



Registered Charity No 1136866

## **ANNUAL REPORT & ACCOUNTS 2021-22**

**A Parish of the Mar Thoma Syrian Church of UK & Europe Zone**

**Member of the Churches Together in England**

**Member of the Churches Together in Britain & Ireland**

**A Registered parish Church with the Diocese of London, Church of England,**

**Willesden Diocesan Number: 2402A**

**Registered Office:**

15 Hampden Road  
Harrow, HA3 5PP

**Worshipping at:**

All Saints' Harrow Weald  
Middlesex, HA3 6DQ

**Telephone:** 020 3674 9964 / 07976 781890

[www.sinaimarthomachurch.org.uk](http://www.sinaimarthomachurch.org.uk)

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## NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL BODY MEETING

**To all the members of the Sinai Mar Thoma Church North London.**

Notice is hereby given that the 12<sup>th</sup> Annual General Body Meeting of Sinai Mar Thoma Church North London will be held on Sunday, 11<sup>th</sup> September 2022 at 1:30 PM at All Saints Church, 90 Uxbridge Road, Harrow Weald HA3 6DQ.

### **AGENDA**

1. To receive and adopt the Annual Report for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2022.
2. To receive and adopt the Accounts for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2022.
3. To approve the Budget for the year 2022-23
4. Election for the following positions in Executive Committee:
  - Sevika Sangam Representative
  - Area Representative for Harrow and Slough Area
5. Approval for Capital expenditure: Car and Laptop.
6. Any other business (AOB) with the permission of the Chair.
7. Confirmation and adoption of the Minutes
8. Closing Prayer & Benediction.

Your prayers, presence and participation are earnestly solicited.

For and on behalf of the Managing Committee.

**Daniel Papachan**  
**Hon. Secretary**

28 August 2022

**Please note the following in relation to the above:**

- Any questions or clarifications on the annual report or accounts or budget that will require reference to the records should be notified in writing to the Vicar and Secretary before 5pm on 8<sup>th</sup> September 2022
- If any member intends to raise any matter under AOB please notify the Vicar in writing before 5pm on 8<sup>th</sup> September 2022

## Annual Report for year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2022

### **Introduction**

We have almost come to the fag-end of the Corona pandemic episode and we may be able to say that we are now in the “post-Covid” world. The world community has faced an unimaginable economic disruption and an unprecedented threat to human life and human psyche. Mental health also is of great concern. For the Sinai parish family also, it was a challenging time, when we were not able to gather together for worship or fellowship for the major part of the year. Most of the year we have conducted our worship services online Vmix program. Our prayer meetings and other fellowship meetings were held on Zoom platform.

As a faith community we have suffered a lot of setbacks and probably a huge loss as the Covid cases were on the rise so that we could not come together for worship in person. We were all gripped under fear or trauma of great proportion. Neither the leaders of our nations or the scientific community were able to provide us with any answers or solutions. We could not begin our service due to Covid-restrictions and protocols prescribed by the Government till September 2021.

During this pandemic, a lot of our members, who work in the medical field, were in the forefront to fight the pandemic, including Nurses, Doctors, Technicians and other Paramedical staff. We are thankful to God for them and for their sacrificial work. We also are proud of their services to this nation and the humanity as NHS played a key role in fighting the virus and also vaccinating the population in a systematic manner to avoid any further spread.

Many of our members were affected by the virus at various levels, but none of them were fatal. We thank God for protecting us and our families during this very difficult and traumatic time. We praise God for giving us healing and strength throughout this year. With much gratitude to God for all the blessings showered upon the Sinai Mar Thoma Church North London, the Executive Committee presents the Annual Report for the year 2021-22.

### **Church History & Present**

We are St Thomas Christians and where do we come from? The Mar Thoma Church traces her origin to the missionary work of St Thomas the Apostle, who came to India in AD 52. We are called Saint Thomas Christians or Mar Thoma Christians. The Mar Thoma Syrian Church of Malabar is at present blessed by the able leadership of 9 Bishops and is headed by the Most Rev. Dr Theodosius Mar Thoma Metropolitan. The Church is served by 1176 Clergy through 13 dioceses. The headquarters is located at SCS Campus, Thiruvalla, Kerala, India. Sinai Mar Thoma Church comes under UK and Europe Zone which falls within the Diocese of North America and Europe Diocese and the Rt Rev Dr Isaac Mar Philoxenos Episcopa is the Diocesan Bishop.

In the UK, the Mar Thoma community began their worship in 1957. Sinai Mar Thoma Church came into being on 15<sup>th</sup> April 2010 and the Most Rev. Dr Joseph Mar Thoma conducted a thanksgiving and dedication service on 18<sup>th</sup> April 2010. Sinai Mar Thoma Church North London (Sinai MTC) is a registered charity in United Kingdom (Charity Reg. No. 1136866) with its registered office at 15 Hampden Road, Harrow, HA3 5PP, UK. The Church of England (COE) considers Sinai MTC as a part of its institution and the Church of England, Willesden Diocesan number for Sinai MTC is 2402A. We

appreciate the fellowship and support given by the Diocese of London and the newly appointed Bishop of Willesden, the Rt Rev Lusa Nsenga-Ngoy.

We gather for worship at the All Saints Church at Harrow Weald. We appreciate the partnership with the All Saints community, especially for the collegiality and support of the Vicar Rev. John Barker, the Church Wardens and the office staff.

### **Demise of the Valiya Metropolitan Dr Chrysostom Mar Thoma**

The Most Rev. Dr Chrysostom Mar Thoma was called to eternal rest on 5<sup>th</sup> May 2021 at the age of 103 years. His Grace was buried at SCS Thiruvalla. Dr Philipose Mar Chrysostom Mar Thoma Metropolitan has succeeded Dr Alexander Mar Thoma as the XXth Mar Thoma. His Grace was consecrated as a Bishop in 1953 and elevated as the Metropolitan in 1999. Chrysostom Mar Thoma was world's longest serving Bishop, serving for 67 years. The Republic of India awarded one of the highest civilian awards, *Padma Bhushan*, for service to society in 2018. Sinai joined the Funeral service by offering floral tributes to our Beloved Metropolitan.

