hira.</b></p> <p><b>"Recite (read) in the name of your Lord who created:</b></p>



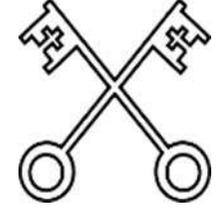
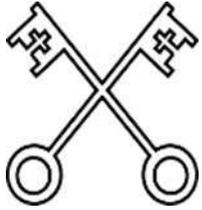
		<p>Created man from a clot:  Recite, and your Lord is the most Generous,–  Who taught by the pen–  Taught man that which he knew not." Surah 96.</p> <p><b>Qur'an Surah 24: 35 * The phrase "light upon light" (nurun 'ala nur) in this sura is often used among Muslims to denote the infinite beauty, guidance and light of God.</b></p> <p><b>Beautiful lights and lamps often a feature of traditional mosques.</b></p>
<p><b>7. Ideas about God</b></p> <p><b>One God</b>  <b>The Holy Trinity</b>  <b>Images</b></p>		<p><b>Allah – the God. Never born never dies</b>  <b>99 names for Allah that describe what Allah is like.</b>  <b>The beneficent, the merciful, the restorer, the all-powerful, the light, the one who guides, the creator, the forgiving etc.</b>  <b>Tasbih – prayer beads used to recite the names of Allah.</b></p>

**REFLECTION**

Reflect on what you have seen and done today.

1. Write down the most interesting thing you have discovered today

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2. On a big sheet of paper sketch your favourite thing from the trail today and one other thing from the Muslim religion (you can use the photographs or things, to help you).

*\*Allah is the Light of the heavens and the earth. The example of His light is like a niche within which is a lamp, the lamp is within glass, the glass as if it were a pearly [white] star lit from [the oil of] a blessed olive tree, neither of the east nor of the west, whose oil would almost glow even if untouched by fire. Light upon light. Allah guides to His light whom He wills. And Allah presents examples for the people, and Allah is Knowing of all things. Surah 24, verse 5.*