

THE ORTHODOX EUCHARISTIC COMMUNITY IN SOUTH LONDON

Registered charity number 1105211

Address for contact: Birchenhoe, Crowfield, Brackley NN13 5TW

ANNUAL REPORT

for the calendar year 1 January 2021 to 31 December 2021

Trustees

In the year, the following persons served as Trustees of the Orthodox Eucharistic Community in South London (“**the Charity**”):

Very Reverend Archpriest Alexander Fostiropoulos (Chair)

Ms. Carol S. Graves

Mr. Alexis Martinowsky

Mr. Élie Heriard-Dubreuil

Ms. F.M.H. Rattray

Mr. R.A. Hookway

Mr. K.M.S. Alton Honeywell

The Charity does not act as a custodian trustee.

Structure and Administration

The Charity was established by a Trust Deed dated 20 June 2004 and its object is to advance the Orthodox Christian Faith, as defined in the Trust Deed. It does this through its support for the canonical Orthodox Parish of St. Peter and St. Paul, Clapham, London SW4 which is a Parish within the jurisdiction of the Ecumenical Patriarchate of Constantinople headed by His All-Holiness Bartholomew, Archbishop of Constantinople. The Parish is part of the Deanery in the Archdiocese of Thyateira and Great Britain, headed by His Eminence Archbishop Nikitas.

The Trust Deed permits a maximum of twelve trustees all of whom must be communicant members of the Orthodox Church.

New Trustees are appointed by the existing trustees when necessary or when a vacancy occurs. The Trustees hope that new, younger, Trustees will be appointed in the next few years.

Public Benefit

The Trustees have given careful consideration to the Charity Commissioners' advice and consider that the activities of the Charity are in the public benefit.

Vulnerable Beneficiaries

The Trustees have adopted formal policies for the protection of children and vulnerable beneficiaries, details of which are readily available to those attending the worship and activities of the Parish.

Review of the Year: Activities and Performance

Our parish is served by its rector, the Very Reverend Archpriest Alexander Fostiropoulos, and the non-stipendiary priests the Reverend Ian Page and the Reverend Stefan Strekopytov, and Deacon Stephen Ireland.

In 2021 we sought to continue to build on the work of previous years but have not yet been able to achieve our goal of offering weekly Liturgies as we are still sharing the facilities of St. Peter's Anglican Church in Clapham Manor Street. Securing a dedicated place of worship continues to be a very high priority as we are unlikely to be able to extend our opportunities for worship without such an arrangement. However, we are deeply grateful to the PCC and parishioners of St. Peter's Church for their hospitality. Indeed, we are looking to a longer-term agreement with St Peter's Church to enable us to stay there and have more services.

Until the outbreak of the Covid-19 pandemic which forced the closure of places of worship in March 2020, our services followed the same pattern as in previous years, with the Divine Liturgy on the second, fourth and fifth (when one occurs) Sunday of each month with the Vigil service on the previous evening. They are primarily conducted in English with some Church Slavonic and Greek. At the Liturgy, the Lord's Prayer is sung first in English, then Slavonic, Greek, Romanian, and sometimes French, reflecting the countries and backgrounds of most of our parishioners. When permitted by relaxations of the Covid-19 restrictions, we celebrated Vespereal Liturgies on the eve of the Great Feasts. In periods of lockdown, parishioners were able to follow services broadcast online by other Orthodox communities in the UK and elsewhere.

Normally, near the end of the Sunday Liturgy, after Holy Communion, we have classes for our children, run by parents under the guidance of Father Alexander. The children's ages range from toddlers up to early teens. The numbers taking part vary with holidays and half-terms but average some fifteen children. All these activities have had to be suspended during the pandemic but are now gradually being restored. Our adult members are nurtured in the Christian faith by the sermon during each Sunday Liturgy, the didactic nature of the liturgical services and by our well-stocked

bookstall, which in usual times is manned before and after the Sunday Liturgy by volunteers from the parish.

Despite the pandemic, pastoral work in the Parish was able to continue outside church services. Our priests continued the pastoral care of our parishioners by visiting them regularly, especially those who have had to move some distance away, are elderly, in ill-health, or incapacitated.

Our parish now cares for over 300 souls including almost 100 children and young people, and our Sunday Liturgy now has typically over 80 worshippers. In normal times, our main opportunity to get to know each other is our 'bring and share' lunch on Sunday. The Parish Advisory Council are continuing to look at ways of encouraging more people to work together in the service of the church.

We are especially grateful to Rebecca Vucetic and Margaret Haig for their dedicated and expert leadership of the singing during the celebration of the services.

Joyce Roberson has retired as Parish Warden after serving in that capacity from the beginning of the Parish in 2003. We are deeply grateful to her for everything she has done, and for the stability and faithfulness which she represented. May God richly reward her for her dedication!

Summer Camp and involvement in the local and wider community

In 2021 the annual summer camp for the parishes and communities of our Deanery had to be cancelled once again on account of the Covid-19 restrictions. The running of the camp is an important outreach to the younger people of the Parish, and it is now planned to run again in 2022.

