

# ST. MARY'S JACOBITE SYRIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH, NORTHAMPTON

England & Wales · Charity number 1162484

## Details

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**Other names** JACOBITE CHURCH, NORTHAMPTON

**Status** Registered

**Legal form** Other

**Registered** 2015-07-01

**Register** [View on the Charity Commission register](#)

## Contact

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**Address** 17 Battle Close  
Wootton  
Northampton  
NN4 6RP

**Phone** 07459261897

**Email** [stmarys.jsoc.northampton2015@gmail.com](mailto:stmarys.jsoc.northampton2015@gmail.com)

**Website** [www.jacobitechurchnorthampton.com](http://www.jacobitechurchnorthampton.com)

## Activities

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**Objects:** TO ADVANCE THE RELIGION OF THE JACOBITE SYRIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH IN NORTHAMPTON AND SURROUNDING AREAS BY MAINTAINING THE FAITH, TRADITIONS AND DOCTRINES OF THE JACOBITE SYRIAN CHURCH AND PERFORMING ALL THE RELIGIOUS RITES AND SACRAMENTS FOR ALL ITS MEMBERS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE SYRIAN ORTHODOX TRADITION AS FOLLOWED BY THE SYRIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH IN INDIA; CONDUCTING THE HOLY EUCHARIST, SACRAMENTS AND SERVICES ACCORDING TO THE FAITH TRADITIONS, CUSTOMS AND RITES OF THE JACOBITE SYRIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH; PROVIDING HOLY SACRAMENTS TO ALL ITS MEMBERS; ESTABLISHING CHARITABLE INSTITUTIONS FOR THE WELFARE OF THE MEMBERS OF THE CHURCH AND FOR THE POOR AND NEEDY; ORGANISING AND CONDUCTING SUNDAY SCHOOL, PRAYER MEETINGS, RETREATS, YOUTH ASSOCIATION, VANITHA SAMAJAM (WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION), SPIRITUAL ORGANISATIONS AND ACTIVITIES; TO FURTHER SUCH CHARITABLE PURPOSES FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE PUBLIC AS ARE EXCLUSIVELY CHARITABLE ACCORDING TO THE LAWS OF ENGLAND AND WALES AS THE TRUSTEES MAY FROM TIME TO TIME DETERMINE.

**Activities:** Church did Christmas Carol services during December 2018 at all member's houses. Our parish has donated £1,400 towards Kerala flood relief fund. Plans are being made to have Holy Week services in our Church including Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter services

## Classification

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- **How:** Provides Services
- **What:** Religious Activities
- **Who:** People Of A Particular Ethnic Or Racial Origin

## Geography

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- Bedford
- Northamptonshire

## Finances

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| Period end | Income  | Expenditure | Assets | Employees |
|------------|---------|-------------|--------|-----------|
| 2025-03-31 | £45,604 | £34,463     | -      | -         |
| 2024-03-31 | £50,398 | £35,590     | -      | -         |
| 2023-03-31 | £36,862 | £34,631     | -      | -         |
| 2022-03-31 | £22,824 | £23,604     | -      | -         |
| 2021-03-31 | £13,081 | £17,487     | -      | -         |

## Trustees

| Name                  | Role | Appointed  |
|-----------------------|------|------------|
| Anil Mathew           |      | 2024-05-01 |
| Anil Varghese         |      | 2024-05-01 |
| Anuroop Jacob         |      | 2026-05-09 |
| Deepu Varghese Chacko |      | 2026-05-09 |
| Eldhose George        |      | 2026-05-09 |
| JISHA ELDHOSE         |      | 2026-05-09 |
| Jerrin Thomas         |      | 2026-05-09 |
| Libin Mathew          |      | 2024-05-01 |
| Rev Alex Paul         |      | 2025-01-01 |
| Saibu Thomas          |      | 2024-05-01 |
| Velson Thomas         |      | 2021-01-17 |

**ST. MARY'S JACOBITE SYRIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH, NORTHAMPTON**

England & Wales - Charity number 1162484

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# Accounts

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# **St. Mary's Jacobite Syrian Orthodox Church**

(Under the Holy Apostolic See of Antioch & All the East)