### **Office Bearers**

Rev Dr P G George	Vicar/President
Mr Abraham Mathews	Vice President (Resigned during the term)
Mr. Daniel Papachan	Hon. Secretary
Mr. Abraham Jacob	Trustee Finance
Mr. Thomas Alexander	Trustee Accounts

### **Executive Committee Members**

Mr. Sajimon Samuel	Lay Ministrant (Malayalam)
Mr. Cherian Mathew	Lay Ministrant (English)
Dr Jacob Kurien	Assembly Member
Dr Zac Varghese	Mandalam Member
Mr. Alex Philip	Edavaka Mission Representative
Mrs. Mary George	Sevika Sangham Representative
Mr. Nathan Cherian Mathew	Youth Representative
Mrs. Diana Agnelo Fernandes	Sunday School Representative
Ms. Tanya Abraham	Choir Representative
Mrs. Valsa Kurien	Barnet – Area Prayer Group Representative
Mr. Alex Kalakkudiyil Oommen	Harrow & Slough – Area Prayer Group Representative
Mr. Leon Thomas	Watford – Area Prayer Group Representative
Mr. Sam Varghese	Northampton & Milton Keynes – Area Prayer Group Representative

### **Non-Executive Committee Members**

Mr Justin James	Young Couples Fellowship
Mr. Abraham Mathews	Senior Citizens Fellowship

### **Independent Examiners**

Mr. Ashley Challackal	Independent Examiner
Mr. Jacob George	Independent Examiner

The Vice President elect Mr Abraham Mathews submitted his resignation, which was forwarded to the Diocesan Episcopa. A Kalpana was received to elect another member at the next General Body to be held on 14<sup>th</sup> November 2021 for this position. We were not able to fill the position, as no nomination was received. The position of the Vice President was left vacant for the year 2021-2022.

### **Authorizing Officer:**

Mr Abraham Mathews was appointed as the Authorising Office of the Sinai MTC to liaison with the Home Office regarding the arrival of a new Vicar as the tenure of the present Vicar, the Rev Dr P G George, is coming to an end. Mr V M Abraham the outgoing Authorising officer provided support in the VISA submission process.

### **Membership**

Sinai Mar Thoma Church UK maintains a parish register. All persons aged above 18 years and who have their names in the Parish Register and receive Holy Communion in the parish and all persons whose parish membership has not been barred are entitled to be Edavaka Sangham members (General Body of the parish). Our membership as of 31<sup>st</sup> March 2022 is 119 families, 3 new families joined the parish. We welcome the new members and look forward to their total participation and fellowship.

### **Vicars**

Rev Dr P. G. George served as the Vicar during the year by residing at the Parsonage at 15 Hampden Road, Harrow HA3 5PP. Achen served as a member of the UK Europe Zonal Council of the Mar Thoma Church. Achen also served as the Ecumenical Officer of the UK Europe Zone and represent the Mar Thoma Church in the Churches Together in England (CET) and Churches Together in Great Britain & Ireland. During the year, Achen attended the CTE Enabling Group meetings online and then in person the CTE "Forum 2022" on 14-16<sup>th</sup> March 2022 at Hayes Conference Centre, Derbyshire. Achen attended the CTE President's Dinner hosted by the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Most Rev Justin Welby, at the Lambeth Palace on 18<sup>th</sup> November 2021. Achen served as the President of the UK Europe Zonal Mar Thoma Voluntary Evangelists Association and gave leadership to the Zonal Events and Zonal Intercessory prayer. Achen conducted the First Communion service at the Canterbury Mar Thoma church on Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> December 2021, assisted by the Vicar, the Rev Sijo John. Ten young people received their First Holy communion.

During the pandemic, Achen regularly sent devotional materials to all members to organize and conduct regular Family prayer at home. It was called "Sinai Mar Thoma House Churches Corona Time Daily Family Prayer Devotions." This was spiritually enlightening and mentally uplifting experience during the pandemic lockdown.

Rev. Dr P. G. George received the permission from the Church of England under the Overseas and other Clergy under the Diocese of Willesden area in the Diocese of London to officiate in the Diocese of London. Achen led a Holy Communion service for the All Saints in the absence of Fr John Barker. Achen also received the DBS clearance and took the necessary Safeguarding training from the Diocese of London.

During the year Achen attended the Episcopal Consecration of three new Bishops in the Church of England, held at St Paul's Cathedral in London on 25<sup>th</sup> January 2022. Achen also attended the welcome service of the Rt Rev Lusa Nsenga-Ngoy, Bishop of Willesden at the Emmanuel Church, Northwood on 27<sup>th</sup> February 2022.

### **Baptism:**

Two Baptisms took place in the Parish under Covid-19 restrictions.

1. Jacob Koshy George son of Dr Varun Kurien George and Dr Elizabeth Tanya Roy (8 Orchard Way, Northstowe, Cambridge CB24 1AG) on 21<sup>st</sup> August 2021 at All Saints Church, Harrow Weald.
2. Joshua John Jacob, son of Mr Jacob John Thomas and Mrs Siby Sunny (93 Battalion Drive, Wootton, Northampton NN4 6RX) on 12<sup>th</sup> February 2022 at St Albans Church, Northampton.

We happily welcome Jacob Koshy George and Joshua John Jacob to the fellowship of the Sinai Parish church

### **First Communion:**

The First Communion service was held for 16 candidates with the permission from the Diocesan Episcopa. They were given classes and was supplied with reading resources. Mrs. Shiny Mathew, the Sunday School teacher of the senior class has given leadership to classes. A special First Communion Order of Service was prepared and it was used with great devotion and has expressed commitment to the Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. All candidates were given a Bible (NIV Youth Edition) as a gift from the Sinai parish.

