

CHARITY REGISTRATION NUMBER: 1111562

**St. George Indian Orthodox Church**  
**Receipts and payments accounts**  
**For the year ended**  
**31 March 2023**

**XAVIERS ACCOUNTANTS LIMITED**

Chartered Certified Accountants  
Suite 3J  
Recycling Lives Centre  
1A Essex Street  
Preston  
PR1 1QE

# **St. George Indian Orthodox Church**

## **Financial Statements**

**Year ended 31 March 2023**

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# **St. George Indian Orthodox Church**

## **Trustees' Annual Report**

**Year ended 31 March 2023**

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### **Vicar's Message**

Dearly Beloved in Christ,

I take this time as a good opportunity to thank all those people who have played their own important parts in Our Church Life during the past one year as I feel it is important for everyone to realise how much they are appreciated in whatever they do, separate to these remarks which are more of a reflection of where we have been and for us all to think about our future. Our Church members are actively involved in serving God by their kindness, prayer and love also by spending their time, talent, energy, experience and money, in such a way that should give us great confidence and encouragement for the future.

I also take this occasion to particularly thank Trustee, Secretary, Managing Committee Members and all the Spiritual Organization Leaders for your continued support and prayer.

Romans 15: 5-7: - "May the God of endurance and encouragement grant you to live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus, that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore welcome one another as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God."

May God Bless you all.

**Rev.Fr Eldo Parakkottil Varghese**

# St. George Indian Orthodox Church

## Trustees' Annual Report *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2023

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### Reference and administrative details

**Registered charity name** St. George Indian Orthodox Church

**Charity registration number** 1111562

**Principal office** Belgrave street  
Bolton  
BL1 3RF

### The trustees

Mr Biben John  
Mr George Verghese  
Mr Shaji Varghese  
Mr Roy Samuel

**Independent examiner** Mijos Xavier ACA FCCA  
Suite 3J  
Recycling Lives Centre  
1A Essex Street  
Preston  
PR1 1QE

# **St. George Indian Orthodox Church**

## **Trustees' Annual Report** *(continued)*

### **Year ended 31 March 2023**

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The trustees present their report and the unaudited financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2023.

#### **Structure, governance and management**

The trustees present their annual report and the receipts and payments account of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2023. We continued to meet the primary mission of the church, to meet the spiritual necessities of our community in the area. We continued pursuing our vision, notwithstanding the worldly challenges facing us, reflecting Faith, Hope and Charity at all times.

#### **Governing document**

The trust is an unincorporated trust, constituted under a constitution adopted on 24 April 2005 and is a registered charity, number 1111562. The trustees who served during the year and up to the date of this report are set out on page 2.

#### **Objectives of the Charity**

Charity's objective is to promote the Orthodox Christian faith. In setting our objectives, and planning our activities, we have given careful consideration to Charity Commission's guidelines on public benefit.

#### **Vicar**

Under the leadership and guidance of Rev. Fr. Eldo P Varghese., we were able to complete a full year with Qurbana being celebrated on all Sundays and all the Moronoyo Feasts.

#### **Holy Qurbana**

This is first Year where we were able to celebrate the Holy Qurbana's on all Sundays with every 4th Sunday of the month was celebrated in English to nurture our younger Generation. All the Moronoyo feasts were also celebrated during the liturgical calendar.

Prayers for birthdays, wedding anniversaries, sick and the departed were offered during the Qurbana's. Online form submission for members and worshippers to include prayer requests when unable to attend was continued.

#### **Acolytes**

On behalf of all the members of the Church, I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge the dedicated service rendered by all the church acolytes. I would also like to express gratitude to those Acolytes who visited our Church during feasts and special occasions.

