

Report of the Trustees and
Unaudited Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2024
for
St. Thomas, Indian Orthodox Church, London

Thomas David Accountancy & Taxation
557 Filton Avenue
Bristol
BS7 0QH

St. Thomas, Indian Orthodox Church , London

Contents of the Financial Statements

for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

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St. Thomas, Indian Orthodox Church , London
Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

The trustees present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2024. The trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015).

Objectives and Aims

The main objective of the parish is to promote the Orthodox Christian Faith by maintaining place of regular worship and prayers and promoting service activities and charity for the benefit of the wider community and society.

Significant activities

Holy Qurbana & Divine Service: We had regular worship services on all Sundays and important feast days. Every Sunday, morning prayer started at 9.00 am and the Holy Eucharist at 10.00am. Holy Liturgy is celebrated in Malayalam on three Sundays, and in English on every fourth Sunday of the month. On average, close to 250 people attend the Holy Eucharist on Sunday and foster bonds over fellowship meal after the Qurbana.

General Body Meetings: Three General Body meetings were held during the year to deliberate on various matters and to take appropriate decisions. The managing committee of the parish also met periodically to plan and review the activities of the church and also provided recommendations to the General Body

St. Thomas' Sunday School: Our Sunday School has been functioning very well with 142 children attending various grades - from pre-school to grade 12. We have 39 main stream teachers and 14 associate teachers under the leadership of Head teacher (Mr. Sam Kurian) and the Deputy Head Teacher (Mr. Dony Philip). Classes are conducted immediately after the Holy Eucharist on all Sundays. Sunday school starts with a general assembly includes bible presentations, Malayalam teaching lessons, quiz competitions, song sessions and other traditional christian activities. Our Church hosted the Diocese Sunday School Teachers' Conference on 29 April 2023.

Other student activities: Our children actively participated in a number of events organised by the church. We successfully conducted the OVBS at our church on 8 & 9 July 2023. We conducted the Rededication of the children who turned 12. Our children conducted shoe box charity collection - a project run by the Samaritans Purse charity. They collected Christmas presents to be distributed for poor children in various parts of the world.

St. Thomas' Youth Fellowship: OCYM (Orthodox Christian Youth Movement) is led by Secretaries (Shilpa Sajjan and Sachin Roy) under the guidance of the Vicar. They have conducted different events and activities focussed on different age group. The team launched e-Nercha with QE code displays - an initiative to make digital payments in church easy and convenient. Our youth fellowship is an inevitable part of the church as they continued to pump energy in to the parish by boosting the involvement of the young generation in the church activities.

St. Thomas' Women's Fellowship: Along with organising weekly fellowship meals, and food for key occasions, the women of the church were the driving force behind the success of Manna Fest. The secretaries, Binu Shinoy and Dolly Thomas were ensuring the active participation of women in the liturgy by reading the Old Testament portions. They have joined in Friday evening prayer chains on WhatsApp and Wednesday online intercessory prayers.

Patron's Day (St. Thomas Day): Patrons' Day celebrations were held at the church on Saturday, 01 July and Sunday, 02 July 2023. We had Rasa, Intercessory prayers and fellowship meal on Sunday after the Divine Liturgy.

Harvest Festival: The Harvest Festival (Annual Thanksgiving) held on Sunday, 24 September 2023 continued on the success in 2022 with more families participating and contributing to the harvest collection.

St. Gregorios's Festival (Parumala Perunal): We celebrated the blessed feast of St. Gregorios of Parumala on Saturday and Sunday, 04 and 05 of November. A padayathra (prayerful procession on foot) from Cassiobury Park in Watford on Saturday afternoon to end in the church in the evening to finish with the evening prayers and fellowship meal was the main feature of this year's Perunal. We had Divine Liturgy followed by Rasa, intercessory prayers and nercha on Sunday.

Christmas Carol Service: Our Christmas Carol Service was held at JFK School hall at 6.00pm on Saturday, 16 December. The Carol service was arranged by our Sunday school children, Youth fellowship and church choir. The carol service ended with prayer followed by a fellowship meal.

