

Barbara Butler
Living with Faith
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With the subtitle 'Journeys Towards Trust, Friendship and Justice' this could hardly be more topical and needed. Barbara Butler's accounts of a multitude of contacts with other faiths, both between groups and individuals, is immensely encouraging, and we all need encouragement in this area at this time. Her worldwide contacts are very impressive, and certainly opened my eyes to many areas that I could not have known. She deals with Living with Faith in the post-9/11 World, with Listening and Sharing, Wholeness and Holiness, Witnessing to Faith, Divisions, Suffering and Strife, and all this against the background of Only One World. It is cheering to find references to familiar names from our own community's background of friendships, including Br Nicholas Alan's present share in such contacts. We, in the Society of St Francis, have come from a setting which has contributed to the present dialogue.

There are two Appendices: the first deals with Building good relations with people of different faiths and beliefs, and the second is 'The 1993 Declaration Towards a Global Ethic'. The notes include details of many books for further reading, and then there are final sections on questions and resources, and a list of some useful organizations. Altogether this is a very useful book as well as one that can be inspiring.

The passage that has lingered in my mind, and that I would like to have printed in capitals or bold lettering, and therefore wish to repeat here is 'It is not easy for many people of faith, including Christians, to be good listeners because we are all so keen to share our own faith, and so used to talking about it, that we often miss the opportunity to learn and also to share.' If all the readers of this book can take this to heart there will be more hope for us all.

Gillian Clare OSC