#### **General Body**

Our Church is governed by the General Body directives in accordance with our Church Constitution. At the General Body meeting on 20th March 2022 election was conducted to elect the new committee and office bearers for the forthcoming financial year of 2022-23. The G.B. and election were presided over by Rev. Fr. Eldo Varghese. The following were elected as the new Managing Committee -

#### **Office Bearers**

- Trustee - Mr. Abraham Joseph
- Secretary - Mr. Suresh Daniel

# **St. George Indian Orthodox Church**

## **Trustees' Annual Report** *(continued)*

**Year ended 31 March 2023**

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### **Managing Committee are as follows:**

- Mr. Biben John
- Mr. George Thomas
- Mr. Roy Samuel
- Mr. Sajin Thomas
- Mr. Anil Thomas
- Mr. Jiji Kurien
- Mrs. Nisha Litto
- Mrs. Bindu Benoyi
- Mrs. Suby Varghese

- Internal Auditor: Mr. Litto Titus
- Diocesan Representatives: Mr. Toji Tharakan
- Malankara Association Representative: Mr. Daniel Varghese / Mr. Benoyi Mathew (1st May onwards)
- First Aid Officers - Mr Benoyi Mathew & Mrs. Shiji Biben
- Health & Safety Officer - Mr. Shibu Varghese.

In total, there were 3 General Body Meetings held along with an Interim Meeting to elect the Parish Diocesan Representative. The following were the dates GBM's held.

- Interim GB held on 1st May 2022 - Parish Diocesan Representative elected for the next 5 years.
- 1st AGM held on 10th July 2022 - Annual Accounts and Annual Reports for the financial year 2021-2022 was presented. The GB passed the Annual Accounts and Report and authorised it for submission to the Charity Commission.
- Half Yearly GB held on 9th Oct 2022 - Half Yearly accounts presented.
- AGM & Elections held on 12th Mar 2023 - Elections conducted for electing office bearers for the year 2023 -24.

### **Managing Committee Meetings**

There were a total of 6 Committee meetings held in the Financial year. The dates were as follows:

- 9th April 2022
- 16 April 2022
- 26th Jun 2022
- 2nd October 2022
- 8th January 2023
- 29th January 2023

### **IMPORTANT G.B. DECISIONS TAKEN IN THE FINANCIAL YEAR OF 2022-2023**

1. The GB proposed to increase Vicar's remuneration from July 2023.
2. The GB approved a Budget of £25,000 to £30,000 with a variation of 10% + or -, and authorised the committee to acquire the quotes, approve and proceed with the works for the Roof, Exhaust, fans, and redecorating.

# **St. George Indian Orthodox Church**

## **Trustees' Annual Report** *(continued)*

### **Year ended 31 March 2023**

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3. Alarm system and CCTV upgrade also was approved to install a new control panel in the Hall to give access to Cleaners.

4. The remuneration and travelling allowance of invited Clergy was also reviewed and approved.

5. The GB authorised the payment of monthly Salary via PAYE for all future vicars with any additional expenses the Church to bear.

### **Objectives and activities**

#### **Activities of the Charity - Special church events**

##### **The Great Lent**

The Great Lent started on 28th of Feb 2023. There were daily evening prayers Online from Sunday to Friday, and Saturdays the prayers were in the Church. The Prayers were led by Rev. Fr. Eldo Varghese.

##### **Great Lent Retreat**

Mid Lenten retreat was conducted on the 4th March 2023. The retreat was led by Rev. Fr. Jeelson P Wilson - General Secretary MGOCSM. The retreat was followed by Holy Confession and Evening prayers.

##### **Passion Week**

The Passion Week services commenced in the beginning of the financial year. We had the 40th Friday service, Hosanna, Pesaha Vyazhan (Maundy Thursday), The Good Friday, The Good Saturday and Easter services were led by our Vicar Fr. Eldo Varghese.

##### **St. George's Feast**

The Feast of the Patron saint was celebrated on the 7th & 8th May with Flag Hoisting, Devotional Speech and Evening Prayers on the 7th May and the Holy Qurbana and Perunal Sushroosha on the 8th of May followed by Nercha appam brought in by all the families of the Church.