Following 12 candidates were given their First Holy Communion on Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> February 2022 during the Holy Communion service at All Saints. The Rev Dr Mathew Philip of the Church of England was present. Their parents, God-parents and friends were present supporting them and praying for them. Lunch was served in the Blackwell Hall after the service

1. Adam Shiju John
2. Esther R Daniel
3. Jaimy Elsa Thomas
4. Joshua P. Mathew
5. Mellisa Shibu John
6. Nevin George Mathew
7. Ruth Samuel
8. Ryan Thomas Kuruvilla
9. Sandra Susan Santhosh
10. Shalomi Susanna Koshy
11. Trina Rohit
12. Rachel Christy Oommen

Four candidates from the Milton Keynes – Northampton Prayer Group were given their First Holy Communion on Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> February 2022 at St Alban's Church, Northampton using the special First Communion Order of Service. Parents, God-parents and friends of these candidates were present supporting them and praying for them. Food was served for all who attended the special service.

1. Aaron Mathew Shiju
2. Joel Abraham George
3. Johan Joby John
4. Merin Sunil

The above 16 young people representing 16 families are now communicant members of the Sinai Mar Thoma Church.

### **Marriage:**

Wedding of Jonathan Vergis George and Julia Anne George, son of Mr Jacob George and Mrs Mary George (86 Marlands Road, Ilford IG5 0JJ) was held on 15<sup>th</sup> July 2021 under Covid-19 restrictions at All Saints Church, Harrow Weald. We offer congratulations to the newlywed couple.

### **Meetings:**

#### **• General Body Meetings**

1. 11<sup>th</sup> Annual General Body Meeting was held on Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> November 2021 at All Saints Church, Harrow Weald.

2. General Body Meeting to elect the office bearers of the parish for the year 2022-23 was held on Sunday, 20<sup>th</sup> March 2022.

- **Committee Meetings**

Two Online Committee meetings were held during this reporting year.

Other Committee meetings were in person meetings.

### **Sunday Worship & other services**

This year owing to the lockdown due to the Corona Pandemic the worship gatherings were suspended and we did not have any Holy Communion service until September 2021. Online Sunday Worship services were held first on YouTube and then through Zoom in English on 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays and Malayalam on 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays. Online Vmix program was purchased and used to telecast the services from the Parsonage. Special thanks to Mr. Daniel Papachan for the technical support and Mr. Dileep Cherian for assistance during the service. Hymns and songs were sung by different families and lessons were read on line. Thanks to all who supported them to make the services a blessing.

In person Holy Communion services began on Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> September 2021, keeping with all the Covid-19 protocols. Log book was in place to enter names of all who were present. Masks and sanitizers were mandatory for all who were present in the church.

Traditionally, Holy Communion services in English on 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays and in Malayalam on 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays were held every month. On fifth Sundays there were UK centre meetings of various organisations at different locations and there was divine service on those Sundays if Achen was not present. If Achen was available, Holy Communion service was held. Holy Communion service were held in Milton Keynes/Northampton on 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturdays. Special services were held during the year to celebrate Sevika Sangham Day, Youth Sunday, Choir Sunday, Senior Citizens Day, Family Sunday, World Sunday School Day, Parish Day and Lent & Holy Week. Various members provided transportation to enable Achen to undertake the service at Harrow ,Milton Keynes/Northampton.

### **UK Europe Zonal Sunday:**

Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> March 2022 was celebrated as the UK Europe Zonal Sunday. The Rev Binu J Varghese, Vicar of the St John's Mar Thoma Church, Hounslow celebrated the Holy Communion and delivered the message. The Zonal Secretary, Mr. Noble Mathews and the Development officer Mr. P M Mathew were at hand to explain to the parish the needs of the Zone and the building of the UK Europe Zonal Office complex. They have solicited funds to support the development of the UK Europe Zonal activities.

### **Sacraments/Services**

#### **(i) Holy Communion Services**

- All Saints' Harrow Weald: 31 (September 2021 – March 2022)
- Northampton/Milton Keynes: 7 (September 2021 – March 2022)
- Joint Service with All Saints: None

#### **(ii) Lent and Holy Week Services**

This year, during the Great Lent evening services using the Liturgy for Lent (*Sandhya Namaskaram*) was conducted via online from the Parsonage.

Holy Week services including Easter and the Good Friday services were held online. Good Friday

services were held on 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2021 and the messages were given by Evangelist Sajeev Daniel of the Hermon Mar Thoma Church, Midlands and the Achen.

2022 Great Lent began on Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> February 2022. *Sandhya Namaskaram* was held from Monday to Saturday.

### **Area Prayer Meetings**

The four main area prayer groups are ***Harrow-Slough Area, Watford Area, Barnet Area and Northampton/Milton Keynes Area*** as agreed in the Annual General Body 2018-19. The prayer meetings in all the four areas are to be co-ordinated by the Area Prayer Group representatives and scheduled with the Vicar.

#### **a. Northampton/Milton Keynes Area**

Northampton - Milton Keynes Area Prayer meetings were held regularly every Saturday evening at 7.30 pm on Zoom platform. Liturgy of Evening Prayer was used with reading of Lessons from the Old Testament and the New Testament and also Psalms. Recitation of the Memory verses was done every Saturday and children actively participated in this exercise. Several children would recite a number of Psalms in full. Occasionally, we had guest speakers like Evangelist Babu Upadesi, Evangelist Sajeev Daniel or Mrs. Annie Koshy Kochamma. An average of 15 families attended the sessions. Special 'Wisdom Classes' were also given to the children by Mrs. Annie Koshy Kochamma.

Mr. Sam Varghese served as the Area Representative.

