

# ST MARGARET'S PAGE

2ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - 14 January 2024 - Year B



*In Peter writes:*

Last week, the local theatre, Hampstead Theatre, was presenting a Tom Stoppard play entitled 'Rock and Roll', set within the Czech resistance movement from the 1968 invasion by Russian troops through Charter 77, the public declaration by 240 Czech intellectuals against the government's repression up to 1989, and up to the collapse of the Iron Curtain. Two figures loosely based on Vaclav Havel, intellectual and former President of Czechoslovakia, and Milan Kundera, a Czech intellectual, meet at Cambridge University (not sure this actually happened), the first to later join the cultural resistance and the second to remain a Communist party loyalist in the safety of Western Europe, all his life despite all the evidence contrary to the professed ideology.

Charter 77 became a cause-celebre in the West, and marked the high point of communist oppression. It began through the arrest and imprisonment of the members of the *Plastic People of the Universe*, a rock band created in the image of the Velvet Underground. To play music as one wished, despite everything else happening, became the focus of youth resistance to the communist regime. It was nostalgic to see so many vinyl records on stage, brought into the country at the time, and accounts of recording onto cassettes of the alternative music scene in the US: The Velvet Underground, Captain Beefheart and Syd Barrett, the sacked member of Pink Floyd, were never mainstream youth taste in the US or UK. But this was their culture of resistance, one of many in Czechoslovakia at the time.

One can legitimately wonder if the so-called cults surrounding contemporary pop-stars could form a culture beyond their own neediness and broken relationships. However, as I find it difficult to identify contemporary pop music, I am not the best person to judge! Cultural resistance is essential exercise to promote societal change. This was a favourite theme of Pope John Paul II, because fostering a culture of resistance strengthens the faith of individual, gives courage to maintain hope in the spiritual darkness and makes the bonds of charity with others more obvious. This form of cultural resistance kept the Catholic Church functioning despite the persistent efforts of the communist authorities. Elsewhere in northern Europe where the Church has made an accommodation with secular society, the congregations have all slipped away as there was no culture of resistance to sustain them.

Fostering a culture of resistance is badly needed today in our own society. Every week it seems as if one of our national institutions are found to be failing; the Post Office and its persecu-

tion of postmasters being just the latest example. What form does cultural resistance take, probably not for us listening to the *Plastic People of the Universe* or the *Velvet Underground*. To some the culture of resistance should take political shape, to others that it should set up walls against wider society to live in a group of like-minded alone. Neither, I would argue are the appropriate or indeed Christian answers.

The best place for the culture of resistance is the Church, because the Second Vatican Council spoke of the Church as being the way of humanity. The resistance is to 'save humanity' and it takes many forms. Its resistance is the strong alternative because the church is cellular, built up of local worshipping communities whose *raison d'être* is not opposition to secular society it believes in its own life. We believe in Jesus Christ, recognise His foundation of the Church, not because we are anti-secular, anti-woke etc, but because we can see that the true human path is found within the church.

This Sunday's Gospel is St John's account of the gathering of a nascent community. The community is built through word of mouth: Jesus invites the two disciples to 'Come and see', to participate in shared life. Jesus gathers his disciples to form a community, and gives them the mandate to gather other into the little group. There is no abstract Gospel message, no abstract ideas about love, sacrifice and forgiveness detached from the living community. To admire the teachings of Jesus might seem laudable but it is not the Christian faith. There is no ritual, domestic or cultural engagement with others, no co-ordinated rotas of liturgy or matrices of belief and conduct.

Throughout the play there are snatched conversations about the worth or futility of resistance, to the inverted sense of pride in a public protester signing declarations. Arguments went both ways, for and against. Change coalesced in Czechoslovakia in signing the declaration of 1977 about those young people who loved listening to music, played by those who just liked playing music. This is a great example that may be applied to the Church: The Church speaks about our humanity, our shared life, our way of prayer and ritual. I am not doing this because no-one else is, I am doing this because deep down it gives me comfort, makes me happy and both resonates with and forms my condition.

