

**Report of the Trustees and**  
**Unaudited Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2025**  
**for**  
**St. Stephen's Indian Orthodox Church, Birmingham**

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

**St.Stephen's Indian Orthodox Church , Birmingham**

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**for the Year Ended 31 March 2025**

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**St.Stephen's Indian Orthodox Church , Birmingham**  
**Report of the Trustees**  
**For the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2025**

The trustees present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2025. 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 ACTIVITIES**

### **Objectives and Aims**

Objective of the Church is to promote the Indian Orthodox Christian faith.

The trustees have considered a charity commission's guidance on public benefit including the guidance 'public benefit running charity (PB2).'

### **Significant activities**

The feast of Ascension was celebrated in our Church on 8th May 2024.

Feast of St George the Patron Saint of England was celebrated on 12th May 2024 with Holy Qurbana,Rasa and Nercha vilambu.

The feast of St Thomas was Celebrated in our church on 7th July 2024 with Holy Qurbana. On the feast day Neercha was provided.

The feast of assumption of St.Mary was celebrated in our church on 14th August 2024 starting with evening prayer followed by Holy Qurbana.

The Church honoured the nativity of St. Mary with an eight-day lent. Every evening throughout Lent, the vicar set up different priests to lead the devotional address and evening prayer via Zoom. Many members participated in Holy Qurbana and attended the evening prayers and devotional talk on September 8th, thanks to the assistance of MMVS.

On September 15, 2024, the church celebrated Onam after the Holy Qurbana. The organisers, Mr.Shibu Thomas and Mr. Lisson Thomas and by Mr.Vergheese.K.Mathai were successful in creating nostalgia in our members through various traditional programmes like Ona sadya, activities and games.

OVBS was conducted on 1st, 2nd and 3rd of November 2024. In that Sunday School played a vital role in creating social responsibility in children, arranging a food bank collection. Church donated a lot of food items to the food bank.

Under the direction of OCYM, Christmas carols were performed on December 7th, 8th, 14th, and 15th December 2024. by visiting families with Christmas greetings.

On 29th of December 2024, a family get together called Agape 2024 was organised at our Church. It was organised after Holy Qurbana.

On January 5, 9, 10, 11 and 12, 2025, the church held its main annual feast. Various priests delivered devotional speeches and led meditation during the first four days. Our Diocesan Metropolitan H.G. Abraham Mar Stephanos served as the chief celebrant of Tri-Mass on the last day. On this day, the Diocesan Metropolitan extended a special invitation to the pilgrimage rider and the vicar of St Margaret Olton Church in Solihull to visit the church.

The church held mediations, special services, Holy confession, and Holy Qurbana to commemorate Great Lent and Passion Week.

## **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 31/03/2025 was £511,531 (£484,586 on 31/03/2024)

## **STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT**

### **Governing document**

The Charity is controlled by its governing document, constitution adopted on 13 September 2009 as amended on 31 December 2011 and as amended on 11 February 2024 and constitutes an unincorporated charity.

### **Recruitment and appointment of trustees**

The vicar is appointed by the diocesan Bishop and his term will be 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.

### **Overpayment decision of church**

When the church entered into a mortgage, interest rates were historically low, but the world changed dramatically after the rates rose to levels not seen in decades. Rather than remain bound to a long-term debt under these conditions, the church chose to act wisely by reducing the mortgage through significant overpayments. This decision shortened the term and saved substantial interest, ensuring that more of our resources serve ministry rather than lenders. Scripture reminds us in Proverbs 22:7 that "the borrower is slave to the lender," and by taking these steps, we have moved closer to financial freedom and faithful stewardship. Doing nothing would have left us exposed to rising costs and prolonged debt, but through prayerful planning and decisive action, we have strengthened the church's future.