#### **b. Watford Area**

Watford Area Prayer meetings were held online regularly every Saturday evening at 6 pm. Liturgy of Evening Prayer was used with reading of Lessons from the Old Testament and the New Testament and also Psalms. Recitation of the Memory verses was done every Saturday and children actively participate in this exercise. Occasionally there were some special guests like Evangelist Sajeev Daniel, Mr. Lalu Mathew and Mrs. Annie Koshy Kochamma. An average of 5-6 families attended the meetings.

Mr. Leon David Thomas served as the Area Representative.

Harrow-Slough Area and Barnet Area prayer meetings were not held due to the pandemic situation. Some of the members from these areas participated in the above area prayer meetings.

### **Organisations:**

- **Sunday School**

During the Pandemic Sunday School classes were held online and normal classes resumed in October 2021

Special thanks to all Sunday School teachers and all other volunteers who took active role in spiritually developing our children rooted in the Word of God and in the values of the Kingdom of God.

Mrs. Diana Agnelo Fernandes served as the Sunday School representative.

- **Edavaka Mission:**

Sinai Parish Edavaka Mission actively participated in the UK Europe Zonal Voluntary Evangelists Association programs. Rev Dr P G George served as the President of the Zonal Edavaka Mission.

Mr Alex Philip served as the representative of Edavaka Mission.

- **Sevika Sangham:**

Sevika Sangham meetings were held online every Friday at 8 pm. Weekly Bible Study series on these Friday meetings have attracted women members of the Sinai parish to learn the Word of God and develop their leadership skills. There was good participation from the Sinai church members week after week.

Women volunteered to take up leadership each Friday and the studies were very informative and spiritually enriching. Each session had a time of sharing and discussion which was greatly rewarding. These sessions were learning times and opportunities to develop women's leadership in the church. We give special thanks to the leadership of Mrs. Annie Koshy Kochamma who made herself available for us during her lockdown in Manchester. We have invited Guest Speakers from other Mar Thoma Parishes including a few Kochammas. We have opened up the sessions to members of other parishes both from UK and also from Canada & USA. We thank God for the leadership of the Rev P G George Achen during these Bible Study sessions.

Due to Covid lockdown Sinai Sevika Sangham could not do any fundraising activities for charity Purpose.

Mrs Mary George served as the Sevika Sangham Representative.

- **Sinai Choir:**

The Sinai Choir's main focus was the 2021 Christmas Carol service. With stringent restrictions in place due to Covid-19, in-person practices were no longer viable so the choir adapted by learning and practicing the songs via online calls and meetings. A huge amount of effort by all members went into the production and practices and with God's grace, together we were able to pull together and sing a range of English and Malayalam songs.

Sinai Choir participated in the UK Europe Zonal Carol service. In addition, many members have contributed by singing songs during the online Sunday services over the past year.

Ms Tanya Abraham served as the Choir Representative.

- **Youth Fellowship:**

Due to the lockdown restrictions, all youth meetings were conducted virtually.

Mr Nathan Cherian Mathew served as the Youth Representative.

- **Young Couples Fellowship:**

Young couples of the Parish have been actively involved with various activities of the Church. Due to Covid-19 restrictions, there were few meetings held this year. Young families are joining the parish as members. Look forward to their active presence and participation in the coming days.

Mr Justin James served as the Young Couple's Representative.

- **Senior Citizens Fellowship:**

Senior Citizens are of great strength to the parish.

Prayer meetings were not conducted this year due to pandemic. Thanks to all members of the Senior Citizens' Fellowship for their prayerful support for the ministry of the parish during the year.

Mr. Abraham Mathews served as the Senior Citizens' representative.

### **Parish Activities:**

#### **Relationship with All Saints':**

We have joined with the All Saints Christmas service held on Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> December 2021 and the Christmas Tree Festival. Achen read one of the Lessons during the Christmas service. We could not hold joint services due to Covid restriction and celebrate fellowship meetings with All Saints as a parish community. We look forward to new opportunities in the coming year.

We thank God that the contract with All Saints was renewed for the next ten years under the same provisions. We appreciate this noble gesture of ecumenical cooperation and goodwill.

#### **Christmas Carol Rounds:**

Christmas carol rounds could not take place due to restrictions of the pandemic. A Christmas Card with a Christmas offertory envelope was sent to all members. We appreciate the generous contributions from our members as Christmas collection.

#### **Christmas Carol Service:**

Sinai Christmas Carol Service was held on the evening of Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> December 2021. The Rt Rev John Perumbalathu, Bishop of the Church of England was present and delivered the Christmas message. Our Sinai choir presented some melodious songs in English and Malayalam. We thank Ms Tanya Abraham for her efforts in teaching the songs for the Carol Service. There was a special Sunday school Christmas presentation from all classes.

#### **Chain Prayer:**

Fasting prayer was held voluntarily every Friday by members and a few members contributed an amount to the Parish as Fasting prayer offertory. We appreciate the leadership of Mr. Abraham Jacob.

#### **Fusion Fest 2021:**

Due to Covid restrictions we were not able to conduct Fusion Fest this year. It was conducted annually to raise funds for charity.

#### **Harvest Festival:**

Sinai Harvest festival was held every year but this year we were not able to organize one due to restrictions of the pandemic. Church members usually bring small items for auction and the Funds collected on that day was earmarked for Church Development Fund. Usually a fellowship meal would be provided to all members after the Holy Communion Service on that day.

#### **Churches Together in Wealdstone and Harrow Weald and Harrow Interfaith:**

Mr Abraham Mathews represented Sinai MTC at Churches Together in Wealdstone and Harrow Weald.

Sinai Mar Thoma Church has been a member of Harrow Interfaith and has had the active role as Membership Secretary on the Executive Board for the last 8 years to date. Harrow has the maximum diverse Faith Communities in UK where Harrow Interfaith ensures harmony and peaceful co-existence, respecting and acknowledging the different Faiths in the Borough.