St Margaret of Scotland Catholic Church

• E-mail: [stmargaretsonthames@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:stmargaretsonthames@rcdow.org.uk) • Website: [www.stmargaretsrccchurch.co.uk](http://www.stmargaretsrccchurch.co.uk) • Phone - 020 8892 3902  
Parish Priest: Canon Peter Newby. Deacon Joseph Estorninho; Parish Administrator: Cynthia Souza; Bookkeeper: Ann Edes  
Office Hours: Monday to Friday (9.30 am - 12.30 pm) Emails are not checked out of office hours.

**Mass Intentions: 15/1 - 21/1**

13/01	Sat	10.00am	For the Holy Souls in Purgatory	
14/01	Sun	8.30am	Steve Mackenzie recently deceased	Vicky Phelan
		10.30am	Intentions of Anne Bailey	Margaret Crowe
		6.30 pm	Fara de Souza RIP	Barbara de Souza
15/01	Mon	10.00am	For you the people	
16/01	Tue	10.00am	Eucharistic Service	
17/01	Wed	10.00am	Mary Ryle RIP	Melanie Blackwood
18/01	Thu	10.00am	Eucharistic Service	
19/01	Fri	10.00am	Eucharistic Service	
20/01	Sat	10.00am	Harvey James Hemsley RIP Memorial Mass	Christina Hemsley
		6.00 pm	Regulo Bueno RIP	Nancy Morales
21/01	Sun	8.30am	Nita O'Brien RIP	Winter
		10.30am	Brendan Sugrue RIP anniversary	Catherine Sugrue
		6.30 pm	Intentions - Christopher & James Walker	Erica Walker

**Entrance Antiphon:**

All the earth shall bow down before you O God,  
And shall sing to you,  
shall sing to your name, O Most High!

**Response to the Psalm:**

Here I am, Lord! I come to do your will.

**Mass Times & Liturgical Services (15/1-21/1)**

<b>Weekend Mass</b>	Saturday	10.00 am & 6.00 pm
	Sunday	8.30 am, 10.30 am & 6.30 pm
<b>Weekday Mass</b>	Monday & Wednesday	10.00 am
<b>Eucharistic Service</b>	Tue, Thu & Fri	10.00 am
<b>Confessions</b>	Saturday	10:30-11:00am
	Sunday	10.00-10.20am

**PRAYERS FOR THE SICK**

Catherine Howard, John Forsyth, Rose Blackman, Ursula van der Westhuizen, Cathy McKendry, Rose Blackman, Rachel Rose, Arthur Mathewson, Pat Friel, Mary Regan, Pauline Slawson, Ben, Carol Samba, Colin Bartram, Gerry McEntee, Rose Williams, Peter Coughlan, Hilary Sudell, Rose Lorden, William Hamilton, Mary Arnold, Cesar Juan Urrutigoity, Mary Ethel Arnolda, Sydney Parkes, Christopher Browne, Antonella Sesta, Margaret Masterson, Carmen Ruibal, Chris McLoughlin (son of Olga), Tony Tucker, Dr Christopher Khoo, John Wood-Collins, Jim Poland, Theresa Bulpitt, Sue Rolph & Dick Cotter

**Anniversaries** - Reg Bearman, Cristina Plaza, Fr. Sidney Dommersen, Gamila Soussa, Helen Merola, Irena Starzecki, Annie Mary Deller, Patrick Humphrey, Maria Roche, Kitty Kerr, Gordon Thomson, Charles Wood-Collins, Maria Bird, Alice Palmer, Bernard Joseph Sharratt, Patrick Joseph Doyle, Eleanor Geary, Nigel Pratt, Margaret Tobback, Benedict Elliott, Patricia "Mary" Picton, Andrew Grant, Patricia Heavey, Thomas Dreelan, Rose Pollard, Nellie Proctor, Len Swinhoe, Agnes Shorter, Muriel Dommersen, Mgr Mark Langham

**Recently deceased** - Gerda Kerrigan RIP, Josephine (Jo) McKenna RIP, Peter Coghlan RIP, Regulo Bueno RIP

*Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. ~Amen~*

**January Prayer Intention**—For the gift of diversity in the Church : Let us pray that the Holy Spirit helps us recognise the gift of different charisms within the Christian community and to discover the richness of different ritual traditions in the heart of the Catholic Church.