**St.Stephen's Indian Orthodox Church , Birmingham**

**Report of the Trustees**

**For the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2025**

**REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS**

Name of Charity : St.Stephen's Indian Orthodox Church , Birmingham  
Charity Registration Number : 1145271  
Principal address : 427 Brays Road  
Sheldon  
Birmingham  
B26 2RR

**Trustees**

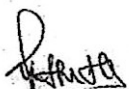
The Trustees and Officers serving during the year and since the year end were as follows:

Fr. Binoy Joshua	: Vicar and President
Mr. Denin Thomas	: Treasurer
Mr. Praveen Thomas	: Secretary
Mr. Bejoy Joseph	: Committee Member
Mr. Shibu Thomas	: Committee Member
Mr. George Mathew	: Committee Member
Mr. Moncy Abraham	: Committee Member
Mrs. Arun Chacko	: Committee Member
Mr. Jaby Chakkappan	: Committee Member
Mr. Deepak Thomas	: Committee Member
Mrs. Teena John	: Committee Member
Mrs. Minu Joju	: Committee Member
Mr. Jaison Thomas	: Internal Auditor
Mr. Niju Cherian	: Internal Auditor
Mr. Joby Joseph	: Safeguarding Officer
Dr. Ashwin Shaji	: Ecumenical Convenor
Mr. George Mathew	: Public Relations Officer
Mr. Baiju Kuriakose	: Diocesan Representative

**Independent Examiner**

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

Approved by the Board of Trustees on 22/06/2025 and signed on it's behalf by:

  
Mr. Praveen Thomas  
(Secretary)

**Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of**  
**St. Stephen's Indian Orthodox Church, Birmingham**

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2025, 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 : 27/01/2026

**St.Stephen's Indian Orthodox Church , Birmingham**

**Statement of Financial Activities**

**for the Year Ended 31 March 2025**

				2025	2024
	Notes	Unrestricted funds	Restricted fund	Total funds	Total funds
		£	£	£	£
<b>INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM</b>					
Donations and legacies	2	139,351	-	139,351	144,922
Investment Income	3	11,196	-	11,196	12,070
<b>Total</b>		<b>150,547</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>150,547</b>	<b>156,992</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE ON</b>					
<b>Charitable activities</b>					
Church Running Costs		(123,602)	-	(123,602)	(94,004)
Other		-	-	-	-
<b>Total</b>		<b>(123,602)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(123,602)</b>	<b>(94,004)</b>
<b>NET INCOME</b>		<b>26,945</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>26,945</b>	<b>62,988</b>

**CONTINUING OPERATIONS\***

All income and expenditure have arisen from continuing activities.


**St.Stephon's Indian Orthodox Church , Birmingham**


Balance Sheet

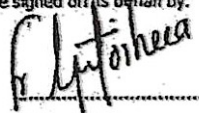
At 31 March 2025

	Notes	2025 Total funds £	2024 Total funds £
<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>			
Tangible assets	4	574,237	572,402
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
Debtors	5	24,522	28,113
Cash at bank and in hand	6	54,555	94,914
		<u>79,077</u>	<u>121,027</u>
<b>CREDITORS</b>			
Amounts falling due within one year	7	(7,508)	(9,691)
<b>NET CURRENT ASSETS</b>		<u>71,569</u>	<u>111,336</u>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		<b>645,806</b>	<b>683,738</b>
<b>LONG TERM LIABILITIES</b>			
Bank Loans (Secured)		(134,275)	(199,152)
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		<u><b>511,531</b></u>	<u><b>484,586</b></u>
<b>FUNDS</b>	8		
Unrestricted funds		511,531	484,586
Restricted funds		-	-
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>		<u><b>511,531</b></u>	<u><b>484,586</b></u>

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees on 22/06/2025 and were signed on its behalf by:

  
Mr. Denin Thomas  
(Treasurer)

  
Mr. Praveen Thomas  
(Secretary)

  
Fr. Binoy Joshua  
(Vicar & President)

## St.Stephen's Indian Orthodox Church , Birmingham

### Notes to the Financial Statements

#### For the Year Ended 31 March 2025

#### 1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

##### **Basis of preparing the financial statements**

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost conversion, 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 Stephen's Indian Orthodox Church, Birmingham 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
Computer equipment	:	33.33% 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.

##### **Secured Loan**

Bank loan with HSBC bank is secured against a first legal charge over the free hold property at 427 Brays Road, Birmingham,B26 2RR.



