

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1156444

Report of the Trustees and
Unaudited Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2023
For
St Gregorios Indian Orthodox Church

Johns Accountancy & Taxation
4 Northville Road
Bristol BS7 0RG

St Gregorios Indian Orthodox Church

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For the Year Ended 31 March 2023

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ANNUAL REPORT
FOR THE YEAR 1st April 2022 - March 31st 2023

OFFICE BEARERS 2022-2023

St. Gregorios Indian Orthodox Church
Southend - on - sea, Essex
Email : indianorthodoxchurchsouthend@gmail.com

Worship at All Saints Church
1 Sutton Road, Southend-on - Sea. SS25PA

Rev. Fr. Josen John - Vicar
Mob. : + 44 7729 776352
Mr. Jiji Thomas - Hon. Treasurer
+44 739334 0787
Mr. Jacob Thomas - Hon. Secretary
Mob : +44 7898299387

Managing Committee members:
Mr. K S Abraham - +44 782861 3842
Mr. Libin Mathews - +44 7983656388
Mr. Sunil Thankachen - + 44 744619 8982
Mrs. Marion Abraham - + 44 7551 232018
Mr. Saji Ravi - +44 798441 8282
Mr. Jobi Varghese - + 44 7307357542
Mr. Saibu Samuel - + 44 755574 7634
Mrs. Loveena Simon - + 44 7950923040
Mrs. Sharon Shibu Thomas Ex-officio
Mob.: + 44 7737492781
Mr. K.S Abraham - Diocesan Member
Mob.: +44 782861 3842
Mr. George Mathews- Association Member
Mob. : + 44 7949413795
Mr. Thomas Phillip - Internal Auditor
Mob.: +44 7447 094661
Mrs Ancymol Jacob - OSSAE Representative
Mob.:+44 7412 762707
Mrs. Celina Scaria - MMVS Representative
Mob. : +44 7402 299982
Mr. Rinu Raj - Youth Representative
Mob.: +44 78799 16052

Office bearers 2023-2024

Vicar : Rev.Fr Josen John
Trustee : Mr. K.S Abraham
Secretary : Mr. Libin Mathews

Committee members:
Mr. George Mathews
Mr. Roy Philipose
Mr. Blesson M. Skaria
Mr. Roji Varghese
Mr. Rinu Raju
Mrs. Thankamma Saji

Ex officio :
Mr. Jiji Thomas
Mr. Jacob P. Thomas

Internal Auditor : Mr. Jobi Varghese
Diocesan Rep : Mr. Bincy Mathew

Sunday School
Head Teacher : Mrs. Ancy Jacob
Youth Secretary : Mr. Saibu M Samuel

Martha mariyam samejam
Secretary : Mrs. Sony Blesson
Trustee : Mrs. Sindu Sunil

Introduction

Grace and Glory of our Lord be with us all. On behalf of the managing committee, I take this opportunity to present the Annual report of our church for 2022-2023. With the Grace of God and the visionary leadership of H G Dr Mathews Mar Thimothios, H G Abraham Mar Stephanos Metropolitan -Diocese of U.K, Europe and Africa and our vicars Rev. Fr Josen John with their dedication, contribution, and service for our community, helped in the growth of St Gregorios Indian Orthodox Church at Southend-On-Sea.

The parish is affiliated and constitutes to the Malankara Orthodox Church, founded by St. Thomas, disciple of Lord Jesus Christ, apostle and patron saint of India in AD 52. Tendered and administered at present by his Holiness Moran Mar Baselios Marthoma Mathews III, Catholicos of the East and Malankara Metropolitan, successor to the Apostolic throne of St Thomas.

St Gregorios IOC is under the jurisdiction of the Diocese of UK, Europe, and Africa of the Malankara Orthodox Church. Members from Southend, Basildon, Romford, Chelmsford and Colchester have been able to live up to the challenge of fulfilling their duties to the orthodox community, from Malankara Orthodox Church.

I am presenting a glimpse of all our activities accomplished during the year April 2022-March 2023

General Body Meetings

General Body meetings had been held to address various matters concerning the parish. There were three General body meetings held in the year 2022-2023 in the month of June 2022, October 2022 and in February 2023. The Meetings were held at All Saints Church, Southend-On-Sea and had been presided by Vicar Rev. Fr. Josen John

Managing Committee Meetings

The Managing Committee, along with the Secretary, Trustee and Vicar meet on a regular schedule, to plan various activities, and discuss the affairs of the parish. This year a total of nine such meetings were held. The Vicar/President serves as the Chairman of the Managing Committee meetings.

Worship schedule

Worship held at All Saints Church, Sutton Road, SS2 5PA.