Historically, in 2019 the annual summer camp for the parishes and communities of our Deanery was held, as it has been for many years, in South Wales. Several children and also helpers from our parish participated in the camp, which was run under the guidance and pastoral supervision of our parish rector. It is staffed entirely by volunteers and offers children 9-16 years old, almost all of them living in cities, the unique opportunity to experience 2 weeks of real tent camping in the countryside, where they can develop practical and leadership skills. No child is refused a place on account of their race, religion, or financial situation. Although the cost is kept minimal, bursaries are given to any child in financial need. The children attending the camp come from the whole of the U.K and in a few cases from abroad.

Our Parish is an active member of the Churches Together in Clapham (CTiC), a group of some 13 churches of different denominations in Clapham which continues to support and works with the following community-based projects:

The Hub, a safe place for vulnerable people.

Robes, an overnight shelter for the homeless.

A number of community groups including Alcoholics Anonymous (AA), Narcotics Anonymous (NA), Marijuana Anonymous (MA) and Co-Dependents Anonymous (CoDA), subject to the present restrictions, meet regularly at St. Peter's Church and the facilities used by these groups have recently been refurbished by our Parish.

The Parish also supports the work of the Ace of Clubs charity, a local Day Centre which helps homeless and vulnerable people by providing hot meals, showers, clothing, advice, and friendship, by organising money collections, especially at Christmas, and selling tickets to parishioners which they can give to homeless people to enable them to have a meal at the Ace of Clubs.

We collect food donated by parishioners after every Liturgy and the food is taken once a month by two parishioners to a local food bank. During the pandemic parishioners have been encouraged to make direct donations of money and in kind to the food bank and Ace of Clubs.

Members of our parish participate annually in the Clapham area service for the international World Day of Prayer.

The rector of the parish also works as a Chaplain in Higher Education, based at King's College, London and at the London School of Economics.

Financial support and place of worship

Our finances continue to be robust (see attached report), despite the lack of services during the pandemic. We are, however, still aware that we need to raise more money, by regular donations, preferably made under the Gift Aid scheme. Our long-term aspiration remains to have a dedicated place of worship whilst ideally continuing to pay for the services of a housed and dedicated full-time priest.

We would like to express our heartfelt gratitude to all who have been so generous in donating money to our parish and to the Priest-in-Charge, people, and PCC of St. Peter's Church for their hospitality.



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/
members of

The Orthodox Eucharistic Community in South London

On accounts for the year
ended

31 December 2021

Charity no
(if any)

1105211

Set out on pages

3 and 4

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended **31 / 12 / 2021**.

Responsibilities and
basis of report

As the charity's trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent
examiner's statement

~~The charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 and I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a qualified member of [insert name of applicable listed body]]. Delete [] if not applicable.~~

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination (other than that disclosed below *) which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

* Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.

Signed:

Date:

22 March 2022

Name:

PHILIPPE BELOT

Relevant professional qualification(s) or body (if any):

--

Address:

26 ENGLEWOOD ROAD
LONDON SW12 9NZ

Section B

Disclosure

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight material matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.

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Receipts and payments accounts

For the period from	01 Jan 21	To	31 Dec 21
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Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Service Collection	3,925		-	3,925	2,107
Service Collection through Gift Aid envelopes	2,985		-	2,985	2,405
Other Donation (other services)	1,485		-	1,485	2,910
Other Donation (Extra-ordinary, e.g. Chaplaincy)	20,000	359	-	20,359	20,375
Other Donation with Gift aid form / envelope	1,990		-	1,990	7,114
Standing Order with Gift Aid forms	16,400		-	16,400	17,480
Standing Order - Other	2,283		-	2,283	980
Bank interests	145		-	145	533
Gift Aid	7,243		-	7,243	7,988
Camp Fees			-	-	-
Books	471		-	471	99
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	56,927	359	-	57,286	61,990
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
Sunnyside		-	-	-	951,510
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	951,510
Total receipts	56,927	359	-	57,286	1,013,500
A3 Payments					
Pastoral Care	75,844	-	-	75,844	72,428
Running Expenses – Church	8,618	-	-	8,618	6,622
Running Expenses – Parish House		-	-	-	7,691
Venue	3,000	-	-	3,000	4,535
Books	100	-	-	100	160
Donation	600	-	-	600	200
Running Expenses - Camp	1,080	734	-	1,814	478
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	89,243	734	-	89,977	92,113
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
New Assets	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	89,243	734	-	89,977	92,113
Net of receipts/(payments)	- 32,315	- 375	-	- 32,690	921,387
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	1,055,647	375	-	1,056,022	134,636
Cash funds this year end	1,023,332	0	-	1,023,332	1,056,022

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	HSBC	80,009	-	-
	CAF Cash	832,923	-	-
	Virgin Money	109,021	-	-
	Paypal	1,380	-	-
	Total cash funds	1,023,332	-	-

	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-

	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B3 Investment assets			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use	Burial Place		-	-
	Set of Icons		-	-
	Oak Cross		-	-
	Icon Stands		-	-
	Liturgical Vestment		-	-
	Icon of Marie from Paris		-	-
	Various Camp equipment (BBQ,		-	-
			-	-

	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
B5 Liabilities			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval



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[illegible]

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			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

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		-	
		-	
		-	
		-	

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all
the trustees

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval