

Irish Church Leaders on Alpha

Archbishop Diarmuid Martin - Catholic Archbishop of Dublin

"We believe that our diocese, our cities and towns, indeed our culture and especially our young people need to know Jesus Christ. I commend the **Alpha Course** as one pathway whereby people can come to a knowledge and understanding of Jesus Christ today."



Archbishop Michael Jackson - Church of Ireland Archbishop of Dublin



"The forthcoming **Alpha Courses** are something which will flourish, as together we focus on the priorities in our society where God is asking people to make courageous decisions and sustained commitments. I commend the forthcoming **Alpha Courses** with much hope and confidence."

What do Irish people have to say about Alpha?

"I really enjoyed the **Alpha Course** and got a lot out of it. I remember Nicky using the painting "The Light of the world" to illustrate Jesus knocking on a door and waiting. I realised He won't come in if not asked. I asked **Jesus to come into my life and He did**. The healing and Mass on the Holy Spirit Day with Fr. Ben was fantastic!"



Mick Moore, Sallynoggin



Tanya Casey,
Dun Laoghaire

"From 18 years old I found myself on a major destructive path of drink, bad relationships, depression and addictions. After a family tragedy 2 years ago I was very depressed. I surfed the internet and came across the Alpha website. I took a chance and went to one of the courses, to my surprise there were NORMAL people like me there. It was the best thing I ever did, I didn't feel judged or pressurised. There was laughter, tears, interesting discussions in a relaxed environment. I was a closet Christian and I found that doing the Alpha course was a catalyst for bringing my faith alive. "



ALPHA IRELAND

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Alpha Ireland Media Campaign

Sept. 2011

20+ churches, Catholic & Protestant running Alpha for their local communities

Christians uniting in prayer for their hurting community

Advertising in cinemas, radio and local media

Dublin South - Dun Laoghaire - N. Wicklow

What will this Media Campaign involve?

We are planning to launch an advertising campaign in Dublin South / Dun Laoghaire / N. Wicklow from **19th Sept—3rd Oct**. This Campaign will encourage people of all ages to attend one of the 20+ Alpha Courses running in Churches / Parishes starting in the first week of October 2011. Our aim is to encourage people to ask **“What is the meaning of life?”** and to find the answer through attending an Alpha Course.



Banner on Roundwood Catholic Church

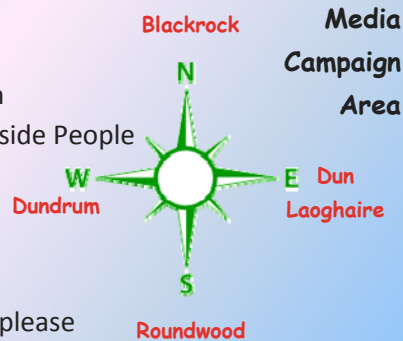
To fund this Campaign, each church is committing to a €1,000 by August, which will all be spent on advertising within the region. A 15 ft outdoor banner will be given to each participating church.

Advertising will include:

- Cinema ads – Dun Laoghaire, Dundrum & Stillorgan
- Local papers – Metro Herald, Wicklow Times, Southside People
- Local radio – East Coast Radio, Spirit Radio, South East Radio
- Billboards

If your church / parish would like to get involved please contact the Alpha Ireland office (details on back), or phone one of the three contacts below:

- Basil Good - 087 241 5605
- Susan O'Toole - 087 683 7520
- Paddy Monaghan - 087 238 2941



A one minute Alpha Ireland ad starring adventurer Bear Grylls showing in local Cinemas

View at: www.alphacourse.ie



Bear Grylls on Mount Snowdon, Wales

What is Expected of your Church/Parish?

- Register your Church/Parish for the Campaign by contacting the Alpha office - Tel: 01-2369821 / Email: alphairel@eircom.net
- Contribute €1,000 to Campaign by August.
- Run an Alpha Course from the first week of October
- Attend an Alpha Training Course
- Commit to prayer for the Alpha Course
- Recruit volunteers to distribute Alpha leaflets locally
- Encourage Church members to invite friends and neighbours
- Display the free 15ft Alpha Ireland Banner

Alpha Training

Training seminars will be held in:

- St Ann's Parish Hall (Shankill) - Wed 20th July 7.30pm
- St Matthias COI Hall (Killiney/Ballybrack) - Tues 16th Aug 7.30pm
- Crinken COI Hall (Shankill) - Sat 10th Sept 10—5pm

This will help empower your parish /church team to run Alpha in October. To book contact the Alpha office. We are also happy to visit your parish /church and train you in running an Alpha Course.



Alpha

I am new to Alpha, what is involved?

The exciting thing about launching Alpha is that it is easy to do! It is relaxed, non-threatening, low-key, friendly and fun. Alpha can help you grow in your faith and deepen your relationship with God. Participants meet weekly and listen to a talk lasting 20 minutes. After the DVD, you break into small groups to discuss the talk.

The topics covered during the 10 week course include:

- **Who is Jesus?**
- **Why did Jesus die?**
- **How does God guide us?**
- **Why and How do I pray?**

An Alpha Course can be hosted in a church, a hall, a home or even in a pub. Alpha can take place wherever people are comfortable.