

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1156444

Report of the Trustees and
Unaudited Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2025
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 2025

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St. Gregorios Indian Orthodox Church



**SOUTHEND-ON-SEA, ESSEX
UNITED KINGDOM**

Charity Reg No. : 1158444

E-Mail : indianorthodoxchurchsouthend@gmail.com



ANNUAL REPORT

For the Year 1st April 2024 – 31st March 2025

Submitted by:

Libin Mathews

Secretary

St. Gregorios Indian Orthodox Church,

1 Sutton Road, Southend-on-Sea

Essex, SS2 6PA

Introduction

May the Grace and Glory of our Lord be with us all. On behalf of the Managing Committee, I am humbled to present the Annual Report of our church for the year 2024–2025. This year has been a blessed journey under the guidance of H.G. Abraham Mar Stephanos Metropolitan of the Diocese of U.K., Europe and Africa, and through the dedication of our Vicars Rev. Fr. Ranju K Skaria (April–July 2024) and Rev. Fr. Mobin Varghese (August 2024–March 2025). Their commitment, prayers, and leadership have helped us to grow as a parish community, nurturing both spiritual and social fellowship. We remain rooted in the Apostolic faith of the Malankara Orthodox Syrian Church, founded by St. Thomas the Apostle in AD 52, and presently led by His Holiness Baselios Marthoma Mathews III, our Catholicos and Malankara Metropolitan.

Office Bearers 2024–2025

Trustee: Mr. K.S Abraham

Secretary: Mr. Libin Mathews

Committee Members: Mr. Jacob P Thomas, Mr. Rinu Raju, Mr. Roy Philipose, Mr. Sijo M Jacob, Mr. Roy Varghese, Mrs. Thankamma Saji, & Mrs. Jeena Kuriakose

Internal Auditor: Mr. Alwin Thomas Jacob

OSSAE Representative: Mrs. Ancymol Jacob

MMVS Representative: Mrs. Rachel Chacko

Youth Representative: Miss. Nidhisha Saji

Office Bearers 2025–2026

Trustee: Mr. K.S Abraham

Secretary: Mr. Libin Mathews

Committee Members: Mr. Jacob P Thomas, Mr. Sijo M Jacob, Mr. Rinu Raju, Mr. Basil Peter, Mr. Roy Philipose, Mr. Suresh Sundaram, Mrs. Jeena Kuriakose, Mrs. Anumol Jose & Mrs. Sunimol Thomas

Internal Auditor: Mr. Alwin Thomas Jacob

Sunday School Head Teacher: Mrs. Ancymol Jacob

Youth Representative: Miss. Josna Jose

MMVS Representative: Mrs. Rachel Chacko

Prayer Group Lead & Coordinator: Mr. Renju P Raju

Altar Assistant Representative: Mr. Alvin Abraham

Safeguarding Officer: Mr. Shiji Daniel

Health & Safety Officer: Mrs. Jeena Kuriakose

Diocesan Metropolitan Visit

On 25th January 2025, Our Diocesan Metropolitan visited our church, His Grace baptised Eniza Midhun, daughter of Midhun Varghese & Anitta Abraham, His Grace also blessed Sijo M Jacob & Naithan Jacob Sijo to be inducted into the Altar Assistance and offered blessings and encouragement to our parish. His Grace had Visited the site which we are planning to purchase.

General Body Meetings

During the year, three General Body Meetings were convened to discuss key matters of the parish: April 2024 (presided by Rev. Fr. Renju K Skaria), November 2024, and February 2025 (both presided by Rev. Fr. Mobin Varghese). These gatherings provided a forum for accountability, transparency, and decision-making in our parish.

Managing Committee & Building Committee Meetings

The Managing Committee met nine times, addressing administrative and spiritual matters of the church. Additionally, four joint meetings of the (Managing Committee and Building Committee) were held to discuss the purchase of the Shoeburyness church property.

Worship and Holy Qurbana

Holy Qurbana was celebrated on 2nd & 4th Saturdays of each month, with Morning Prayer at 9am. Services conducted in Malayalam, allowing our faithful to worship in the traditional liturgy.