**St.Stephen's Indian Orthodox Church , Birmingham**

**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued**

**for the Year Ended 31 March 2025**

**2. Income From Donations & Legacies**

	<b>2025</b>	<b>2024</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Donations Received	139,351	144,922

**3. INVESTMENT INCOME**

	<b>2025</b>	<b>2024</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Bank Interest	836	1,840
Rental Income	10,360	10,230
<b>Total</b>	<b>11,196</b>	<b>12,070</b>

**4. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS**

	<b>Land &amp; Building</b>	<b>Fixtures and fittings</b>	<b>Computer equipment</b>	<b>Totals</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<b>COST</b>				
At 1 April 2024	556,915	24,231	348	581,494
Additions	-	4,161	932	5,093
Disposal	-	-	-	-
At 31 March 2025	<b>556,915</b>	<b>28,392</b>	<b>1,280</b>	<b>586,587</b>

**DEPRECIATION**

At 1 April 2024	-	8,747	345	9,092
Charge for year	-	2,947	312	3,258
At 31 March 2025	<b>-</b>	<b>11,693</b>	<b>657</b>	<b>12,350</b>

**NET BOOK VALUE**

At 31 March 2025	<b>556,915</b>	<b>16,699</b>	<b>623</b>	<b>574,237</b>
At 31 March 2024	<b>556,915</b>	<b>15,484</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>572,402</b>

**St.Stephen's Indian Orthodox Church , Birmingham**

**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued**

**for the Year Ended 31 March 2025**

**5. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR**

	<b>2025</b>	<b>2024</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Gift Aid Tax Receivable	23,000	21,273
Debtors/Prepayments	1,522	4,840
	<b>24,522</b>	<b>26,113</b>

**6. CASH AT BANK AND IN HAND**

	<b>General Fund</b>	<b>Restricted Fund</b>	<b>2025</b>	<b>2024</b>
			<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Cash in Hand	7	-	7	711
Card Reader	-		-	20
Current Account # 71747827	9,278	-	9,278	10,875
Savings Account # 81591762	35,009	-	35,009	23,992
Fixed Deposit Account # 40999105	10,260	-	10,260	33,749
Fixed Deposit Account # 20999091	-	-	-	25,567
<b>Total</b>	<b>54,555</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>54,555</b>	<b>94,914</b>

**7. CREDITORS**

**AMOUNT FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR**

	<b>2025</b>	<b>2024</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Creditors & Accruals	450	450
Bank Loan (Secured against land building)	7,058	9,241
<b>Total</b>	<b>7,508</b>	<b>9,691</b>

**CREDITORS: AMOUNT FALLING DUE AFTER ONE YEAR**

Bank Loan (Secured)	<b>134,275</b>	<b>199,152</b>
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**8. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS**

	<b>At 01.04.24</b>	<b>Net Movement In Funds</b>	<b>Transfers between Funds</b>	<b>At 31.03.25</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<b>Funds</b>				
General fund	481,536	29,661	(1,616)	509,581
Charity Fund	1,100	(2,716)	1,616	-
Clergy Support Contribution	1,950	0	-	1,950.00
	<b>484,586</b>	<b>26,945</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>511,531</b>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<b>484,586</b>	<b>26,945</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>511,531</b>

	<b>Incoming Resources</b>	<b>Resources Expended</b>	<b>Movement in Funds</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>			
General fund	149,962	120,301	29,661
Charity Fund	585	3,301	(2,716)
Clergy Support Contribution	-	-	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>150,547</b>	<b>123,602</b>	<b>26,945</b>