##### **Pratheeshta Perunal**

The 6th Anniversary - Pratheeshta Perunal was celebrated on the 28th and 29th of May 2022, with prayers and devotional talk on the 28th of May and the Holy Qurbana on the 29th led by Rev Fr. Saji John.

##### **Pentecostal Feast**

The Pentecostal Feast was conducted on the 5th of June 2022 Led by our Vicar Rev. Fr. Eldo Varghese.

# **St. George Indian Orthodox Church**

## **Trustees' Annual Report** *(continued)*

**Year ended 31 March 2023**

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### **OVBS**

The OVBS was a spiritually enriching program with plenty of learning, fun and good fellowship and it was a positive experience for the children who attended and the Teachers who led. OVBS was held from 27th October 2022 to 31st October 2022. The theme of OVBS was "Jesus Heals" -St. Luke 4:40. We had 76 children, 15 teachers and 30 Volunteers.

This year we were blessed with the presence of our Vicar Rev. Fr. Eldo Varghese for the entirety of the event. On 28th of October as planned the day started with the registration and the inauguration ceremony which was commenced with the lighting of the lamp ceremony. Rev. Fr. Eldo Varghese gave us a theme-based speech and Mr Joshi Eapen taught us the prayer which kids all participated in actively. Following that day, they had a sing and praise session by the teachers. After that, they had their classroom activities, and of course the game session and the afternoon action song session which I believe the kids enjoyed.

On Day 3, Rev Fr Josen John joined as the Guest clergy and conducted the classes and also the confession for the older Kids. OVBS concluded on day 4 with English Qurbana celebrated by Rev. Fr. Josen John on Sunday.

### **St. Gregorious Feast (ParumalaThirumeni's Feast) & Harvest Festival (Adhiphalam)**

Harvest Festival was conducted on the 13th of November. This year part of the proceeding was donated to Charity and the other part is to be used for the maintenance of the Cross area towards the North of the church. We managed to raise £6,745.17.

### **Talent Competition**

The Annual Talent Competition was held on the 7th of May 2022 as a Live event in our Church after the Co-vid pandemic. This year was the commencement of Quiz programme as well.

### **Christmas Carol Visits**

This year our community was able to return to our live Carol visits to almost all of the members houses. The carol started from 26th November, The Visits were conducted over a 5-week period on weekends covering the various areas in and around Manchester from where our members hail from. The Carols completed on the 15th of December.

### **Christmas and New Year Services**

The Christmas Service was commemorated on the 24th of December and the New Year service was led by our Vicar Rev. Fr. Eldo Varghese. We were also able to conduct the Annual Christmas and New Year get together on the 7th of January in our Church Parish Hall. There were variety of performances by the different spiritual wings and individuals. Rev. Fr. Thomas Baby (Vicar of Tabore Marthoma Church, Manchester) was the Guest Speaker. There were varieties of programmes followed by dinner.



# **St. George Indian Orthodox Church**

## **Trustees' Annual Report** *(continued)*

**Year ended 31 March 2023**

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### **Food Festival**

Our Christian values teach us to help others in a time of need. Keeping this core value at heart, the MOMS wing conducted a Food Festival on the 5th of Feb 2023, where variety of food were sold, and funds raised for a charitable cause. We raised £2716.10 from food sales, which was divided into 2 and donated to the applicants for charity from India.

### **Other Church Events**

#### **Metropolitan's Visit -**

This financial year our parish was blessed with the visits by two Metropolitans, the outgoing Metropolitan H.G Mathews Mar Timothios celebrated the 8-day Lent Qurbana on 7th of September.

Our present Metropolitan H.G. Abraham Mar Stephanos led the evening prayers on 19th November and celebrated the Qurbana on the 20th of November 2023. The youth Charity hike collections were donated to the Manchester Childrens Hospital in the presence of our Metropolitan.