Altar Assistants (AMOSS)

We are blessed with dedicated altar assistants who served faithfully throughout the year. Senior and junior members contributed their time and devotion, including Roy Thomas, Sunil Thankachen, Bincy Mathews, Renju P Raju, Sijo M Jacob, Alvin Abraham, Alvin Thomas Jacob, Edwin Varghese, Naithan Jacob Sijo, Daniel Libin, Samuel Libin, Eaden Binoy Mathews, Jenix Jose, Staffin Sunil, Abby Thomas, Ashley Thomas, Rishon Thampi, and Atin Sunil.

Training and spiritual guidance were regularly provided by our Vicars.

Sunday School

Under the leadership of Head Teacher Mrs. Ancy Jacob & Assistant Head Teacher Mrs. Reena Varghese & Dilip Mathews, Sunday School flourished with committed teachers & enthusiastic students. CVBS was conducted on 5th and 12th October 2024, with 28 children & volunteers. Annual assessments were completed in December 2024 for all grades & Bazziel Peter, Jessy Varghese, Jenix Jose & Eaden Binoy attended the Year 10 Sunday school exam & passed. Four Teachers represented our parish at the Annual Teachers Conference at Bristol on 27th April 2024.

Martha Mariam Vanitha SemaJam (MMVS)

The MMVS held regular prayer meetings & Bible studies, often joining diocesan-level activities via Zoom. They took active roles in Perunai (November 2024), Onam (September 2024), Easter & Good Friday, assisting with food service, church decoration & fellowship arrangements. Five MMVS members participated in the MMVS South Zone Conference on 13th April 2024 at Southampton.

MGDCSM / OCYM

Youth actively participated in organising Sunday School, OVBS, and church events. They supported worship by preparing the church for services and taking part in clean-up activities. Five youth members from our parish participated in the Annual Orthodox Youth Camp on 11th October 2024 at Wales.

Choir and Music Ministry

Our church choir, led by Mr. Rinu Raju with support from Mr. Jose George (sound system), uplifted worship services with melodious singing by Ancymoi Jacob, Rossy Sunny, Geetha Shaji, Abish Jaison, and Neethu Ranju.

Area Prayer

Southend area prayers were hosted on every 4th Saturday of the month in member's homes at 7pm.

Food & Refreshments

Parish provided refreshments after each Holy Qurbana and Provide Snaha Virunnu on Special Occasions. A special Snaha Virunnu was hosted by Mr. Suresh & family on 8th March 2025.

Media and Communication

Our parish website (www.sgjocessex.org.uk) was maintained by Mr. Roni Rajan & Mr. Shiji Daniel. Social media updates were regularly managed by Mr. Shiji Daniel & Mr. Thomas Philip.

Major Parish Events

Malankara Orthodox Sengamam: 45 members participated in the UK region Sengamam at Coventry on 21st May 2024

South Zone Sunday School Talent Competition: We hosted the Event, 17 churches participated in the south zone sunday school talent competition on 22nd June 2024, it was a remarkable achievement for Rev Fr Ranju K Scaria as a vicar with the support of all the parishioners.

Harvest Festival (24th Aug 2024): Members contributed homegrown produce, raising funds for the parish.

Onam (14th Sep 2024): Celebrated with Onam Sadhya and traditional Korsea dress.

Feast of St. Grigorios (9th & 9th Nov 2024): Celebrated with Padi Yatra, Sandhya Namaskaram, Holy Qurbana, Prethishanam, and Nercha Vilambu.

Christmas (24 Dec 2024): Carol visits, Holy Qurbana, and Shehvirunnu fostered with festive of joy.

Food Fest (11th Jan 2025): Coordinated by Mrs. Rachel Chacko and Mrs. Jeane Kuriskose and supported by all the MMSV members to resounding a success.

Wayanad Relief: Members actively supported the Wayanad Rebuild Support Fund Raising event.