### **Feeding the Homeless in Harrow**

This year we could not undertake this mission of feeding the homeless in Harrow as in the previous years. We look forward to future years to serve the local community in need.

### **Guests and Visitors:**

1. Rt Rev John Perumbalathu.
2. Rev. Fr. John Barker, Vicar of All Saints
3. Evang. Babu Daniel Chacko Upadesi
4. Evang. Sajeev Daniel
5. Mrs Annie Koshy Kochamma
6. We thank all visitors including parents of our members and international students from time to time added goodness and beauty to the Sinai Family fellowship.

### **Conclusion**

We have a lot to give thanks to God, as the Psalmist says, "What shall I return to the Lord for all his bounty to me? I will lift up the cup of salvation and call on the name of the Lord." (Psalm 116:12-13) God has kept us all safe during this pandemic time. We never expected this menace to last this long and to deny us the privilege and opportunity to gather for worship and share in the Lord's Table. Many of us were tested positive and have gone through some anxious moments, thank God that we all came out for those difficulties with God's grace and help. Sinai Mar Thoma Church started from a humble beginning ten years ago, but we are growing from strength to strength by God's grace. Our members have financially supported the parish and encouraged each other in prayer and virtual fellowship. Appreciation and gratitude are recorded to Rev. Dr P G George, office bearers and all members of the Sinai family for their contributions of time and talents in making our Parish grow confidently in strength, love, and fellowship.

We maintain an extremely good relationship with All Saints Church, Harrow Weald, and we sincerely thank Rev. John Barker and the All Saints Church committee members for all the support and help given to us. We also record our thanks to the Bishop of the Diocese of Willesden for his help and support.

We thank the Diocesan Episcopa, the Rt. Rev Dr Isaac Mar Philoxenos and the UK Europe Zonal Officers for their support and guidance in the development of the Sinai parish and the faith community.

For and on behalf of the Executive committee 2021-22,

Rev Thomas John  
Vicar/President

Daniel Papachan  
Hon. Secretary

## Trustees Report for year ended 31.3.2022

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the accounts and comply with the Charity's governing document and the Charities Act 2011

Reference and administrative information:

**Charity Name:** Sinai Mar Thoma Church North London.

**Registered Address:** 15 Hampden Road, Harrow HA3 5PP

**Charity Registration Number:** 1136866

Management, Executive & Non Executive Committee Members:

**Refer to annual report**

Bankers

Barclays Bank Plc, Station Road, Edgware, Middlesex.

Independent Examiners

Mr. Jacob George

Mr. Ashley J Challackal

Governing Document

Sinai Mar Thoma Church is governed by the constitution submitted to the Charity Commission and by the constitution of the Mar Thoma Syrian Church of Malabar.

GDPR Compliance Statement

The trustees have implemented procedures and policies to notify donors and members of the information held by the charity and also implemented opt-in/opt-out processes.

Safeguarding Statement:

The charity has safeguarding policy and Child Protection Policy which is also displayed on the church's notice board. This is reviewed periodically.

Risk Assessment and Management:

The trustees have examined the major strategic and operational risks which the charity is likely to face and confirmed that processes and procedures have been established to enable regular reporting so that the necessary and timely action can be taken to reduce those risks.

Risk assessment, risk management policies and insurances are regularly reviewed.

The financial controls and reporting are considered to be adequate.

Organisational Structure:

The trustees meet regularly, whilst the day-to-day management of the charity is delegated to

the management committee.

#### Appointment of Trustees:

The trustees and other office bearers are elected for each financial year before the commencement of the new financial year. They are elected by the General Body or by the members of the bodies whom they represent. All the appointments are made as per the constitution of the Mar Thoma Church.

#### Plans for the Future:

We are planning to work more closely with the All Saints Church to ensure that we can carry on this partnership well into the future for the mutual benefits of both. Various shared activities including spiritual and social activities are planned along this line. We also aim to further develop our activities for the Edavaka Mission, youth fellowship, Sevika Sangham and the Sunday school.

#### Mission & Objectives:

The objective of Sinai Mar Thoma Church is to promote the Christian religion, provide its members with regular Christian worship services, in accordance with the traditions of the Mar Thoma Church; provide pastoral care and organise activities to enhance the spiritual life of the members; enhance the ecumenical relationship within the local community and churches; and make voluntary contributions to evangelistic and charitable work in the United Kingdom and abroad.

#### Reserve's Policy:

The reserves held are considered to be the prudent to ensure that the work of the charity continues unhindered for at least 6 months, even when donations may fluctuate. The trustees aim to increase the reserves in future years.

#### Principal Sources of Funding:

The majority of funding comes through subscriptions, offertory and other voluntary donations by the members.

#### Volunteers:

A substantial contribution to the activities of the church is in the form of voluntary services by members.

#### Investment Policy:

The trustees have the authority to make any investments which they think are appropriate, prudent and beneficial for the work of the charity subject to prior approval by the membership body. However, at present the church has no significant surplus funds to make any investment and none have been made till date.

#### Trustees Induction & Training:

All trustees were reminded of their fiduciary responsibilities. They regularly review income, expenditure and assets held by the charity, meet regularly to delegate tasks and formulate strategy and policies in achieving its objectives and were also made aware that they are ultimately responsible for the activities of the charity.

#### **Financial Review:**

The Trustees regularly met to review the various operations of the charity. The trustees are mindful of the reserves policy and ensure that expenditure are only incurred when required to carry out the activities of the charity and are controlled.