Christmas Service: Our Christmas liturgy and Holy Eucharist were celebrated on Sunday 24 December. A Christmas Eve was celebrated at 6.00pm at our church followed by a Christmas Dinner.

New Year Service: Our parish had the celebration of Divine Liturgy on Monday 1 January 2023 to mark the New Year and the anniversary of declaring our church as a parish by late lamented H. G. Dr. Makarios. This is also celebrated as a day of prize distribution to our Sunday School children.

Family Gala: Family Gala cultural event was organised for the parish family on 18 February 2023 at JFK school hall, Hemel Hempstead with lot of entertainment programmes for families.

Greetings from the church: We have been sending greeting cards from our church on various occasions. Birthday cards, wedding anniversary cards and Christmas Greetings were sent to all members.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Reserves

The Church reserves are held to help its current and future activities including maintenance of the church building. The retained surplus of parish as on 31/03/2024 as £ 668,303 (£ 547,399 on 31/03/2023)

Recruitment and appointment of trustees

The vicar is appointed by the diocesan Bishop and his term will until further order from the Diocesan Bishop. The Secretary, Treasurer and other committee members are elected at the annual general body meeting of the charity.

St. Thomas' Indian Orthodox Church , London

Report of the Trustees

For the year ended 31st March 2024

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Name of Charity : St. Thomas' Indian Orthodox Church, London
Charity Registration Number : 1118820
Principal address : St. Agnells Lane,
Hemel Hempstead,
HP2 7AY

Trustees / Committee

The Trustees and Officers serving during the year and since the year end were as follows:

Rev. Fr. Anoop Malayil Abraham	: Vicar and President
Mr. Geevarghese Thomas	: Trustee
Mr. Varghese Koruthu	: Secretary
Mr. Ajay Sam	: Committee Member
Mr. Charls Raju	: Committee Member
Mr. Baboy Thampi	: Committee Member
Mr. Jijo Mathew	: Committee Member
Mrs. Alley John	: Committee Member
Mrs. Viji Syra Varghese	: Committee Member
Mr. Mathew Nebu	: Committee Member
Mr. Shiji Paul	: Committee Member
Mr. Roy Vaghese	: Committee Member
Mr. Cijine John	: Committee Member
Mr. Mathew Thomas	: Ex- Officio
Mr. Shelvin Kuriakose	: Ex- Officio

Independent Examiner

Thomas David Accountancy & Taxation Limited
557 Filton Avenue
Bristol
BS7 0QH

Approved by the Board of Trustees on 26/01/2025 and signed on it's behalf by:



Mr. Varghese Koruthu - Secretary

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of
St. Thomas' Indian Orthodox Church, London

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2023, which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Statement of Financial Position and the related notes.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year (under Section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act)) and that an independent examination is required.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under Section 145 of the 2011 Act
- to follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commission (under Section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act); and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of the independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statements below.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

- (1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that, in any material respect, the requirements
- to keep accounting records in accordance with Section 130 of the 2011 Act; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act

have not been met; or

- (2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Mr Thomas David FCCA
Thomas David Accountancy & Taxation Limited
557 Filton Avenue
Bristol
BS7 0QH

Date : 27/01/2025

St.Thomas' Indian Orthodox Church , London

Statement of Financial Activities

for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

				2024	2023
	Notes	Unrestricted funds	Restricted fund	Total funds	Total funds
		£	£	£	£
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM					
Donations and legacies	2	225,069	-	225,069	204,983
Investment Income	3	720	-	720	430
Total		225,789	-	225,789	205,413
EXPENDITURE ON					
Charitable activities					
Church Running Costs		(104,886)	-	(104,886)	(124,782)
Other		-	-	-	-
Total		(104,886)	-	(104,886)	(124,782)
NET INCOME		120,904	-	120,904	80,631

CONTINUING OPERATIONS*

All income and expenditure have arisen from continuing activities.