Holy Qurbana

Holy Qurbana held every second Saturday and fourth Saturday of the month, Morning Prayer (Prabhatha Namaskaram) starts at 9:00 am followed by the Holy Qurbana.

Holy Qurbana is conducted in Malayalam.

Altar Assistants

The following People served as Altar assistant during the year 2022-2023

Mr. George Mathew
Mr. Shibu Thomas
Mr. Roy Thomas
Mr. Sunil Thankachen
Mr Binoy mathews
Mr Joshy Valumel
Mr Joby Varghese
Mr. Blesson M Skaria
Mr. Alwin Thomas Jacob
Mr. Alvin Abraham
Master Eaden Binoy Mathews
Master Edwin Varghese
Master Rishon Thampi
Master Samuel Libin
Master Daniel Libin
Master Jenix Jose
Master Stefflin Sunil
Master Alby Thomas
Master Ashley Thomas
Master Alfin Sunil

We thank each of them individually for rendering their service to our church.

Martha-Mariam Samajam 2022-2023

St Mary's League Representative- Mrs. Celin Scariah
St Mary's League Trustee- Mrs Gladis Renu
St Mary's League Committee member:
Mrs. Nija Jiji, Mrs. Indu Libin Mrs. Sibi Binoy Mrs. Sindhu Sunil, Mrs. Sunu Joby

Numerous activities focussing on prayer and Bible studies were conducted. Prayer meeting and Bible studies were held on regular basis every Wednesday on Zoom on diocesan level. Second and fourth Saturday MOMS get together, and prayer was organised after the Holy Qurbana.

Moms members took active participation during church Perunal held in November 2022 by serving food and being in charge of decorating the church. Members maintained dress code during these occasions.

Moms had an active participation during Onam celebration held in September 2022

MOMS members also actively participated during Easter and Good Friday specially involved with serving food and arranging the food for many occasions

MGOCSM / OCYM

MGOCSM / OCYM members have tried to maintain our focus and contribution wherever possible including helping with Sunday School and OVBS where members helped organise and run sessions along with activities and events. MGOCSM/OCYM also helped arrange church for Qurbana and take part in the clean-up thereafter. MGOCSM /OCYM members maintained an active role in the online prayers.

Alvin Abraham was selected as UK South zone Representative – Congratulations.

AMOS

AMOSS is a spiritual organisation of Malankara Orthodox church which is aimed at moulding people who have God's grace, dedication, who follow spiritual and sacramental life, and who have worldly experience, to reside as servants in the sacramental service of the Holy Church and towards creating awareness amongst the acolytes serving in the altar on faith, tradition, and practices through Holy Qurbana, sacraments, and other important days observed within the Church. AMOSS has provided selfless service to the worship and spiritual activities of our parish throughout the years. This has been made possible under the able guidance of the Vicars from time to time. We now have 20 members serving as altar assistants at our parish.

Annual conferences at diocese level are also conducted aiming at the upliftment and encouragement of youngsters as the altar boys.

Our parish conducts training for new members who are interested in being part of AMOSS.

Ongoing trainings for all altar assistants are provided by the vicar on a regular basis specially during the days of the Holy weeks.

Sunday school

Headteacher – Mrs Ancy Jacob

Assistant headteacher – Mrs Reena Varghese

Health and safety rep- Mrs Jeena Kurakose

36 children attended Sunday school classes.

8 Church members completed year 11 exams this year.

Talent competition for Solo song and elocution competition was held online for district level and 10 children participated for this. Quiz competition for district level was conducted on 16/10/22 online and 2 of our students participated for this. Half yearly exam was conducted on 11th June 2022.

OVBS was conducted on October 1st 2022 at Basildon, Senior youth and MGOCSM church members organised lessons songs and games. 30 children and 20 volunteers participated.

Annual exam was held on December 10, 2022

Building Committee

Following members have been selected as members in the building committee.

Convener- Mr Geosan George

Committee members:

Mr George Mathews

Mr Libini Mathews

Mr Roy T Thomas

Mrs Sharon Shibu Thomas

Mr K S Abraham

Mr. Jiji Thomas

Mr Jacob P Thomas

Building committee has been regularly meeting to discuss plans with regards to having a permanent place of worship under the leadership of Mr Geosan George

Church Choir

Church choir has been led by Mr Rinu Raju along with Mr Jose George in charge of sound system. Church members have been taking active participation to join and participate in the Holy Liturgy. Mr George Mathew and Mrs Ancymol Jacob has overseen organizing the team along with Rinu Raju.