#### **Trustees Responsibilities:**

The trustees are required to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the charity's financial activities during the year and of its financial position at the end of the year. In preparing the financial statements giving a true and fair view, the trustees should follow best practice and:

- a. Select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently
- b. Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent
- c. State whether applicable accounting standards and statements of recommended practice have been followed, subject to any departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements.
- d. Prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy the financial position of the charity, which enable them to ascertain the financial position of the charity and which enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with applicable law and regulations. They are responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

#### **Declaration of serious incidents:**

To the best of our knowledge we are not aware of any serious incidents or other matters affecting the administration, finance and accounting practice of the charity during the financial year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2022.

For and on behalf of the managing committee,

**Daniel Papachan**

**Hon. Secretary**

**Abraham Jacob**

**Hon. Trustee -Finance**

**21<sup>st</sup> August 2022**

**Thomas Alexander**

**Hon. Trustee - Accounts**

## **SINAI MAR THOMA CHURCH NORTH LONDON**

### **Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees and Members of Sinai Mar Thoma Church North London (Charity reg no. 1136866)**

We report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2022, which are set out on pages 17 to 21.

#### **Respective responsibilities of trustees and the independent examiners.**

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

It is our 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 our attention.

#### **Basis of independent examiner's statement.**

Our examination was carried out in accordance with general Direction 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 the 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 statement below.

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

In connection with our examination, no matter has come to our attention

(1) which gives us 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 agree with the accounting records and to comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act

have not been met ; or

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

Mr Jacob George ( Hon. Independent Examiner) \_\_\_\_\_

Mr Ashley J Challackal ( Hon. Independent Examiner) \_\_\_\_\_

Dated: 13<sup>th</sup> August 2022

**Sinai Mar Thoma Church North London**  
**Statement Of Financial Activities for the year ended 31st March 2022**

		Fig in £	£	£	£
	Notes	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 31st March 2022	Total Funds 31st March 2021
<b>Income</b>					
Subscription	2	44,014		44,014	39,203
Offertory	3	12,972		12,972	3,649
Harvest festival		250		250	350
Christmas donation		2,284		2,284	1,200
Tax Refund- Gift Aid		37,525		37,525	0
Other Receipts	4	7,490	4,496	11,986	5,338
Donation for Parsonage and Church development	5	0	2,154	2,154	8,935
Profit on sale of motor vehicle		0			2,200
<b>Total Income</b>		<b>104,535</b>	<b>6,650</b>	<b>111,185</b>	<b>60,875</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>					
Staff Cost		15,677		15,677	15,411
Parsonage Expenses	6	2,117		2,117	3,201
Vehicle Expenses		0		0	196
Vicar's Transfer Cost	7	9,000		9,000	4,000
Rent	8	7,350		7,350	7,200
Diocesan Contribution	9	2,200	2,875	5,075	3,640
Visiting Bishops & Clergy		200		200	0
Insurance		960		960	1,183
Printing, Postage & Stationery		827		827	154
Telephone & Internet		874		874	1,679
Altar Expenses		140		140	0
Online hosting cost		0		0	701
Donations	10	0		0	300
Church Activity Expenses	11	1,839		1,839	1,069
Sundry Expenses	12	202		202	0
<b>Total Expenditure</b>		<b>41,386</b>	<b>2,875</b>	<b>44,261</b>	<b>38,734</b>
<b>Net Surplus for the Year</b>		<b>63,149</b>	<b>3,775</b>	<b>66,924</b>	<b>22,141</b>

The attached notes 1 - 20 form part of the accounts.

# SINAI MAR THOMA CHURCH NORTH LONDON

## BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31st MARCH 2022

	Notes	31st March 2022		31st March 2021	
		£	£	£	£
<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>					
Tangible fixed assets	13		300,878		300,878
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>					
Debtors	14	755		685	
Cash at Bank and in hand		146,246		81,151	
		<u>147,001</u>		<u>81,836</u>	
<b>LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>					
Creditors and Accruals Due within one year	15	982		5,291	
<b>NET CURRENT ASSETS</b>			<u>146,019</u>		<u>76,545</u>
			446,897		377,423
Less					
Unsecured Loan	16		0		10,000
Provision for Vicar's relocation cost	7		17,927		8,927
<b>NET ASSETS</b>	18		<u>428,970</u>		<u>358,496</u>
Represented by:					
Designated Funds (ear marked)	17		23,650		19,350
Unrestricted Funds	17		354,977		314,128
Restricted Funds	17		<u>50,343</u>		<u>25,018</u>
			428,970		358,496

The financial statements were approved by the Trustees on 21st August 2022 and were signed on its behalf by :

Rev Thomas John                      President



Mr Abraham Jacob                      Trustee - Treasurer



Mr Thomas Alexander                      Trustee - Accounts



**1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES****Basis of preparing the financial statements****a. General**

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standards applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2011.

**Income**

All incomes are recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities when received.

**Expenditure**

Expenditures are accounted for on an accrual basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular heading, they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

**b. Depreciation**

Depreciation is provided on fixed assets on straight line basis using the following rates:

Free hold property	nil ( provided at 1% in earlier years)
Computer and office equipment	25% on cost
Furniture and fittings	25% on cost
Motor Vehicles	20% on cost

**c. Gift aid**

Gift aid recovered on gift aid donations are recognised as income in the period actually received.

**2 SUBSCRIPTION**

This consist of voluntary contribution by members by monthly standing order in most cases.