## **Northampton**



## **Trustee's Report and Accounts**

**1st April 2024 – 31st March 2025**



## Administrative Information

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### **Vicar & President**

Rev. Fr. Alex Paul

### **Secretary**

Mr. Anil Mathew

### **Treasurer**

Mr. Saibu Thomas

### **Auditors**

Mr. Mathews Mattamana and Mr. Kevil Itty

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### **Communication Address**

17, Battle Close

Northampton NN4 6RP

United Kingdom



### **Email:**

stmarys.jsoc.northampton2015@gmail.com



### **Website:**

[www.jacobitechurchnorthampton.com](http://www.jacobitechurchnorthampton.com)

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### **Charity Registration Number**

1162484

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### **Our Bank**

HSBC

22 Abington Street

Northampton NN1 2AN

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**Worship Place**

**Victoria Road Congregational Church**

Victoria Road

Northampton NN1 5ED

## **St Mary's Jacobite Syrian Church, Northampton**

### **Annual Report and Accounts**

**For the period: 1st April 2024 – 31st March 2025**

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#### **Message from the Secretary**

The Trustees are pleased to present their report and accounts for the period 1st April 2024 to 31st March 2025.

Let us first thank God Almighty for guiding us throughout the year and glorify His Holy Name. On behalf of the Board of Trustees, I, the Secretary, am honoured to present the Annual Report of our Parish for the year 2024–25, highlighting our spiritual, community, and charitable activities, as well as the progress and achievements of our Church.

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#### **Introduction**

##### **Structure and Objectives**

St Mary's Jacobite Syrian Church, Northampton, is part of the Universal Syrian Orthodox Church and a diaspora community of the Malankara Jacobite Syrian Christian Church, India. The supreme head of the Church is His Holiness Moran Mar Ignatius Aphrem II, Patriarch of Antioch and all the East, with His Beatitude Aboon Mor Baselios Joseph, Catholicos of the East, as the head of the Church in India. The Patriarch has appointed His Grace Mor Osthathos Issac as the Metropolitan (Patriarchal Vicar) overseeing the Parish.

The Church's objectives are to maintain the faith, traditions, and doctrines of the Jacobite Syrian Christian Church; perform religious rites and sacraments for its members in accordance with the ancient Syriac Orthodox traditions; and support the poor and needy.

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##### **Governance and Management**

As a registered charity, the Church is governed in accordance with relevant laws. It is managed by a Board of Trustees elected by the Church General Meeting. The Trustees are responsible for the administrative and financial affairs of the Church and meet regularly to monitor activities and make decisions.

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## Parish and Membership

The Parish register was diligently maintained throughout the year. As of this report, St. Mary's Church, Northampton, comprises **40 families**, reflecting the dedication and active participation of our parish community in spiritual and Church activities.

### The Vicar:

Rev. Fr. Alex Paul serves as our Vicar. His spiritual leadership has had a profound influence on our families and has strengthened the operation of spiritual organizations such as Sunday School, Women's Association, Youth association and Student Movements.

### General Body Meetings:

The Annual General Meeting (AGM) was held on **24th May 2025** to present and approve the Annual Report and Accounts for 2024–25. The accounts were approved along with the audit report.

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## Board of Trustees (Managing Committee) 2024–25

| Name                 | Position          | Status      |
|----------------------|-------------------|-------------|
| Rev. Fr. Alex Paul   | Vicar & President | Present     |
| Rev. Fr. Jebin Ipe   | Ex Vicar          | Transferred |
| Mr. Anil Mathew      | Secretary         | Elected     |
| Mr. Saibu Thomas     | Treasurer         | Elected     |
| Mr. Johnson Pockayil | Committee Member  | Elected     |
| Mr. Libin Mathew     | Committee Member  | Elected     |
| Mr. Bijoy Thomas     | Committee Member  | Elected     |
| Mr. Eldhose Varghese | Committee Member  | Elected     |
| Mr. Thomas Varkey    | Committee Member  | Elected     |
| Mr. Velson Thomas    | Committee Member  | Elected     |
| Mrs. Shaiba Abraham  | Committee Member  | Elected     |
| Mr. Anil Varghese    | Committee Member  | Elected     |

### Auditors:

Mr. Mathews Mattamana and Mr. Kevil Itty

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## **Activities**

### **Holy Services**

Regular Holy Qurbana services were held on the second and fourth Saturday mornings of each month. Through these divine services, our parish community was able to worship together and grow spiritually in faith and fellowship.