Website

Mr Roni Rajan, Mr Thomas Philip & Mr Shiji Daniel have overseen building the church website and updating church information's on social media.

Contribution to regularly update the contents, photos and you tube link has been made by each of the church members

Website- www.sgioocessex.org.uk

Facebook page for the church has stayed active and regularly updated.

Feast of St.Gregorios (Pall Perunal)

St. Gregorios Indian Orthodox Church, Southend On Sea, Celebrated Perunal of the Patron Saint Parumala Thirumeni on the 11th & 12th of November 2022. We were blessed with the presence of our new diocese metropolitan HG Abraham Mar Stephanos. Members from Chelmsford, Colchester, Romford, Basildon, and Southend attended the Perunal. The Chief Celebrant was HG Abraham Mar Stephanos. The Parumala Perunal was Conducted by Pada yatra followed by Sandhya namaskam, Devotional speech by our Thirumeni and Rev.Fr. Aby Phillip on 11th November evening. Welcome speech by our Vicar Rev. Fr. Josen John and Vote of Thanks by Secretary Jacob P. Thomas. Celebrating Holy Qurbana on 12th Nov 2022, followed by Prathishanam, Nercha vilambu and Sneha virunnu. There was brief meeting to felicitate our newly appointed Thirumeni. For our church, Trustee, Secretary and Spiritual organization representatives to give gifts to Thirumeni.

Food Fest

There was a food fest held 08th of October 2022 to raise fund for the church which was a great success. Almost parish embers prepared food at home for sale in the food fest.

Harvest Festival

26th November 2022 after Holy Qurbana our church conducted Harvest Festival. Almost our Church Members actively participated in the Harvest festival to make this a great event. Parishioners brought various plants and fruits from their garden and other items for sale. Children and adults actively took interest in buying and raising fund for the church.

Onam

Onam was celebrated on 24th of September 2022 after Holy Qurbana. Special onam sadhya was organized by church and members dressed up in traditional Kerala attire.

Christmas Celebration

Holy Qurbana was celebrated on 24th December 22 by Rev.Fr Josen John. The Christmas Message delivered by the priest was inspiring to all the people gathered in the church. After the Holy Qurbana everyone participated in a Snehaviyunnu to celebrate the birth of our saviour. As per the schedule, church carol group visited members houses and sung the carol song. Mr. Binoy Mathew was the Christmas Carol Convenor.

Food and Refreshment

Mr. Saji Ravi has been nominated to organize food and refreshment for members after Holy Qurbana. Parish provides Snehaviyunnu refreshment every second and fourth Saturday after Holy Qurbana. Majority of which has been contribution from the kind hearted church members.

New membership

We had Five new members who have joined and applied for membership during the year 2022-2023

Obituary

Our prayer for the departed Soul of

K I Philipose – Father of Roy Philipose
Annamma Philipose – Mother of Roy Philipose
Y Thankachen – Father of Sunil Thankachen
K.G. Kurian – Father of Geetha Shaji
Raju P G – Father of Reena Bejoy

Our church organized a special condolence prayers.

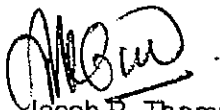
Acknowledgment

I thank God Almighty for giving me the opportunity to serve as the Secretary of this blessed parish. Sincere thanks to all, who helped to make this year a productive, progressive and blessed year.

On behalf of our Vicar, Trustee, Managing Committee and myself, I thank each one of you for your support and co-operation.

Many thanks to all the office bearers for their support. My grateful appreciation and thanks go out to all of you, and pray that God reward them for their unconditional dedication and love towards our parish. Thank you all for the teamwork.

For the Managing Committee, Respectfully Submitted


Jacob P. Thomas
(Secretary)

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of
St.Gregorios Indian Orthodox Church, Essex

I report on the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2023 set out on pages 10 to 13.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

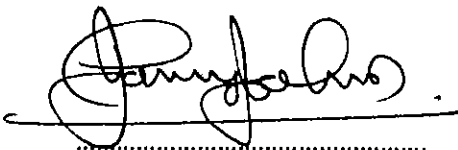
I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

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

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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.