**3 OFFERTORY**

	2022	2021
	£	£
Offertory	5,895	639
Birthday Offertory	4,070	1,825
Wedding Anniversary offertory	1,835	655
Offertory - Sunday School	482	0
Baptism & marriage offertory	590	130
Fasting Offertory**	0	400
Thanks Giving Etc.	100	0
	<u>12,972</u>	<u>3,649</u>

\*\* Restricted Funds

**4 OTHER RECEIPTS**

	2022	2021
	£	£
Council Tax refund -Prior years	3,415	0
Family Sunday	930	0
Donation for ASSH project**	1,621	2,049
Donation for Zonal contribution**	1,850	2,250
Covid Appeal**	1,025	0
One day income	2,040	0
Catering sponsorship- Christmas Service	550	0
Youth Sunday	50	0
Sunday School Books etc	365	400
First Communion service	140	0
Fusion Fest - Refund (prior year)	0	330
Donation for Rev Peter Ward- All Saints Church	0	300
Interest received	0	9
	<u>11,986</u>	<u>5,338</u>

\*\* Restricted Funds

**5 Donation for Church**

	2022	2021
	£	£
Donation for Church Development Fund **	2,154	8,935
	<u>2,154</u>	<u>8,935</u>

\*\* Restricted Funds

**6 PARSONAGE EXPENSES**

	2022	2021
	£	£
Repair & Maintenance	853	95
Heating, Lighting & Water charges	1,105	1,094
Television Licence Fee	159	157
Council Tax - refer to note 4 above	0	1,855
	<u>2,117</u>	<u>3,201</u>

**7 PROVISION FOR VICAR'S TRANSFER COST**

	2022	2021
	£	£
Balance brought forward 1st April 2021	8,927	4,927
Provision made in the year	9,000	4,000
Less: Utilised Fund During the Year	0	0
Balance carried fwd. 31st March 2022	<u>17,927</u>	<u>8,927</u>

8	RENT		2022	2021			
			£	£			
		Rent (All Saints Church-Harrow)	7,200	7,200			
		Rent (St. Albans Church- Northampton)	150	0			
			<u>7,350</u>	<u>7,200</u>			
9	Diocesan Contributions		2022	2021			
			£	£			
		Zonal contributions**	1,850	2,250			
		Diocesan contributions	2,200	1,390			
		Covid Appeal**	1,025	0			
	** Restricted Funds	5,075	3,640				
10	Donations		2022	2021			
			£	£			
		All Saints Church- Rev Peter Ward Farewell gift	0	300			
		<u>0</u>	<u>300</u>				
11	CHURCH ACTIVITY EXPENSES		2022	2021			
			£	£			
		Sunday School Books etc	478	410			
		Church Activity Expenses	0	123			
		Special Occasion Catering- Christmas service	810	0			
		VISA Sponsorship licence fee	501	536			
		Youth Sunday	50	0			
	<u>1,839</u>	<u>1,069</u>					
12	SUNDRY EXPENSES		2022	2021			
			£	£			
		First Communion & Marriage - Bibles	178	0			
		Software licence fee - Payroll RTI	24	0			
		<u>202</u>	<u>0</u>				
13	FIXED ASSETS						
			Office Equipment	Furniture & Fitting	Motor Vehicle	Freehold Property	Total
			£	£	£	£	£
		Cost					
		At 01/4/2021	2,688	8,670	0	326,798	338,156
		Additions during the year	0		0		0
		At 31/03/2022	<u>2,688</u>	<u>8,670</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>326,798</u>	<u>338,156</u>
		Less: Depreciation					
		At 01/4/2021	2,688	8,670	0	25,920	37,278
		Charge for the year	0	0	0	0	0
			<u>2,688</u>	<u>8,670</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>25,920</u>	<u>37,278</u>
		Net Book Value					
		At 01/4/2021	0	0	0	300,878	300,878
		At 31/03/2022	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>300,878</u>	<u>300,878</u>
		14	DEBTORS	31st March 2022	31st March 2021		
				£	£		
				Prepayments (Insurance)	705	685	
Zonal Payment due	50			0			
		<u>755</u>	<u>685</u>				
15	CREDITORS AND ACCRUALS	31st March 2022	31st March 2021				
		£	£				
		Creditors (Students sponsorship - 2018-19/2019-2020)	982	982			
		Due to HMRC	0	669			
		Accruals	0	3,640			
		<u>982</u>	<u>5,291</u>				
16	UNSECURED LOAN FOR PARSONAGE PURCHASE	31st March 2022	31st March 2021				
		£	£				
		Interest Free Loan- 1.4.2021					
		Repayable within ten Years from Jan 2013-Dec2023	10,000	10,000			
			<u>10,000</u>	<u>10,000</u>			
		Total Unsecured Loan Before Repayment	A	<u>10,000</u>	<u>10,000</u>		
		Less Repaid During the Year					
		Interest free Loan repayable in ten years from Jan 2013-Dec2023		<u>10,000</u>	<u>0</u>		
			B	<u>10,000</u>	<u>0</u>		
		Total Unsecured Loan Balance After Repayment	A-B	<u>0</u>	<u>10,000</u>		

# 17 FUNDS MOVEMENT

	General Fund *	Designated Fund	Restricted Fund	Total Fund
	£	£	£	£
As at 1st April 2021	314,128	19,350	25,018	358,496
Net Surplus for the year	63,149	0	3,775	66,924
Transferred to Vehicle fund	-4,300	4,300		0
Transferred to Church development Fund	-18,000		18,000	0
COMPE Centre Fund			3,550	3,550
As at 31st March 2022	354,977	23,650	50,343	428,970

\* Unrestricted Funds

## DESIGNATED FUNDS

	£	£	£	£
	Vehicle Fund	Vicar's Transfer cost Fund	Other Designated Funds	Total Fund
As at 1st April 2021	16,200	8,927	3150	28,277
Transfer from General Funds	4,300	9,000	0	13,300
As at 31st March 2022	20,500	17,927	3,150	41,577

# 18 NET ASSETS ALLOCATION BETWEEN FUNDS

	Unrestricted £	Designated £	Restricted £	Total £
Tangible Fixed Assets	300,878			300,878
Current Assets	73,008	23,650	50,343	147,001
Current Liabilities	-982			-982
Provisions for Vicar's relocation	-17,927			-17,927
	354,977	23,650	50,343	428,970

