

# A Brief Introduction to the Religious Faiths and Spiritual Beliefs Included in *Expressions of Faith*

- ❖ ***Pronunciation Guide from the Student Resource*** / 16
  - ❖ ***Introduction*** / 17
    - A Note about the Intermediate Religious Education Program and This Resource / 17
  - ❖ ***Some Elements Common to Most Religious Faiths and Spiritual Beliefs*** / 18
    - The Golden Rule / 18
    - Attitudes Toward Social Justice / 18
  - ❖ ***Traditional Aboriginal Spirituality*** / 19
    - Introduction / 19
    - Impact of the Moravian and Roman Catholic Churches / 19
    - Traditional Aboriginal Spirituality / 20
    - Diversity of Beliefs / 21
    - Symbols and Rituals / 21
  - ❖ ***Judaism*** / 22
    - Introduction / 22
    - Sacred Writings / 22
    - Oral Law and the Talmud / 23
    - Central Beliefs and Teachings / 24
    - Values Promoted / 24
    - Diversity of Beliefs / 24
    - Worship and Practices / 24
    - Some Ceremonies and Rituals Related to the Life Cycle / 25
    - Holy Days and Festivals / 26
-

- 
- ❖ ***Hinduism*** / 27
    - Introduction / 27
    - Sacred Writings / 28
    - Central Beliefs and Teachings / 28
    - Values Promoted / 29
    - Diversity of Beliefs / 29
    - Stages of Life / 29
    - Worship and Practices / 29
    - Some Ceremonies and Rituals Related to the Life Cycle / 30
    - The Caste System in India / 31
    - Holy Days and Festivals / 31
  
  - ❖ ***Buddhism*** / 32
    - Introduction / 32
    - Siddhartha Gautama / 32
    - Development of Buddhism / 33
    - Sacred Writings / 33
    - Central Beliefs and Teachings / 34
    - Values Promoted / 35
    - Diversity of Beliefs / 35
    - Worship and Practices / 35
    - Some Ceremonies and Rituals Related to the Life Cycle / 35
    - Holy Days and Festivals / 36
  
  - ❖ ***Christianity*** / 37
    - Introduction / 37
    - Jesus the Christ / 37
    - Sacred Writings / 37
    - Central Beliefs and Teachings / 37
    - Values Promoted / 38
    - Diversity of Beliefs / 38
    - Worship and Practices / 39
    - Some Ceremonies and Rituals Related to the Life Cycle / 39
    - Holy Days and Festivals / 40
-

---

❖ ***Islam*** / 40

Introduction / 40

The Prophet Muhammad / 41

Sacred Writings / 41

Central Beliefs and Teachings / 42

Values Promoted / 42

Diversity of Beliefs / 43

Worship and Practices / 43

Some Ceremonies and Rituals Related to the Life Cycle / 44

Holy Days and Festivals / 44

---