Jomy John

Johns Accountancy & Taxation

Filton

Bristol BS7 0RG

Date 31/01/2024

St. Gregerios Indian Orthodox Church

Statement of Financial Activities
For the Year Ended 31 March 2023

	Notes	Unrestricted Fund (£)	Restricted Fund (£)	2021 Total Funds (£)	2022 Total (£)
INCOMING RESOURCES					
Income resources from generated funds					
Voluntary income		28,844	-	28,844	16,707
Activities for generating funds		1,474	-	1,474	-
Other incoming resources		30	-	30	-
Total incoming resources		29,148	-	29,148	16,707
RESOURCES EXPENDED					
Costs of Generating Funds		16,542	-	16,542	14,108
Charitable Expenditure		-	-	-	-
Provisioning Expenses		1,618	-	1,618	1,601
Governance Cost		-	-	-	-
		18,210	-	18,210	16,707
NET INCOMING RESOURCES BEFORE TRANSFERS		9,938	-	9,938	1,000
Gross transfer between funds		-	-	-	-
Net incoming resources		9,938	-	9,938	1,000
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		52,002	-	52,002	52,002
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		52,941	-	52,941	53,002

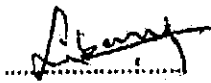

Treasurer

St Gregorios Indian Orthodox Church

Balance Sheet
At 31 March 2023

	<u>Unrestricted</u>	<u>Restricted</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
	<u>Fund</u>	<u>Fund</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Total</u>
Notes	(£)	(£)	(£)	(£)
FIXED ASSETS				
Tangible Assets	-	-	-	-
CURRENT ASSETS				
Debtors	-	-	-	-
Cash at bank and in Hand	93,121	-	93,121	83,483
	<u>93,121</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>93,121</u>	<u>83,483</u>
CREDITORS				
Amounts falling due within one year	-	-	300 -	480
NET CURRENT ASSETS / (LIABILITIES)	<u>93,121</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>93,421</u>	<u>83,003</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES	<u>93,121</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>93,421</u>	<u>83,003</u>
CREDITORS				
Amounts falling due after more than one year	-	-	-	-
NET ASSETS	<u>93,121</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>93,421</u>	<u>83,003</u>
FUNDS				
Unrestricted Funds	1		93,421	83,003
Restricted Funds			-	-
TOTAL FUNDS			<u>93,421</u>	<u>83,003</u>

The financial Statements were approved by the Board of Trustees on 10/06/23 and were signed on its behalf by


Treasurer

The notes form part of these financial statements

St Gregorios Indian Orthodox Church
Notes to the Financial Statements - continued for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

1. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1.4.2022 £	Net Movement in Funds £	Transfers between Funds £	At 31.03.2023 £
Unrestricted Funds				
General Fund	83,483	9,938		93,421
Others	-	-		-
	<u>83,483</u>	<u>9,938</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>93,421</u>
Restricted Funds				
Church Property Fund	-	-		-
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>83,483</u>	<u>9,938</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>93,421</u>

Net Movement in Funds, included in above are as follows

	Incoming Resources £	Resources Expended. £	Movement in Funds £
Unrestricted Funds			
General Fund	28,148	18,210	9,938
Others	-	-	-
	<u>28,148</u>	<u>18,210</u>	<u>9,938</u>
Restricted Funds	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>28,148</u>	<u>18,210</u>	<u>9,938</u>

St Gregorios Indian Orthodox Church
Detailed Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
	<u>(£)</u>	<u>(£)</u>
<u>Incoming Resources</u>		
Voluntary Income		
Donations	2,906	-
Subscription	15,425	16,707
Offertory	5,544	-
Sunday School and OVBS	580	-
MOMS	260	-
Diocesan Day	65	-
St Gregorios Feast(Perunal)	150	-
Christmas	1,600	-
Seminary		
Holy Week	50	-
Birthday/wedding /Sacraments		
Catholicate Day	65	-
Gift Aid		
	<u>26,644</u>	<u>16,707</u>
Activities for Generating Funds		
Harvest festival	995	-
Food Festival	479	-
	<u>1,474</u>	<u>-</u>
Other Incoming Resources		
Miscellaneous Income	30	-
Total Incoming Resources	<u>28,148</u>	<u>16,707</u>
<u>Resources Expended</u>		
Charitable Expenditures		
Vicar Allowances	5,800	8,225
Remuneration: Guest Priests		
Perunal(Feast)	1,751	
Gift(Donation)		290
Diocese Day		
Sunday School and OVBS	997	782
Consumables, Food & Refreshments	1,535	2,149
MOMS	250	
Church Rent	3,115	2,660
Christmas	107	
Parish Day		
Holy Week	3,037	
	<u>16,692</u>	<u>14,106</u>
Fund Raising Expenses		
Events Cost	-	-
Governance Cost		
Sundries	771	518
Accounting	240	480
Bank charges	74	18
Subscriptions	330	302
Advertising		63
Travel Expense	204	
Printing & Stationery		220
	<u>1,618</u>	<u>1,601</u>
Total Resources Expended	<u>18,210</u>	<u>15,707</u>
Net Income	<u>9,938</u>	<u>1,000</u>