

an opportunity
to explore
the meaning of life



A practical
introduction to the
Christian faith



Sponsored by:
St. Walter Catholic Church
130 W. Pine Street; Roselle, IL
60172
(630) 894-2461

We look forward to
seeing you at

Alpha

Our Initial Gathering

Wednesday, January 10
7:00— 9:00 PM
St. Walter Parish Center
140 W. Pine Street
Roselle

Christianity: Boring,
Untrue, Irrelevant?

by Rev. Nicky Gumbel

RSVP to alpha@vocations.com
would be helpful, but not
necessary, so that we can plan
appropriately for food.

If you choose to continue with
Alpha, the Winter 2007 Session
will continue on Wednesday
evenings through March 28.



What is Alpha?

Alpha is a 10-week course that presents some of the basic teachings of the Christian faith. Participants meet once a week, usually in the evening. Each meeting consists of a light meal followed by a talk on a subject central to the Christian faith.

Participants then meet in small, prearranged groups of 10-12 people to discuss the talk. The environment is friendly and non-threatening, and group members are free to ask or express whatever they wish. Alpha is a place where no question is seen as too simple or too hostile.

It is primarily for those who have little or no knowledge of the Christian faith, but it also is helpful for those who wish to explore their faith more deeply.

Who is Alpha for?

Alpha is for everyone! It is especially good for

- People interested in investigating Christianity
- Newcomers to the Church
- New Christians
- Christians who want to brush up on their faith

Alpha Program Details

The Winter 2007 Session for Alpha at St. Walter Parish will be held on Wednesday evenings, from January 10 through March 28, at 7:00 PM, in the Parish Center Chapel. For more information, please call JoAnne McElroy, at 630-894-2461 x265, or e-mail alpha@vocations.com.

What is the meaning of life?

What happens when we die?

What relevance does Jesus have for our lives?

How do we deal with guilt?

If you would like to explore questions like these, then Alpha is for you.



Alpha (the beginning letter of the Greek alphabet) is about beginnings. The *Alpha Course Program* is a way for you to begin exploring the deepest questions about life in a relaxed, informal atmosphere with others who are interested in the same questions.

The Human Questions

Why am I here? Does my life have meaning? Is there something more? These are



common questions most everyone asks at some point in their lives. These questions are not easily answered, and many people give up the search before coming to real answers to these important questions in life. If you want to discover the answers to these questions for yourself, you can give Alpha a try.

Why Jesus?

Many people are puzzled about Jesus - they wonder who he is, why he came, and why he died. They wonder why there is so



Photo by Philippe Antonello

much interest in a man who was born 2000 years ago. Are you one of those people? If you are, you may find the answers you're looking for in Alpha.

Real Problems / Tough Questions

Life is full of tough times—shaky employment, relationship struggles, kid troubles, and illness. No matter what you are facing, Alpha is the place to ask why—with the freedom to share or just sit back and listen.



Alpha at St. Walter Catholic Church

The Alpha Program was developed as a process of presenting basic Christianity. It is not a course on Catholic teachings, practice, or history. Everyone should feel invited and welcomed to attend! We have a committed core group of Catholic Christians willing to companion those who are a part of the Alpha program. So, while it is not specifically a Catholic program, the Alpha program will be presented at St. Walter Church in a way that is consistent with Catholic teachings.

Those who complete the Alpha program may be interested in further pursuing life as a Catholic in the RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults), which is a process of preparing adults for entrance into the Catholic faith life.

Others who complete the Alpha program who are already Catholic may choose to continue growing in their Catholic faith by joining a small Christian community at the parish, joining a Bible study group, or being a part of a follow-up adult faith formation at St. Walter Church.

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