Fund Raising for the Purchase of Church Property

Loan Contributions: The following church members have supported the property purchase through loans, K S Abraham & Libin Mathews, Roy Philipose, Bijoy Varghese, Dillip Mathews, Rinu Raju & Sijo M Jacob with a totalling of £33000.00

Donations from church Members: The following church members generously donated funds towards the property purchase, Shiji Daniel, Jacob P Thomas, Jose George, Sijo M Jacob, Renju Raju, Roy Varghese, Suresh Sundaram, Sonia Abraham, Jebin Johny, K S Abraham & Libin Mathew with a totalling of £29801.00

Donations from Non-Members: We gratefully acknowledge donations totalling £7197.01 from kind-hearted & well-wishers across the United Kingdom.

Raffle: All Members actively participate in selling the raffle to their friends, family and colleagues. The Managing committee & Building Committee were blessed with the opportunity to visit 16 Churches in UK, where the vicars and congregation extended their generous support. Additionally, Southend Community & Basildon Community, along with friends & Families across UK & worldwide had supported to the success of this effort. Special gratitude to our main Sponsors Law & Lawyers, Mr Francis Mathew and Starling Street, Mr Rijo Joseph. A heartfelt appreciation to the winners of 1st & 2nd prizes for kindly donating back their winnings to the Church.

Other Notable Mentions


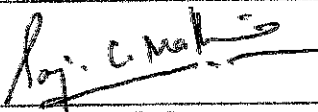


New Memberships: Four families joined our parish during this year.

Passed away: We remember in prayer for the families who lost their beloved family members during the year.

A K David (82) father of Nija David, Alayamma Varghese (82) Grandmother of Dillip Mathews, P.K Annamma (92) mother of Ancy Jacob.

Acknowledgment

I thank Almighty God for granting me the opportunity to serve as Secretary of this blessed parish. My heartfelt gratitude to our Vicar, Trustees, Managing Committee, and all parishioners for their cooperation, dedication, and love for the church. May God continue to bless us all as our journey together in faith and fellowship with our dream of having our own place of worship.

Prepared By	Concurred by	Seconded/Proposed by
		
Libin Mathews	Fr Sajan C Mathew	Jose George
Secretary	Vicar	Seconded by
		
		Rachel Chacko
Date: 27/09/2025	Date: 27/09/25	Date: Rachel Chacko 27/09/25

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

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2025 set out on pages 7 to 9.

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").

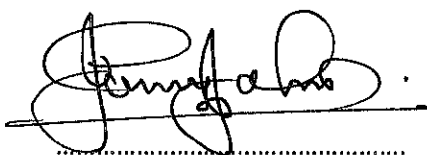
I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

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.



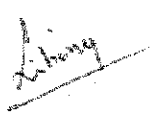
Jomy John
Johns Accountancy & Taxation
Filton
Bristol BS7 0RG

Date 26/1/2026

St Gregorios Indian Orthodox Church

Statement of Financial Activities
For the Year Ended 31 March 2025

			<u>2025</u>	<u>2024</u>
	<u>Unrestricted</u>	<u>Restricted</u>	<u>Total Funds</u>	<u>Total</u>
Notes	<u>Fund</u>	<u>Fund</u>		
	<u>(£)</u>	<u>(£)</u>	<u>(£)</u>	<u>(£)</u>
INCOMING RESOURCES				
Incoming resources from generated funds				
Voluntary income	73,833	-	73,833	28,497
Activities for generating funds	32,836	-	32,836	1,092
Other incoming resources	-	-	-	280
Total incoming resources	106,670	-	106,670	29,869
RESOURCES EXPENDED				
Costs of Generating Funds				
Charitable Expenditure	23,882	-	23,882	22,277
Fundraising Expenses	-	-	-	-
Governance Cost	671	-	671	1,321
	24,554	-	24,554	23,597
NET INCOMING RESOURCES BEFORE TRANSFERS	82,116	-	82,116	6,272
Gross transfer between funds			-	-
Net incoming resources	82,116	-	82,116	6,272
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS				
Total funds brought forward	99,093	-	99,093	92,821
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	181,209	-	181,209	99,093


.....
Libini Mathews(Treasurer)