We express our heartfelt thanks to all the priests who celebrated the Holy Mass, the altar servers who assisted faithfully, and the choir members who enhanced the beauty of our worship through their melodious singing.

A special word of gratitude goes to the Trustees of Victoria Road Congregational Church, Northampton, for graciously providing their church premises for our services and activities throughout the year.

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### **Parish Day & Annual Feast (St. Mary's Day)**

The Annual Day celebrations of the Church were held on 7th–8th September 2024, bringing together parish members for worship, fellowship, and cultural celebration.

- 7th September 2024 (Friday): The celebrations commenced with flag hosting, followed by evening prayers, Gospel preaching, and Benediction, marking the spiritual beginning of the Parish Day.
- 8th September 2024 (Saturday – Feast Day): The main feast day began with morning Holy Mass, celebrated by Chief Celebrant Fr. Alex Paul, with co-celebrants Rev. Fr. Jebin Ipe and Fr. Sajan Mathew. The Mass was followed by an inspiring sermon, a traditional procession, and engaging cultural activities. Prizes were awarded to Sunday School children who excelled in the summer competitions. The day concluded with Nercha, and a traditional Kerala meal served to all attendees, fostering fellowship and community spirit.

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### **Great Lent and Passion Week**

During the year, Great Lent and Passion Week services were observed in March 2024, providing parish members with opportunities for prayer, reflection, and spiritual growth.

As part of the observance, parish home visits were conducted by Fr. Jebin Ipe across Northampton, Kettering, Milton Keynes, and Bedford, strengthening pastoral care and providing spiritual support to families in their homes.

The Martha Mariam Vanitha Samajam actively participated in charitable initiatives during this period, organizing a Food Drive. The collected food items were donated to a local charity through the Victoria Road Congregational Church, reflecting the parish's commitment to serving the community in accordance with Christian values of compassion and charity.

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### **Baptism**

This year, the Parish was blessed to celebrate the baptism of a young boy and a young girl, conducted by Vicar Rev. Fr. Jebin Ipe and Fr. Alex Paul. It was a joyful and blessed occasion for the families and all parish members who witnessed the ceremonies.

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### **Church Kalolsavam**

The Church Kalolsavam was held on 27th April and 11th May 2024, featuring a variety of competitions for Sunday School children. These events provided a valuable opportunity for our young members to showcase their talents in music, arts, elocution, and other creative fields, fostering both spiritual and personal growth.

Winners from the parish-level competitions proudly represented St Mary's Jacobite Syrian Church, Northampton, at the National Kalolsavam held in Leeds. Their active participation and commendable performances brought great joy and pride to our parish community.

We express our heartfelt appreciation to the Sunday School teachers, parents, and volunteers for their tireless efforts, guidance, and support in making the event a memorable success.

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### **Harvest and Food Festival**

The Harvest and Food Festival was joyfully celebrated on 9th November 2024. The day began with the Holy Mass, followed by the auction of harvest products generously contributed by parish members. The highlight of the event was the wide variety of home-cooked delicacies prepared by the Martha Mariam Women's Association, which were shared and sold to raise funds for charitable causes.

The event beautifully reflected the unity, generosity, and fellowship of our parish community. Heartfelt thanks to all parishioners, volunteers, and the Women's Association members for their dedicated efforts in making this celebration both spiritually and socially enriching.

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## **Carol Virunnu and Christmas Carols**

During the blessed Christmas season, our Church Choir actively participated in the MSOC Carol Virunnu held in December 2024, offering beautiful renditions of traditional carols and hymns that reflected the joy and spirit of Christ's birth.

In preparation for Christmas, our parish organised home carol visits across Northampton, Kettering, Bedford, Milton Keynes, Rushden, and Daventry on the 13th, 14th, and 15th of December 2024. The choir and parish members joined together in singing carols, sharing prayers, and spreading the message of peace and goodwill.

