



In the Vatican: Alpha speaker Nicky Gumbel is presented to the Pope, who has called for a 'new evangelisation', at the end of a General Audience in the Papal Audience Chamber in February.

## NICKY GUMBEL MEETS POPE JOHN PAUL II


### HONG KONG STARTS 1<sup>ST</sup> ALPHA FOR CATHOLICS

Alpha speaker Nicky Gumbel was in the Vatican in February this year and met with Pope John Paul II.

In Hong Kong, John O'Dore tells us exciting news of the first Alpha Course for Catholics.

The first ever Alpha for Catholics course to be offered in Hong Kong ran from February and just finished in May. The course was run during the lunch hour on Mondays at the Catholic Centre in Central. By the Grace of God, the response was overwhelming with a full room of over 40 participants. According to John O'Dore, who helped in a team to run the course, "We thought maybe 20 would sign-up - in the end over 40 participated and completed the course - over 30 joined the week-end retreat as well. People are already asking when the next one will be held. A few participants are also planning to start another course in the Fall in their own Parish."

You may ask - "What is Alpha for Catholics?" Alpha for Catholics refers to the use of the Alpha course within the Catholic Church. It is the unchanged standard Alpha course. Alpha is compatible with Catholic teaching, but it does not present wholly Catholic issues. It assumes that follow-up teachings will be offered to Catholics and those wishing to become Catholic if they are not already.

The Catholic Church world-wide is embracing the Alpha Course as it is being run in Catholic Parishes in over 30 countries, including Japan and Singapore in Asia, and now Hong Kong! 



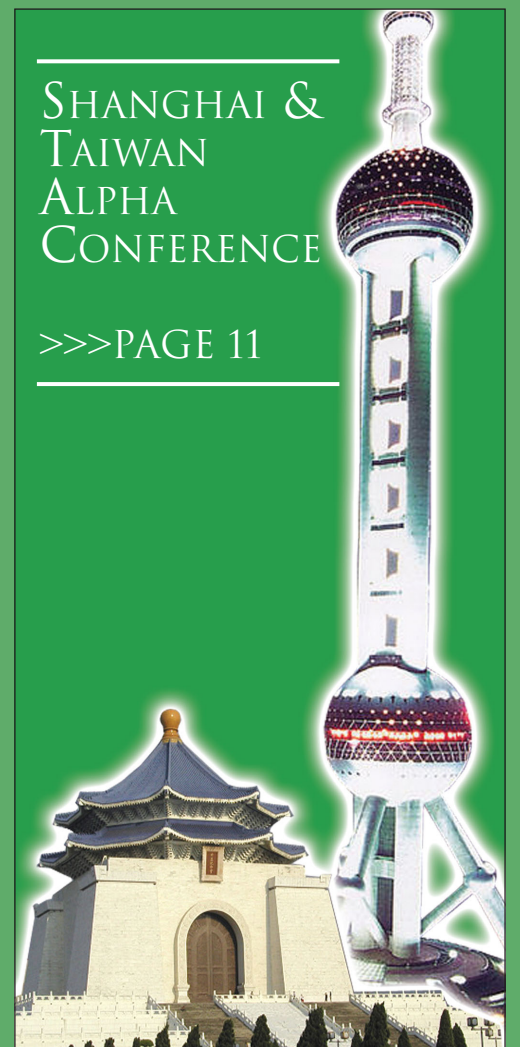
HONG KONG STUDENT LEADS ALPHA AT HARVARD

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SHANGHAI & TAIWAN ALPHA CONFERENCE

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梵蒂岡：2004年2月，啟發課程講員甘力克牧師 (Nicky Gumbel)，獲教宗若望保祿二世接見。教宗呼籲天主教徒重整福音普傳、革新佈道異象。

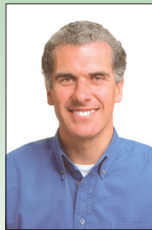
## 甘力克牧師拜會教宗 年初天主教首辦啟發

啟發課程講員甘力克牧師 (Nicky Gumbel) 於年初專程赴梵蒂岡，拜會教宗保祿二世。

本港第一屆天主教啟發，也在本年度二月至五月舉行。每週一的中午時間，位於中環的公教進行社都傳來陣陣飯香...啟發開始了！感謝主的恩典，每星期，40張椅子都座無虛席。根據這屆啟發聯絡人奧多 (John O'Dore) 指出：「我本以為只得20人來參加，但最後竟然超過40人 - 還幾乎全部每週出席！參加啟發營的也有30人。現在也有很多朋友問我下一屆在何時舉行、也有來賓打算在本年秋季在自己的教區中舉辦啟發。」

你或許會問：「啟發如何在天主教教區舉行呢？」形式其實與一般啟發課程無異，只是在天主教堂 / 教區裡進行。啟發的內容也保持不變，只是沒有涵蓋所有天主教的教義。所以，一般天主教會皆在啟發後，特為天主教教友及慕道友開辦跟進課程，提供更多資料。

現時，全球天主教教區也推崇啟發課程，30個國家的教區裡也開始採用 (亞洲國家包括日本、新加坡等，現在更加入了 - 香港！)



甘力克牧師在梵蒂岡回來之後分享：「教宗若望保祿二世積極推動全球的福音運動，今次能夠拜會他，我感到十分光榮。此外，有機會與全球多國的天主教會交流，使我獲益良多。」

此行還見過不同宗派的代表領袖，包括羅馬天主教會、浸信會、救世軍、五旬節會、路德會、循道衛理會等等。我們發現：那叫我們合一的，絕對比分隔我們的為大。

坎塔拉馬薩神父 (Fr. Raniero Cantalamessa) 指出，今天的爭戰與第一世紀的很相似。這爭戰與我們效忠的君王攸關 - 耶穌是普世的救主，或只是眾多神靈中的其中一位？

所以，當今的急務就是要團結合一，並向絕望、缺乏的世界宣告耶穌是王。」

上海、  
台灣  
啟發大會

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香港留學生  
帶領哈佛啟發

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