**Thinking of becoming a Catholic**



The next course for those wishing to inquire about becoming a Catholic or who wishes an Adult be confirmed, begins in the middle of February, lasting till the middle of May. Meeting will take place on Monday evenings beginning on Monday, 12th February 2024.

**HOLY HOUR**

Holy Hour will resume on Friday 12<sup>th</sup> January from 8:00 pm -9:00 pm and all are welcome to attend. For those not able to attend we will be starting a book of intentions in which you are welcome to write your intentions. Those attending Adoration will present your intentions before the Blessed Sacrament.



**Peter Coghlan RIP:**

It is with sadness, we have to inform you that Peter died peacefully in Maryville Care Home on December 26th 2023. His funeral will take place in the Care Home on Monday January 22nd 2024 at 11.00 am. May he rest in peace.



2ND SUNDAY IN OT - 14 JAN 2024  
3RD SUNDAY IN OT - 21 JAN 2024

1 Samuel 3:3-10, 19  
Jonah 3:1-5, 10

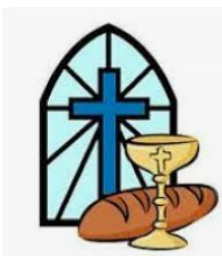
Psalm 39  
Psalm 24

1 Corinthians 6:13-15, 17-20  
1 Corinthians 7:29-31

John 1:35-42  
Mark 1:14-20

### Saturday 6.00 pm Mass

Saturday 6.00 pm Mass will resume on 20th January 2024 and will take place when the First Holy Communion children meet. The dates are - Jan - 20, 27, Feb - 3, 24, March - 2, 9, 16, April - 13, 20, 27, May 4.



### Donations to Parish Funds

If you would like to set up a standing order, please complete a form available on the website or from the parish office or you can do this yourself through online banking. The parish bank account is:

**Bank: HSBC**

**Account Name: WRCDT St Margarets on Thames**

**Sort Code: 40 05 20 Account No: 01094823**

For offertory giving, please use the bank reference: XOF your surname and initials

For donations to the building fund and refurbishment project, please use the bank reference: XBF your surname and initials

If you are a UK tax payer, please gift aid your donation which increases the amount the parish receives by 25% at no additional cost to you. Gift Aid forms are available from the parish office or on the website.

Thank you.

### Bereavement Café St Margaret of Scotland Church Hall

2.30 - 4.00pm on the 3rd Saturday of every month.

**Our next ones are** 20 Jan, 17 Feb, 16 Mar, 20 Apr, 18 May & 15 June 2024

Everyone experiences grief in a unique way. The Bereavement Cafe is a place to meet others who have had similar experiences to your own. It is somewhere you can speak freely and share stories with others coping with losing a loved one. All are welcome!

130 St Margaret's Road, Twickenham, TW1 1RL Tel: 07547 976953 or Email: [stmargaretsonthames@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:stmargaretsonthames@rcdow.org.uk) with any questions, Or just drop in on the day.



### New parishioners meeting online



Are you new to the parish and would like to find out more about what is going on?

Would you like to find out about how to be more involved?

Meet Fr Peter and some of the parish team on Zoom.

### Monday 29th January 2024 at 8 pm

Email the parish office for the invitation and link. [Stmargaretspmthames@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:Stmargaretspmthames@rcdow.org.uk)

### Epiphany Supper



Thank you to all those who generously contributed to the parish Epiphany supper. Particular thanks to the Lavelle, Furtado, Edes and Estorninho families who provided the main course and to everyone who contributed delicious side dishes and puddings. Thanks to Kathryn and her team of helpers for all their hard work that made the evening go smoothly. Donations for the supper totalled **£385** which will go towards paying off the loan (£80k) that is outstanding for the refurbishment works to the hall and basement.