We extend our sincere thanks to all choir members, families who hosted the carols, and everyone who participated and supported these joyous events

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## **Family Conference**

The MSOC UK Family Conference was held in Leicester on 28th and 29th September 2024, and members of St. Mary's Jacobite Syrian Church, Northampton actively participated in this event. The conference provided an opportunity for spiritual renewal, fellowship, and faith formation, bringing together families from across the UK.

The sessions focused on strengthening family relationships, deepening faith, and fostering community unity through prayers, interactive discussions, and spiritual guidance. Participation in this conference allowed our parish members to connect with the wider Jacobite Syrian Orthodox community, share experiences, and gain inspiration for spiritual and family life.

We extend our gratitude to the organisers, speakers, and volunteers of the conference and are thankful for the active engagement of our parish members in this spiritually enriching event.

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## **Church Tour**

As part of fostering fellowship and strengthening the bonds among parish families, our Church organised a Parish Tour on 31st August 2024. The tour provided a wonderful opportunity for members to come together outside the regular Church setting, sharing moments of prayer, joy, and togetherness.

It was a delightful occasion for families and children to connect, relax, and experience the unity of our parish community in a spirit of love, faith, and fellowship. We extend our heartfelt thanks to the organisers, volunteers, and all participants who contributed to making the trip a memorable and spiritually enriching experience.

## **House Blessing**

Several parishioners were blessed with new homes during the year, and house blessing services were conducted by our Vicar, Rev. Fr Alex Paul. These occasions were moments of joy and thanksgiving, uniting families and parish members in prayer and fellowship.

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## **Spiritual Organizations**

### **Sunday School**

Sunday School classes were conducted after the Holy Mass throughout the year, focusing on the spiritual, moral, and biblical education of our children. Through engaging lessons, prayers, and activities, the students were encouraged to grow in their faith and understanding of the teachings of Jesus Christ and the traditions of the Holy Church.

The annual examination and various extracurricular activities provided opportunities for the children to demonstrate their learning, creativity, and leadership. The dedicated efforts of the Head Teacher, Sunday School teachers, parents, and the Vicar are sincerely appreciated for their commitment to nurturing the spiritual growth of our young members.

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### **Vacation Bible School (VBS)**

The Vacation Bible School (VBS) was held on 21st and 22nd February 2025, offering a meaningful and interactive experience for children. The sessions included Bible classes, group activities, songs, and creative workshops, all centred around deepening faith and fellowship.

The program concluded with a closing ceremony and a rally, where students showcased what they learned and expressed their joy through songs and presentations. Special thanks to all teachers, volunteers, and parents for their dedicated planning and support in making the event a success.

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### **Women's Association (Marth Mariam Vanitha Samajam)**

The Marth Mariam Vanitha Samajam, the Women's Association of our parish, continues to be a source of spiritual strength and fellowship. The group meets monthly, engaging in prayer sessions, Bible readings, devotional songs, discussions, and Bible quizzes, nurturing both faith and unity among members.

The association functions under the guidance and leadership of our Vicar, Rev. Fr. Alex Paul, with Mrs. Sonu Velson serving as Secretary and Mrs. Shoby Anil as Treasurer. Their dedication and service have greatly contributed to the spiritual and social activities of the parish.

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## Charity

During the year, St. Mary's Jacobite Syrian Church, Northampton, continued its commitment to helping those in need:

- £500 was donated to support two individuals undergoing treatment for critical illnesses.
- £630 was donated to assist a Priest's family in need.
- Food Drive. collected food items and donated to a local charity through the Victoria Road Congregational Church

These contributions reflect the Parish's dedication to living out the teachings of Christ through acts of compassion and charity.

