

**THE COMMUNITY OF THE HOLY MARTYR THE GRAND DUCHESS ELIZABETH**  
**KNOWN AS THE COMMUNITY OF ST ELIZABETH**  
**ANNUAL REPORT AND UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022**

**THE COMMUNITY OF THE HOLY MARTYR THE GRAND DUCHESS ELIZABETH  
KNOWN AS THE COMMUNITY OF ST ELIZABETH**

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**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022**

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**THE COMMUNITY OF THE HOLY MARTYR THE GRAND DUCHESS ELIZABETH  
KNOWN AS THE COMMUNITY OF ST ELIZABETH**

**COMMUNITY INFORMATION**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022**

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<b>Address</b>	Rocks Farm Ewhurst Green Robertsbridge East Sussex TN32 5RJ
<b>Trustees</b>	The Very Reverend Archpriest Maxim Nikolsky Nun Martha (secular name: Olga Persianinova) Kateryna Cherkas (Treasurer and Administrator)
<b>Charity Number</b>	1121760
<b>Treasurer</b>	Kateryna Cherkas
<b>Bankers</b>	Lloyds 82 High Street Honiton Devon EX14 1JJ
<b>Independent Examiner</b>	John Caladine FCCA CTA FCIE Caladine Limited Chartered Certified Accountants Chantry House 22 Upperton Road Eastbourne BN21 1BF

# THE COMMUNITY OF THE HOLY MARTYR THE GRAND DUCHESS ELIZABETH KNOWN AS THE COMMUNITY OF ST ELIZABETH

## TRUSTEES REPORT

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

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The Trustees have pleasure in presenting their Report and the annual financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2022.

#### 1 Objects and Constitution

The Trust is governed by a Trust Deed dated 4 July 2007 and registered with the Charity Commission No. 1121760. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Trust Deed, the accounting policies set out on page 8 and applicable law.

The Trust continues its objective to advance the Orthodox Christian faith, in particular by the formation of a monastic community, or more than one such community and to provide for members of the Orthodox Church and others a place of prayer and worship and hospitality.

#### 2 Public benefit

The Trustees consider that the objectives as described above and activities listed below fulfill the requirements of the Charity Commission's public benefit disclosure.

#### 3 Organisation

Trustees were in contact regularly during the year to oversee the work of the trust.

- Archpriest Maxim Nikolsky
- Nun Martha (secular name: Olga Persianinova)
- Kateryna Cherkas

#### 4 Review of Activities

##### *(a) Monastic and Liturgical Life*

Mother Martha lives in the Sisterhood full time and follows her monastic rule. The services without a priest are held from 6am to 8.30am and from 5pm until 7pm Monday to Friday; between 7am to 9am and 6pm to 8pm on Saturday.

The services are conducted predominantly in English and Church Slavonic.

Over 100 people are fairly regular visitors to the Sisterhood.

During Covid-19 pandemic the access to the Sisterhood was restricted as per the requirements of the Government.

When it was allowed, after services the Sisterhood organises charity lunches for all visitors.

##### *(b) Spiritual Activities and missionary work*

- **Web site and Facebook page** provide information regarding the calendar of events and services, reviews of the Orthodox web sites in English, information on pilgrimages to British and Irish Holy places.

# THE COMMUNITY OF THE HOLY MARTYR THE GRAND DUCHESS ELIZABETH KNOWN AS THE COMMUNITY OF ST ELIZABETH

## TRUSTEES REPORT (CONTINUED)

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

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#### 4 Review of Activities (continued)

- **Books.** We offer books in English and in Russian. Although the turnover is very small, we consider it necessary to continue it being one of the ways of educating our parishioners and giving them opportunity to learn more about Orthodoxy, its services and its saints.
- **Library.** Our parishioners use our library which includes books on Orthodoxy, lives of British and Russian Saints, Orthodox magazines in English and Russian, service books, DVDs etc.
- **Psalter.** Psalter is read daily, during the prayers sick and those in need are remembered.
- **Church choir.** Chanting is an important part of the Orthodox service and, therefore, the choir plays a major role in church services. Our choir mistress holds choir practices at least twice a week. In addition she provides one-to-one lessons for singers who need them.

#### *(c) Missionary Outlook*

The Sisterhood has a missionary outlook.

Many people attending services have rather little experience of regular church life.

We organise and take part in the pilgrimages to the places connected with early Christian British and Irish saints and encourage our parishioners to learn more about early Christian tradition and saints who lived on the British Isles.

In 2022, nun Martha organised pilgrimages to the holy places in the UK and she does extensive work on promoting their lives and educating parishioners of the Sisterhood on the history of pre-norman England.