### THE MUSTARD SEED

You are invited to join our Mustard Seed Prayer Group, whose next meeting is Saturday 27th Jan followed by 24th Feb, 23rd Mar, 20th April, 25th May, and 22nd June 2024.

Mustard Seed is a Charismatic group open to the gifts of the Holy Spirit. The group begins with tea & coffee at 7.45pm, followed by a period of praise and worship, time for quiet reflection and input from a guest speaker. There is also opportunity for individual prayer ministry, provided by the team.

The evening ends at 10pm.

Everyone is very welcome to come along to group, whether it's your first time or your twentieth!



**Little Feet Toddler group, Thursday's**  
**10.00 am - 12.00 pm**

We will meet now on Thursday **18th January 2024**. Everybody is welcome! If anyone is interested to volunteer, please contact the parish office.



**Women's Recollection**

Every 3rd Wednesday of the month, 10.00 am -12.30 pm. Next will be on Wednesday 17th January 2024.

There will be a mini retreat for Women. This is a chance to recollect and reflect as we head into the new Year. Included in this time will be mass, two meditations. Reconciliation available as well as Tea and Coffee and chat afterwards. All welcome including small children.



**REPAIR CAFE Twickenham**

Bring your broken stuff and come see us.

From 10.30 - 12.45  
3rd Saturday of each month at  
St Margarets Church Hall,  
TW1 1RL  
Twickenhamrepaircafe.org  
@Twickrepaircafe

**REPAIR CAFE Twickenham**

NEED A GOOD NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION?  
Embrace sustainability by coming to see us on:  
**SATURDAY 20TH**  
From 10.30 - 12.45  
and 3rd Saturday of each month at St Margarets Church Hall, TW11RL  
twickenhamrepaircafe.org @Twickrepaircafe

**Looking for a party venue?**



The light and airy church hall, kitchen and bar facilities, with access to the lovely outdoor space, are available for hire during the day and at weekends. £150 for a standard 4-hour booking for children's birthday parties. Some slots for regular weekday bookings are available - rates on application. Please contact the parish office: 020 8892 3902 or via email [stmargaretsonthames@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:stmargaretsonthames@rcdow.org.uk)

St Richard Reynolds Catholic College have the following vacancies available:



1. Subject Leader of DT
2. Teacher of Mathematics
3. Composer/Musician in Residence
4. Food Technician
5. Lab Technician (3 days a week)
6. Work Experience Administration Support (fixed term w/c 29th Jan - 30th June)

Should you wish to find out more information about the above vacancies, please view our website at the following link: <https://strichardreynolds.org.uk/whole-college/vacancies-2/>

For further information, please contact [recruitment@srrcc.org.uk](mailto:recruitment@srrcc.org.uk).

**Vocations Weekend for Women (20s & 30s)**

**Theme: Discerning God's Call in your life**

**Dates: 16-18 February 2024**

**Location: Liverpool**

The weekend is organised by the Sisters, Faithful Companions of Jesus (FCJ).

**Jesus invites each of us to 'Come and See' - this weekend will give the opportunity to explore the vocation to religious life and to reflect on God's call to you.**

If you are wondering if God is calling you to religious life and would like to find out more why not come along? You are welcome to stay for the weekend or just come along on Saturday for the day. There will be opportunity for prayer, reflection and input, chance to ask questions and to meet others who are also wondering where God is calling them.

For more information contact Sr Lynne fcJ at [fcjvocationeurope@gmail.com](mailto:fcjvocationeurope@gmail.com) or visit our website [www.fcjsisters.org](http://www.fcjsisters.org)

Sr Lynne fcJ

**FCJ Young Adult Network**

[www.fcjsisters.org](http://www.fcjsisters.org) / Blog: <http://fcjsisters.wordpress.com/>