

# What's next?



## What to do if you would like to attend Alpha:

For catering purposes, every guest is invited to register.

You may register online at [www.stjohns-burscough.org/alpha](http://www.stjohns-burscough.org/alpha) or by completing an **Alpha** Registration form. These will be available in the West End of St John's, Hoscscar and Crabtree. Please return completed forms to the appropriate boxes in each location.

Registration will be open from June 21<sup>st</sup>.

Due to space, numbers are limited and as the Tuesday evening venue caters for a maximum of 112 people, could we kindly ask those of you who are able to attend on the Thursday morning to register for that session.

Thank you for taking the time to read this invitation.

I hope to see you on the course.

In His Love

*Richard*

Vicar

# What's going on?



# Alpha

As you may know, the church will launch the Alpha course at St. Johns on 22<sup>nd</sup> September and conclude on 1<sup>st</sup> December (evenings) and on 24<sup>th</sup> September concluding on 3<sup>rd</sup> December (mornings).

This will coincide with the national launch of the course with advertisements on television, cinema, buses and the media.

Launched by a church in London nearly thirty years ago there are now over 34,000 **Alpha** courses running worldwide in 163 countries.

The course offers an opportunity to consider different aspects of Christianity in a relaxed and informal setting.

The **Alpha** course provides a wonderful opportunity to develop friendships and consider Christianity afresh through teaching and discussion.

# When's it happening?



Over 11 weeks (including one Saturday), the course offers an opportunity to consider different aspects of Christianity in a relaxed and informal setting. Each evening will begin at 7.45 pm with a supper followed by a live short talk which will then lead into a time for discussion in small groups. Each evening will finish at 9.45 pm.

Mornings will begin at 9.00 am with refreshments and, as for the evening, followed by a live talk and small group discussion. Each morning will finish at 10.50 am.

The subjects covered are:

	Evening	Morning	
<b>Week 1</b>	22.09.09	24.09.09	Is there more to life than this?
<b>Week 2</b>	29.09.09	01.10.09	Who is Jesus?
<b>Week 3</b>	06.10.09	08.10.09	Why did Jesus die?
<b>Week 4</b>	13.10.09	15.10.09	How can I be sure of my faith?
<b>Week 5</b>	20.10.09	22.10.09	Why and how should I read the Bible?
<b>Week 6</b>	27.10.09	29.10.09	Why and how do I pray?
<b>Week 7</b>	03.11.09	05.11.09	How does God guide us?
<b>Saturday</b>	07.11.09	07.11.09	Three sessions on the person and work of the Holy Spirit
<b>Week 8</b>	10.11.09	12.11.09	Why and how should I tell others?
<b>Week 9</b>	17.11.09	19.11.09	How can I resist evil?
<b>Week 10</b>	24.11.09	26.11.09	Does God heal today?
<b>Week 11</b>	01.12.09	03.12.09	What about the church?

# Who's it for?



We are running the first Alpha course for the church family so that we may consider our faith afresh, build community across the congregation and prepare the church to use Alpha as part of our outreach strategy in the future.

The course will run concurrently on Tuesday evenings and Thursday mornings so that we can accommodate a large number of people. As this is the first course, every member of the church will be invited to attend. We very much hope that you will be able to participate.

Housegroups have agreed to suspend for the duration of the Alpha course to encourage as many as possible to attend.

The **Alpha** Course is an exciting step forward for the church. It would be greatly appreciated if you could give your prayerful consideration of the request to attend. Please do not hesitate to contact Richard Jones if you would like further information.

The **Alpha** website is a great source of information:  
[www.alpha.org](http://www.alpha.org).