Movement in Designated Funds and Restricted Funds in the year

FUNDS	As at 1.4.2021	During the period 1.4.2021 to 31.3.2022		
	Balance	Allocation/ Receipts	Payments	Balance
Motor Vehicle Fund	£16,200.00	£4,300.00	£0.00	£20,500.00
Youth Fund	£750.00	£0.00	£0.00	£750.00
Family Conference	£1,000.00	£0.00	£0.00	£1,000.00
Centre Meeting	£1,400.00	£0.00	£0.00	£1,400.00
Designated funds Total	£19,350.00	£4,300.00	£0.00	£23,650.00
Restricted Funds				
Fasting Offertory	£1,334.00	£0.00	£0.00	£1,334.00
Sevika Sangham	£555.00	£0.00	£0.00	£555.00
ASSH-Fund	£11,745.00	£1,621.00	£0.00	£13,366.00
Sunday School	£194.00	£0.00	£0.00	£194.00
Parsonage purchase	£1,500.00	£0.00	£0.00	£1,500.00
COMPE Centre Fund	£0.00	£5,550.00	£2,000.00	£3,550.00
Church Development Fund	£9,690.00	£20,154.00	£0.00	£29,844.00
Restricted Fund Total	£25,018.00	£27,325.00	£2,000.00	£50,343.00

# 19 TRUSTEES REMUNERATION AND EXPENSES

No remuneration was paid or payable directly or indirectly out of the funds of the church during the year, to any trustees or to any persons known to be connected with the church except the Vicar of the church. The Vicar's remuneration was paid in accordance with the terms of his appointment and accommodation was also provided. All actual expenses incurred by the Vicar for pastoral and for carrying out his duties were reimbursed to him.

# 20 RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

There were no related party transactions during the year ended 31st March 2022.

CASH FLOW STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR		Fig in £
	31st March 2022	31st March 2021
Net income	66,924	22,141
Assets addition	0	0
Depreciation charge	0	0
Increase/(Decrease) in debtors	-70	241
Increase/(decrease) in creditors falling due within one year	-4,309	3,631
Unsecured loan repaid	-10,000	0
COMPE Centre Fund	3,550	0
Increase/decrease in provision for Vicar's transfer cost fund	9,000	4,000
<b>Net cash flow in the year</b>	<b>65,095</b>	<b>30,013</b>
Bank balances at 31.03.2021	81,151	51,138
Bank balances at 31.03.2022	146,246	81,151
<b>Increase in bank balances</b>	<b>65,095</b>	<b>30,013</b>

**Sinai Mar Thoma Church North London**  
**BUDGET FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31st MARCH 2023**

<u>ACCOUNT</u>	<u>Actual 2021-22</u>	<u>Budget 2021-22</u>	<u>Budget 2022-23</u>
	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>
<b>A RECEIPTS</b>			
Subscription	44,014	40,000	48,000
Church Service Offertory	5,895	3,000	8,000
Sunday School offertory	482	100	600
Birthday Offertory	4,070	2,000	5,000
Wedding Anniversary	1,835	1,000	3,000
Baptism & Marriage Offertory	590	200	800
Donations & Collections	1,615	0	2,000
Family Sunday	930	0	1,000
Harvest Festival	250	1,500	2,000
Donation for Christmas	2,284	1,500	3,000
Donation for Zonal Contribution	1,850	2,300	2,200
Fasting Offertory	0	500	500
Council tax refund-prior years	3,415	0	0
Tax Refund (Gift Aid)	37,525	18,000	38,000
Other Activities	150	20	150
Sunday School books etc	365	400	400
Donation for Thanks Giving	100	0	250
ASSH-Fund	1,621	1,500	1,620
Donation for Church Development Fund	2,154	5,000	2,500
One Day Income	2,040	0	2,500
<b>A TOTAL RECEIPTS</b>	<b>111,185</b>	<b>77,020</b>	<b>121,520</b>
<b>B EXPENDITURE</b>			
Staff cost	15,677	16,000	22,000
Parsonage Utility cost	1,264	2,000	5,000
Parsonage repair & maintenance	853	2,000	3,000
Parsonage furnishing	0	0	2,000
Vicar's Travel Expenses ( fuel, service ,insurance etc)	0	200	3,000
Vicar's Relocation cost	9,000	6,000	9,000
Rent (Church)	7,350	7,200	7,700
Diocesan Payments	2,200	1,500	2,500
Zonal contributions	1,850	2,300	2,500
Sabha Office	0	500	658
Special Occasion Catering	810	500	1,500
Visiting Bishop/ Clergy	200	500	500
Charity/Donation etc.	1,025	200	1,500
Printing/ Posting & Stationery	827	400	1,400
Telephone +Internet	874	1,200	1,000
Sundry expenses	202	200	250
Altar Expenses/COMPE/CTE Fees	140	500	500
Song/ Church service Books	0	0	500
Building, Contents & Public Liability insurance	960	1,200	1,200
Church Activity Expenses	501	700	500
Choir Expenses	0	200	250
Youth Activity	50	200	250
Sevika Sangam	0	200	250
Sunday School	478	500	3,000
Mar Thomas COMPE meet	0	0	750
<b>B TOTAL EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>44,261</b>	<b>44,200</b>	<b>70,708</b>
<b>A-B NET SURPLUS FOR THE YEAR</b>	<b>66,924</b>	<b>32,820</b>	<b>50,812</b>
<b>C CAPITAL EXPENDITURE &amp; LOAN</b>			
Furniture & fitting	0	1,000	1,000
Laptop	0	1,000	1,200
Loan Repayment	10,000	10,000	0
Motor Vehicle Fund	4,300	2,000	4,000
<b>C TOTAL CAPITAL EXPENDITURE &amp; LOAN</b>	<b>14,300</b>	<b>14,000</b>	<b>6,200</b>
<b>NET SURPLUS FOR THE YEAR (A-B-C)</b>	<b>52,624</b>	<b>18,820</b>	<b>44,612</b>