#### **Youth Charity hike (September 2022)**

The Sunday School and Youth came together to organise a charity hike in the Peak District, where we walked 10km to raise money for the Manchester Children's Hospital Charity. We were able to raise £2740 and were fortunate enough to present this with our Thirumeni to one of the members of the Children's Charity.

### **Financial Review**

The charity's principal funding source is from donations and from other activities.

#### **Reserve policy**

It is policy of the charity to maintain unrestricted funds at a level which equates to approximately six months unrestricted expenditure. This provides sufficient funds to cover management and administration and support costs.

The trustees' annual report was approved and signed on behalf of the board of trustees by:

**Mr George Verghese**  
Trustee

**Date: 15 October 2023**

# **St. George Indian Orthodox Church**

## **Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of St. George Indian Orthodox Church**

**Year ended 31 March 2023**

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I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of St. George Indian Orthodox Church ('the charity') for the year ended 31 March 2023.

### **Responsibilities and basis of report**

As the trustees of the charity, 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 the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

### **Independent examiner's statement**

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:


1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records.

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

**Mijos Xavier ACA FCCA  
Independent Examiner**

**Suite 3J  
Recycling Lives Centre  
1A Essex Street  
Preston  
PR1 1QE**

**Date: 22 October 2023**

	CHARITY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND AND WALES	ST. GEORGE INDIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH		1111562		CC16a
		Receipts and payments accounts				
		For the period from	Period start 01-Apr-22	To	Period end date 31-Mar-23	
Section A Receipts and payments						
	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total funds	Last year	
	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	
A1 Receipts						
Subscription-Current Year	31,695	-	-	31,695	24,310	
Subscription-Last Year	1,665	-	-	1,665	525	
Offertory	22,522	-	-	22,522	12,132	
Christmas Donation	3,316	-	-	3,316	335	
Diocese Day Collection	425	-	-	425	215	
Diocese Day Collection - Last Year	310	-	-	310	110	
Catholicate Day Collection	455	-	-	455	210	
Catholicate Day Collection - Last Year	380	-	-	380	110	
Food & Refreshments-Donations	14,920	-	-	14,920	10,175	
Food & Refreshments-Last year	300	-	-	300	-	
Birthday	1,950	-	-	1,950	1,875	
Wedding Day Offerings	730	-	-	730	530	
Passion Week Donation	470	-	-	470	325	
Marthamariyam Samajam	3,802	-	-	3,802	1,783	
OVBS	2,040	-	-	2,040	480	
Sunday School Receipt	930	-	-	930	1,060	
Other Donations	976	-	-	976	3,345	
Church Building Fund Donations	1,680	-	-	1,680	540	
Contribution For Church Accessories	400	-	-	400		
Gift Aid	16,074	-	-	16,074	7,600	
Harvest Festival	7,052	-	-	7,052	6,745	
Harvest Festival - Last year	295	-	-	295	65	
Interest Received	97	-	-	97	3	
Baptism	110	-	-	110	95	
Charity Donations	1,330	-	-	1,330	550	
Wedding Registrations	-	-	-	-	150	
Burial Plot Receipts	3,932	-	-	3,932	7,383	
Auction	-	-	-	-	21	
Emergency Family support Fund- Repayments	1,500	-	-	1,500	-	
Raffle ticket Receipts	3,313	-	-	3,313	-	
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	122,668	-	-	122,668	80,671	
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).						
	-	-	-	-		
	-	-	-	-	-	
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-	
Total receipts	122,668	-	-	122,668	80,671	