**St.Stephen's Indian Orthodox Church , Birmingham**

**Detailed Statement of Financial Activities**

**for the Year Ended 31 March 2025**

	<b>2025</b>	<b>2024</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<b>I. INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS</b>		
<b><u>Donations and legacies</u></b>		
Subscriptions	42,930	40,867
Harvest Festival	1,900	2,550
Gifty Aid HMRC	23,476	21,690
Favours Received	250	200
Offertory	18,802	19,918
Donations - Refreshments	3,072	2,056
Birthday Donations	1,418	1,150
Wedding Anniversary Donations	486	475
Holy week Donations	130	4,035
Catholicate Visit	1,151	
Madbaha Donations	500	155
Donations	720	292
Clergy Support	-	2,310
Church Building Fund	-	4,000
Onam	4,208	3,190
One Day Trip	1,163	1,750
Sunday School	600	1,720
SS Bala Gala	-	669
SS Talent Competition	1,390	4,210
Martha Mariam Vanitha Samajam	10,626	3,776
OVBS	1,230	1,485
Christmas & Carol	4,515	4,765
Youth Fund	595	310
Family Get Together	230	790
Sound System Donation	-	1,370
Charity	585	340
Catholicate Day	702	795
Diocesan Day Collection	1,718	1,660
Gas & Electricity - Nursery Re-Imbursement	5,206	15,714
Water Charges Reimbursed	1,290	548
Outstanding utilities from Nursery	1,522	
St. George feast and Ettu nome	2,489	1,150
Donations-Baptism	-	150
Marthoman Sangamam	3,227	230
Other Income	-	600
Souvenir	2,100	-
Koinonia	970	-
Amoss	75	-
Cash Prize	75	-
	-	-
<b>Total Donations &amp; Legacies (A)</b>	<b>139,351</b>	<b>144,922</b>
Bank Interest	836	1,840
Rental Income	10,360	10,230
<b>Total Investment Income (B)</b>	<b>11,196</b>	<b>12,070</b>
<b>Total Incoming Resources (A+B)</b>	<b>150,547</b>	<b>156,992</b>

**St.Stephen's Indian Orthodox Church , Birmingham**

**Detailed Statement of Financial Activities**

**for the Year Ended 31 March 2025**

	<b>2025</b>	<b>2024</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<b>II. EXPENDITURE</b>		
<b>Charitable Activities</b>		
Vicar Allowances	15,087	13,465
Visiting Bishop & Priests	2,100	1,301
Insurance	1,887	1,779
Refreshments	9,815	8,458
Mementos & Gifts	419	45
Printting, Stationery & Postage	769	584
Website Domain Fee (2 Years)	10	24
Holy Week	2,515	2,792
Fire alarm & Emergency Light	774	648
Sacramental Materials	417	55
Souvenir	970	-
Koinonia	1,300	-
Madbaha items	452	-
Repair & Maintenance	8,795	3,019
Clergy Support	-	1,500
Onam Festival	2,611	2,791
One day trip	1,394	1,698
Sunday School	2,535	4,860
SS Bala Gala	-	619
SS Talent Competition	4,909	4,745
OVBS	2,893	1,895
Martha Mariam Vanitha Samajam	9,780	2,610
Christmas	2,893	2,176
Youth Movement	380	437
Family Get - together	2,664	2,837
Charity	3,301	150
Catholicate Day	795	985
Seminary Day	100	200
Diocesan Contribution	1,640	1,100
Retire and replace of Custodian	785	-
Perunna Expense	1,350	-
Sundry Purchases	338	133
Bank Charges/ Arrangements Fees	766	169
Bank loan Interest	12,076	10,105
<b>Carry Forward Expenditure</b>	<b>96,522</b>	<b>71,179</b>

**St.Stephen's Indian Orthodox Church , Birmingham**

**Detailed Statement of Financial Activities- Continued**

**for the Year Ended 31 March 2025**

	<b>2025</b>	<b>2024</b>
	£	£
<b>Brought Forward Expenditure</b>	<b>96,522</b>	<b>71,179</b>
Accountancy	450	360
Card Machine Commission	123	113
Gas & Electricity Charges	6,684	15,714
Sangamam	4,148	-
Water Charges	1,188	549
St. George Feast & Ettu Nomb	2,421	1,272.50
Zoom Subscription	144	287.76
Choir	350	-
AMOSS	150	-
Hall Hire Support	393	170.00
DBS	16	32.00
Hall Hire - Nursery Utility Refund	1,578	540.00
Kitchen Utensils	-	956.23
Miscellaneous	218	96
Depreciation	3,258	2,734
Catholicate Visit	5,959	-
<b>Total Resources expended</b>	<b>123,602</b>	<b>94,004</b>
<b>Net income</b>	<b>26,945</b>	<b>62,988</b>