Our priests, nun and readers are ready to help people who require information about Orthodox teaching and practice.

The Sisterhood continues to have good relations with the local Anglican priest and parishioners.

The Sisterhood plays an important role in supporting and developing the local Orthodox community in Kent and East Sussex.

#### *(d) Receiving Pilgrims*

The Community welcomes pilgrims and helpers, many have contributed to voluntary work in the garden and helping with the church decoration, cooking, cleaning and other duties.

# THE COMMUNITY OF THE HOLY MARTYR THE GRAND DUCHESS ELIZABETH KNOWN AS THE COMMUNITY OF ST ELIZABETH

## TRUSTEES REPORT (CONTINUED)

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

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#### 4 Review of Activities (continued)

*(e) Stewardship of the land and property.*

##### **The Land and agricultural work.**

The Sisterhood, with the help of pilgrims and helpers, continue growing vegetables; these are housed in the autumn and winter in the cellar built by the Sisterhood. It is very important for the Sisterhood to grow vegetables as they are used for community meals after services.

The Sisters look well after the orchards.

The fields too are well looked after.

##### **The Property.**

The property is kept in good order and minor repairs were made in the rooms for pilgrims and sisters.

##### **The Garden.**

The garden that is around the property is also well looked after

#### 5 Financial Review and Reserves Policy

The Community had a deficit on General Fund for the year of £2,160 (2021: £2,748). The Community seeks to retain reserves when possible but not to the detriment of the work of the Community.

#### 6 Risk Management

The Trustees have examined the major strategic business and operation risks which the Trust faces and confirm that systems have been established to enable regular reports to be produced so that the necessary steps can be taken to lessen these risks.

Rocks Farm  
Ewhurst Green  
Robertsbridge  
East Sussex  
TN32 5RJ

On behalf of the Trustees



**Kateryna Cherkas**  
Trustee

Date: 2 January 2024

**THE COMMUNITY OF THE HOLY MARTYR THE GRAND DUCHESS ELIZABETH  
KNOWN AS THE COMMUNITY OF ST ELIZABETH**

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE COMMUNITY OF  
THE HOLY MARTYR THE GRAND DUCHESS ELIZABETH**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022**

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I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of The Community Of The Holy Martyr The Grand Duchess Elizabeth. ('the Charity') for the year ended 31 December 2022, which are set out on pages 6 to 8.

**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').

**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 this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



**JOHN CALADINE FCCA CTA FCIE**

Caladine Limited  
Chartered Certified Accountants  
Chantry House, 22 Upperton Road  
Eastbourne, BN21 1BF

Date: 2 January 2024

**THE COMMUNITY OF THE HOLY MARTYR THE GRAND DUCHESS ELIZABETH  
KNOWN AS THE COMMUNITY OF ST ELIZABETH**

**RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022**

	<b>2022</b>		<b>2021</b>	
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<b>Receipts</b>				
Gifts and donations	34,251		29,040	
Gift Aid recovered	-		-	
Other income	-		-	
<b>Total receipts</b>		<b>34,251</b>		<b>29,040</b>
<b>Payments</b>				
Motor and travel expenses	3,427		3,544	
Household costs	15,108		14,513	
Building costs	7,133		2,455	
Garden costs	256		350	
Mobile and landline telephone	1,674		1,585	
Church consumables	-		3,668	
Stationery and postage	71		227	
Expense allowance	3,000		3,000	
Bank charges	151		17	
Accountancy	180		261	
Council tax	2,456		1,032	
Donations and gifts	350		495	
Miscellaneous	2,605		642	
		(36,411)		(31,788)
<b>Total payments</b>		<b>(36,411)</b>		<b>(31,788)</b>
<b>Net receipts / (payments) in the year</b>		<b>(2,160)</b>		<b>(2,748)</b>
Cash funds at start of year		3,454		6,202
<b>Cash funds at year end</b>		<b>1,294</b>		<b>3,454</b>

**There are no restricted funds.**



**THE COMMUNITY OF THE HOLY MARTYR THE GRAND DUCHESS ELIZABETH  
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**STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022**

	<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<b>Cash funds</b>		
Bank Balance in Current Account	908	137
Bank Balance in Building Works Account	109	133
Bank Balance in Account No. 2003155	106	2,905
Bank Balance in Business Instant Access Account	171	271
Petty cash balance	-	7
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	1,294	3,454
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<b>Liabilities</b>		
Accountancy	840	1,623
	<hr/>	<hr/>
<b>Freehold Property</b>		
See note 2	-	-
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Approved by the Trustees on 2 January 2024 and signed on its behalf by



**Trustee**  
Kateryna Cherkas