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total funds	Last year
	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £
<b>A3 Payments</b>					
Vicar's Salary	17,250	-	-	17,250	13,566
Payments to visiting clergies	2,775	-	-	2,775	1,046
Christmas Expenses	730	-	-	730	1,176
Diocese Contribution	650	-	-	650	900
Catholicate Day Donation Paid	650	-	-	650	650
Refreshments	24,109	-	-	24,109	10,575
Gifts & Presentation	-	-	-	-	2,193
Sacramental Expenses	3,200	-	-	3,200	614
Passion Week Expenses	470	-	-	470	62
Marthamariyam Samajam	1,085	-	-	1,085	763
OVBS	3,329	-	-	3,329	1,039
Sunday School Expenses	2,631	-	-	2,631	1,848
Miscellaneous Expenses	732	-	-	732	15
Water	340	-	-	340	306
Gas & Electricity	3,580	-	-	3,580	4,828
Insurance	953	-	-	953	860
Harvest Festival - Expenses	577	-	-	577	483
Printing, Stationery & Postage	553	-	-	553	405
Telephone	842	-	-	842	864
Repairs & Maintenance	2,668	-	-	2,668	674
Groceries	2,495	-	-	2,495	686
Seminari Day Contributions	250	-	-	250	250
Travelling Expenses	521	-	-	521	118
Bank Charges - Card Payment Fee	451	-	-	451	340
Mission Sunday Contribution	250	-	-	250	250
Fixtures & Fittings	2,976	-	-	2,976	2,457
Light & Sound System Expenses	818	-	-	818	354
Waste Collection	828	-	-	828	561
Accounting Charges	300	-	-	300	300
Rent	450	-	-	450	-
Video Conferencing Subscription					
Zoom	20	-	-	20	-
Incidental Expenses	217	-	-	217	36
Diocese Welfare Fund	250	-	-	250	
Construction Work-Landscape	-	-	-	-	25,003
Accommodation	105	-	-	105	230
Benevolent Fund	5,000	-	-	5,000	
Sports Club		-	-	-	
Bank Charges - HSBC	257	-	-	257	43
Alarm Monitoring & Service	1,237	-	-	1,237	492
Burial Plots	-	-	-	-	15,408
Charity	3,200	-	-	3,200	500
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>86,748</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>86,748</b>	<b>89,895</b>
<b>A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)</b>					
	-	-	-	-	
	-	-	-	-	
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Total payments</b>	<b>86,748</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>86,748</b>	<b>89,895</b>
<b>Net of receipts/(payments)</b>	<b>35,921</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>35,921</b>	<b>- 9,224</b>
<b>A5 Transfers between funds</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>A6 Cash funds last year end</b>	<b>61,749</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>61,749</b>	<b>70,973</b>
<b>Cash funds this year end</b>	<b>97,670</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>97,670</b>	<b>61,749</b>

## 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 £
<b>B1 Cash funds</b>	Cash in hand	138	-	-
	Cash at the Bank - Card Account	-	-	-
	Cash at the Bank - Current Account	74,695		
	Cash at the Bank - Building Fund & Family Support	22,838	-	-
	<b>Total cash funds</b>	<b>97,670</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	OK
		<b>Unrestricted funds to nearest £</b>	<b>Restricted funds to nearest £</b>	<b>Endowment funds to nearest £</b>
<b>B2 Other monetary assets</b>	Details			
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
<b>B3 Investment assets</b>	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
			-	-
			-	-
<b>B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use</b>	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
	Church building - Purchase cost	Unrestricted	90,224	-
	Church building - Construction	Unrestricted	246,553	-
	Church building - Professional fees	Unrestricted	11,883	
	Church building - Security & CCTV	Unrestricted	8,234	
	Church building - Electricals	Unrestricted	7,119	
	Church building - Landscape	Unrestricted	57,312	
	Church building - Decoration	Unrestricted	14,065	
	Church building - Accessories	Unrestricted	8,291	-
	Church building - Appliances & Furniture	Unrestricted	9,528	-
	Church building - Sound system	Unrestricted	9,232	-
	External hard disc. Camera, laptop	Unrestricted	3,803	-
<b>B5 Liabilities</b>	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
			-	
			-	
Signed by trustees on behalf of all the trustees	Signature	Print Name		Date of approval
		Mr George Verghese		15-Oct-23