The notes form part of these financial statements

St Gregorios Indian Orthodox Church

Balance Sheet
At 31 March 2025

	Notes	<u>Unrestricted</u> <u>Fund</u> <u>(£)</u>	<u>Restricted</u> <u>Fund</u> <u>(£)</u>	<u>2025</u> <u>Total</u> <u>(£)</u>	<u>2024</u> <u>Total</u> <u>(£)</u>
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible Assets		0	-	-	-
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors		0	-	-	-
Cash at bank and in Hand		215109	-	215,109	99,693
		215109	-	215,109	99,693
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due within one year	1	(900)	-	(900)	(600)
NET CURRENT ASSETS / (LIABILITIES)		214209	-	214,209	99,093
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		214209	-	214,209	99,093
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due after more than one year	2	(33,000)	-	(33,000)	-
NET ASSETS		181209	0	181209	99,093
FUNDS					
Unrestricted Funds	3			181,209	99,093
Restricted Funds				-	-
TOTAL FUNDS				181,209	99,093

The financial Statements were approved by the Board of Trustees on 27/09/25..... and were signed on its behalf by



.....
Libini Mathews(Treasurer)

St Gregorios Indian Orthodox Church

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

1. CREDITORS; AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2025	2024
	£	£
Bank Loans and Overdrafts	-	-
Other Creditors	-	-
Accrued Expenses	900	600
	900	600

2. CREDITORS; AMOUNTS FALLING DUE AFTER MORE THAN ONE YEAR

	2025	2024
	£	£
HSBC Mortgage	-	-
Amounts falling due in more than five years	-	-
Loan from Members and others	33,000	-
Total	33,000	-

3. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1.4.2024	Net Movement in Funds	Transfers between Funds	At 31.03.2025
	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted Funds				
General Fund	99,093	82,116		181,209
Others	-			-
	99,093	82,116	0	181,209
Restricted Funds				
Church Property Fund	-	-		-
	-	-	-	-
TOTAL FUNDS	99,093	82,116	-	181,209

Net Movement in Funds, included in above are as follows

	Incoming Resources	Resources Expended.	Movement in Funds
	£	£	£
Unrestricted Funds			
General Fund	106,670	24,554	82,116
Others	-	-	-
	106,670	24,554	82,116
Restricted Funds	-	-	-
TOTAL FUNDS	106,670	24,554	82,116

St Gregorios Indian Orthodox Church
Detailed Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

	2025	2024
	(£)	(£)
<u>Incoming Resources</u>		
Voluntary Income		
Donations	45,622	3,336
Subscription	15,850	14,685
Offertory	3,361	6,791
Sunday School and OVBS	590	1,145
MOMS		220
Diocesan Day	240	475
St Gregorios Feast(Perunal)		
Christmas	1,680	1,760
Onam	730	
Birthday/wedding /Sacraments		
Catholicate Day		85
Talent Competition	5,760	
	73,833	28,497
Activities for Generating Funds		
Harvest festival	1,010	554
Raffle Collection	31,074	
Food Festival	752	538
	32,836	1,092
Other Incoming Resources		
Miscellaneous Income		280
Total Incoming Resources	106,670	29,869
<u>Resources Expended</u>		
Charitable Expenditures		
Vicar Allowances	5,750	6,100
Talent Event	6,388	
Perunal(Feast)	35	83
Gift(Donation)/Charity	1,600	238
Diocese Day	1,200	1,090
Sunday School and OVBS/OCYM	1,512	1,897
Consumables, Food & Refreshments	2,066	2,232
MOMS	100	75
Church Rent	4,335	3,330
Christmas	16	93
Parish Day/Onam	880	1,001
Holy Week		6,139
	23,882	22,277
Fund Raising Expenses		
Events Cost	-	-
Governance Cost		
Sundries	310	904
Accounting	300	300
Bank charges	61	67
Subscriptions		
Advertising		
Travel Expense		50
Printing & Stationery		
	671	1,321
Total Resource Expended	24,554	23,597
Net Income	82,116	6,272