



BREAKING FAST WITH YOUR MUSLIM NEIGHBOURS AT LIC

Friends & Neighbours were invited to join us for Iftar!

On Sunday the 21st of June in the Blessed Month of Ramadan Lewisham Islamic Centre hosted the Breaking of Fast for its non-Muslim neighbours at the Centre.

The Event started with a welcoming address by [Shakeel Begg](#) - Imam at [Lewisham Islamic Centre](#) - in which he spoke about the wisdom behind the legislation of Fasting. He mentioned that Allah Almighty stated that the wisdom behind fasting is to gain 'Taqwa' which can be translated as 'piety'. He went on to mention that part of 'piety' or 'Taqwa' is to benefit and improve society as The Messenger صلی اللہ علیہ وسلم stated: **"The best of humanity is the one who is the most beneficial towards humanity"**.

After Shakeel Begg had completed his address Father Charles Pickstone - from St Laurence Church on Bromley Road - spoke about the importance of faith and diversity. He spoke about the importance of people having a strong sense of identity and commented that religion gives people that - an identity which is given to us by God and not one given to us by society. He further reminded us that while people were very confident about their respective faiths in Lewisham, they still had good and strong relationships with other Communities in the London Borough of Lewisham.



We were also joined by local councillors John & Jaq Paschoud, Damien Egan, Stella Jeffrey and Peter Bernard as well as our friend, Gerald Rose from the Catford and Bromley Synagogue. Guests then heard the 'Adhan' - the Muslim call to prayer - and witnessed the Muslims breaking their fast and conducting the Maghrib prayer (which is the fourth prayer of the day). The evening was concluded with a light meal.

We would like to thank all those who came and joined us for what is the most blessed of Months in Islam.