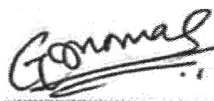
St.Thomas' Indian Orthodox Church , London

Balance Sheet

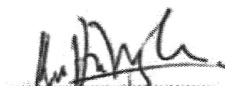
At 31 March 2024

	Notes	2024 Total funds £	2023 Total funds £
FIXED ASSETS			
Tangible assets	4	424,394	417,368
CURRENT ASSETS			
Debtors	5	94,800	69,674
Cash at bank and in hand	6	150,193	61,149
		244,993	130,823
CREDITORS			
Amounts falling due within one year	7	(1,084)	(792)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		243,909	130,031
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		668,303	547,399
LONG TERM LIABILITIES			
Bank Loans (Secured)		-	-
NET ASSETS		668,303	547,399
FUNDS	8		
Unrestricted funds		668,303	547,399
Designated		-	-
Restricted funds		-	-
TOTAL FUNDS		668,303	547,399

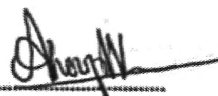
The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees on 26/01/2025 and were signed on its behalf by:



Mr. Geevarghese Thomas
(Treasurer)



Mr Varghese Koruthu
(Secretary)



Fr. Anoop Malayil Abraham
(Vicar and President)

St.Thomas' Indian Orthodox Church , London

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 31 March 2024

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, except for investments which are included at market value and the revaluation of certain fixed assets and in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), and the Charities Act 2011.

St Thomas Indian Orthodox Church, London meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy notes(s).

Incoming resources

All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once the charity has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

Resources expended

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure

Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost or valuation less depreciation and any provision for impairment. Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off the cost less estimated residual value of each asset over its estimated useful life.

Land & Building	:	Not provided (Trustees have carried out a full impairment review in accordance with FRS 102 and find out that the estimated residual value is not materially different from it's carrying value in the Balance Sheet)
Fixtures and fittings	:	15% on reducing balance basis

Change in Accounting Policies:

The fixed assets are depreciated as below

Freehold Land and building - Nil

Fixtures and fittings - 15% on reducing balance basis

Taxation

The charity is exempt from tax on its charitable activities.

Funds

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity.

Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes. Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

Trustees Remuneration and Expenses

There are no trustees remuneration paid during the year other than the salary and allowances paid to the vicar for the pastoral services

St.Thomas' Indian Orthodox Church , London

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued

for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

2. Income From Donations & Legacies

	Unrestricted Funds	2024	2023
	£	£	£
Donations Received	225,069	225,069	204,983

3. INVESTMENT INCOME

Bank Interest	-	55
Rental Income	720	375
Total	720	430

4. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Improvement Fund	Land & Building	Fixtures and fittings	Totals
	£	£	£	£
COST				
At 1 April 2023		653,834	54,973	708,807
Additions	5,020	-	3,124	8,144
Disposal		-	-	-
At 31 March 2023	<u>5,020</u>	<u>653,834</u>	<u>58,097</u>	<u>716,951</u>

DEPRECIATION

At 1 April 2023	240,798	50,641	291,439
Charge for the year	-	1,118	1,118
Eliminated on Disposal	-	-	-
At 31 March 2024	<u>240,798</u>	<u>51,759</u>	<u>292,557</u>

NET BOOK VALUE

At 31 March 2024	<u>5,020</u>	<u>413,036</u>	<u>6,338</u>	<u>424,394</u>
At 31 March 2023		<u>413,036</u>	<u>4,332</u>	<u>417,368</u>

St.Thomas' Indian Orthodox Church , London

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued

for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

5. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2024	2023
	£	£
Gift Aid Tax Receivable	94,800	69,674
	<u>94,800</u>	<u>69,674</u>

6. CASH AT BANK AND IN HAND

	General Fund	Restricted Fund	2024	2023
	£	£	£	£
Cash in Hand	5,124	-	5,124	-
Balance in Natwest Bank A/c Number 66075408	124,760	-	124,760	47,459
Balance In Natwest Bank A/c Number 66107881	20,310	-	20,310 #	13,690
Total	<u>150,193</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>150,193</u>	<u>61,149</u>

7. CREDITORS

Creditors & Accruals	1,084	792
Amounts falling due within one year	-	-
Total	<u>1,084</u>	<u>792</u>

8. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At	01.04.23	Net Movement In Funds	Transfers between Funds	At 31.03.24
	£	£	£	£	£
Funds					
Unrestricted Funds		547,399	120,904	-	668,303
Designated Funds		-	-	-	-
		<u>547,399</u>	<u>120,904</u>		<u>668,303</u>
TOTAL FUNDS		<u>547,399</u>	<u>120,904</u>		<u>668,303</u>

	Incoming Resources	Resources Expended	Movement in Funds
	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	225,789	104,886	120,904
Total	<u>225,789</u>	<u>104,886</u>	<u>120,904</u>

St. Thomas' Indian Orthodox Church , London

Detailed Statement of Financial Activities

for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

	2024	2023
	£	£
I. INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS		
Donations and legacies		
Subscriptions	43,935	31,902
Offertory	20,110	26,967
Birthday	5,238	5,384
Wedding Anniversary / Wedding	2,553	2,157
Women's Fellowship (Manna)	3,834	2,832
Youth Fellowship (Gala)	1,375	1,478
Youth Fellowship (Batminton)		332
Harvest Donation	23,940	26,611
Christmas / New Year Offering	2,389	2,436
Sunday School & OVBS	2,274	880
Fellowship Meal	31,998	30,973
Seminary & Mission Sunday	50	135
Donation - Holy Week	15,218	3,946
Donation - Property	2,319	2,109
Donation - Charity	2,920	-
Donation - Catholicate	470	295
Donation - Diocese	645	290
Payback from Diocese	1,730	-
Parumala Perunal	742	30
Gift Aid - HMRC	42,000	52,585
Sunday Auction	275	140
Perunal / St. Thomas Day	536	-
Emergency Expenses Payback		13,500
Baptism	1,000	-
Infrastructure Development	17,800	-
Kinder Garden - Sustainable Eco project	90	-
Malankara Sangam	1,630	-
Total Donations & Legacies (A)	225,069 #	204,983
<u>Investment Income</u>		
Bank Interest		55
Rental Income	720	375
Total Investment Income (B)	720	430
Total Incoming Resources	225,789 #	205,413

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements

St.Thomas' Indian Orthodox Church , London

Detailed Statement of Financial Activities

for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

	2024	2023
	£	£
II. EXPENDITURE		
Charitable Activities		
Catholicate	1,500	4,000
Diocesan Contribution	4,700	6,000
Mission Sunday & Seminary	-	700
Sunday School & OVBS	9,066	5,055
Diocese Expense	850	61
Youth Fellowship	1,098	3,997
Women Fellowship	1,143	-
Christmas Expenses	2,060	2,014
Holy Week Expenses	4,994	1,814
St. Thomas Day Expenses	621	859
Parumala Perunal	200	-
Charity General	3,108	-
Vicar Allowance	15,706	14,500
Vicar Pension	812	228
National Insurance	1,519	1,589
Vicar Telephone & Travel	250	1,500
Vicar Meals	70	875
Vicar Accomodation	3,127	4,521
Kaimuth	1,250	1,500
Visiting Priest	1,100	3,386
Barbecue Expenses	892	-
Office Stationary	1,188	619
Emergency Expense	-	13,465
Cultural Event	3,162	-
Fellowship Meal	21,370	30,805
Kinder Garden - Sustainable Eco project	474	-
Church Provisions	2,285	3,763
Property Utility -Electricity and Gas Charges	7,216	3,647
Property Utility -Water Charges	753	426
Property Utility -Waste Collection	1,322	1,167
Property Utility -Internet	582	486
Property Insurance	1,332	1,290
Property Maintenance	3,689	7,909
Carry Forward Expenditure	97,439 #	116,175

St.Thomas' Indian Orthodox Church , London

Detailed Statement of Financial Activities
for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

	2024	2023
	£	£
Brought Forward Expenditure	97,439	116,175
Repairs and Maintenance	762	1,769
Establishment Expenses	81	80
Church Cleaning	1,298	635
Property Cleaning	1,875	2,361
Accountancy	772	672
Bank Charges	1,540	1,286
Mortgage Interest	-	1,040
Depreciation	1,118	764
Total Resources expended	104,886	124,782
Net income	120,904	80,631