## Website & Social Media

- The parish maintains an active online presence to keep members informed and engaged. The [Church website](#) and Facebook account are regularly updated with announcements, event details, spiritual messages, and other relevant parish information. These platforms serve as important tools for communication, outreach, and community engagement.
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## Financial Overview

| Description                           | Amount (£)     |
|---------------------------------------|----------------|
| Total Income                          | 57,964         |
| Total Expenditure                     | 34,463         |
| Retained Surplus from Previous Years  | 101,048        |
| <b>Current Total Retained Surplus</b> | <b>124,549</b> |

## **Future Developments**

Looking ahead, the Parish aims to expand its activities and enhance community engagement. A key objective is to identify and establish a permanent place of worship, ensuring a dedicated space for spiritual, cultural, and social gatherings. These initiatives will be made possible through the continued generosity and active support of our parish members.

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## **Conclusion**

By the grace of God, St. Mary's Jacobite Syrian Church, Northampton, has completed another blessed year. The dedication and efforts of the Board of Trustees, spiritual organizations, and volunteers have been invaluable in advancing the Church's mission and fostering the spiritual growth of our parish community.

We wholeheartedly reaffirm our allegiance to the Holy Throne of Antioch, His Holiness Moran Mar Ignatius Aphrem II, His Beatitude Baselios Joseph, and His Grace Mor Osthatheos Issac.

We express our sincere gratitude to all parish members for their prayers, generosity, and active participation in Church programs. May the intercession of Holy Mother Mary, our Patron Saint, and all the saints continue to guide, inspire, and bless our Parish in the years to come.

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### **On behalf of the Board of Trustees:**

**Anil Mathew**

Hon. Secretary  
Northampton

### **Approval:**

This Annual Report was approved by the Annual General Meeting of St. Mary's Jacobite Syrian Orthodox Church, Northampton, on 24th May 2025. It is a true and accurate record of the activities, finances, and achievements of the Parish for the year 1st April 2024 to 31st March 2025.



## Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

|                     |            |    |            |
|---------------------|------------|----|------------|
| For the period from | 01/04/2023 | To | 31/03/2024 |
|---------------------|------------|----|------------|

### Section A Receipts and payments

|   | Unrestricted funds<br>to the nearest<br>£ | Restricted funds<br>to the nearest £ | Endowment funds<br>to the nearest £ | Total funds<br>to the nearest £ | Last year<br>to the nearest £ |
|---|---|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| <b>A1 Receipts</b>                                    |   |                                      |                                     |                                 |                               |
| Donations   | 15,111                                    | -                                    | -                                   | 15,111                          | -                             |
| Offertory   | 8,920                                     | -                                    | -                                   | 8,920                           | -                             |
| Monthly subscription                                  | 9,930                                     | -                                    | -                                   | 9,930                           | -                             |
| Christmas celebration receipts                        | 6,140                                     | -                                    | -                                   | 6,140                           | -                             |
| Receipts by church organisations                      | 2,390                                     | -                                    | -                                   | 2,390                           | -                             |
| Harvest festival collections                          | 1,315                                     | -                                    | -                                   | 1,315                           | -                             |
| Bank interest income                                  | 1,798                                     | -                                    | -                                   | 1,798                           | -                             |
| Tax refund from HMRC                                  | 12,360                                    | -                                    | -                                   | 12,360                          | -                             |
| <b>Sub total (Gross income for AR)</b>                | <b>57,964</b>                             | <b>-</b>                             | <b>-</b>                            | <b>57,964</b>                   | <b>-</b>                      |
| <b>A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).</b>    |   |                                      |                                     |                                 |                               |
|   | -   | -                                    | -                                   | -                               | -                             |
| <b>Sub total</b>                                      | <b>-</b>                                  | <b>-</b>                             | <b>-</b>                            | <b>-</b>                        | <b>-</b>                      |
| <b>Total receipts</b>                                 | <b>57,964</b>                             | <b>-</b>                             | <b>-</b>                            | <b>57,964</b>                   | <b>-</b>                      |
| <b>A3 Payments</b>                                    |   |                                      |                                     |                                 |                               |
| Refreshments  | 13,802                                    | -                                    | -                                   | 13,802                          | -                             |
| Vicar / Priest allowance                              | 6,900                                     | -                                    | -                                   | 6,900                           | -                             |
| Rent, rate and tax                                    | 4,128                                     | -                                    | -                                   | 4,128                           | -                             |
| Donations paid  | 1,130                                     | -                                    | -                                   | 1,130                           | -                             |
| Expenses incurred by church organisations             | 456                                       | -                                    | -                                   | 456                             | -                             |
| Church council expenses                               | 2,295                                     | -                                    | -                                   | 2,295                           | -                             |
| Altar items purchased                                 | 1,186                                     | -                                    | -                                   | 1,186                           | -                             |
| Travelling expenses                                   | 1,190                                     | -                                    | -                                   | 1,190                           | -                             |
| Miscellaneous expenses                                | 1,186                                     | -                                    | -                                   | 1,186                           | -                             |
| HSBC bank charges                                     | 98  | -                                    | -                                   | 98                              | -                             |
| Printing and stationary                               | 2,092                                     | -                                    | -                                   | 2,092                           | -                             |
| <b>Sub total</b>                                      | <b>34,463</b>                             | <b>-</b>                             | <b>-</b>                            | <b>34,463</b>                   | <b>-</b>                      |
| <b>A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)</b> |   |                                      |                                     |                                 |                               |
|   | -   | -                                    | -                                   | -                               | -                             |
| <b>Sub total</b>                                      | <b>-</b>                                  | <b>-</b>                             | <b>-</b>                            | <b>-</b>                        | <b>-</b>                      |
| <b>Total payments</b>                                 | <b>34,463</b>                             | <b>-</b>                             | <b>-</b>                            | <b>34,463</b>                   | <b>-</b>                      |
| <b>Net of receipts/(payments)</b>                     | <b>23,501</b>                             | <b>-</b>                             | <b>-</b>                            | <b>23,501</b>                   | <b>-</b>                      |
| <b>A5 Transfers between funds</b>                     | <b>-</b>                                  | <b>-</b>                             | <b>-</b>                            | <b>-</b>                        | <b>-</b>                      |
| <b>A6 Cash funds last year end</b>                    | <b>101,048</b>                            | <b>-</b>                             | <b>-</b>                            | <b>101,048</b>                  | <b>-</b>                      |
| <b>Cash funds this year end</b>                       | <b>124,549</b>                            | <b>-</b>                             | <b>-</b>                            | <b>124,549</b>                  | <b>-</b>                      |

## Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

| Categories   | Details  | Unrestricted funds<br>to nearest £ | Restricted funds<br>to nearest £ | Endowment funds<br>to nearest £ |
|--|--|------------------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| <b>B1 Cash funds</b>   | Cash in hand   | 161                                | -                                | -                               |
|  | Cash at bank-General                                   | 124,388                            | -                                | -                               |
|  |  | -                                  | -                                | -                               |
|  | <b>Total cash funds</b>                                | <b>124,549</b>                     | <b>-</b>                         | <b>-</b>                        |
|  | (agree balances with receipts and payments account(s)) | OK                                 | OK                               | OK                              |
| <b>B2 Other monetary assets</b>                                | <b>Details</b>   | Unrestricted funds<br>to nearest £ | Restricted funds<br>to nearest £ | Endowment funds<br>to nearest £ |
|  |  | -                                  | -                                | -                               |
|  |  | -                                  | -                                | -                               |
|  |  | -                                  | -                                | -                               |
|  |  | -                                  | -                                | -                               |
|  |  | -                                  | -                                | -                               |
|  |  | -                                  | -                                | -                               |
| <b>B3 Investment assets</b>                                    | <b>Details</b>   | Fund to which<br>asset belongs     | Cost (optional)                  | Current value<br>(optional)     |
|  |  |                                    | -                                | -                               |
|  |  |                                    | -                                | -                               |
|  |  |                                    | -                                | -                               |
|  |  |                                    | -                                | -                               |
| <b>B4 Assets retained for the<br/>charity's own use</b>        | <b>Details</b>   | Fund to which<br>asset belongs     | Cost (optional)                  | Current value<br>(optional)     |
|  |  |                                    | -                                | -                               |
|  |  |                                    | -                                | -                               |
|  |  |                                    | -                                | -                               |
|  |  |                                    | -                                | -                               |
|  |  |                                    | -                                | -                               |
|  |  |                                    | -                                | -                               |
|  |  |                                    | -                                | -                               |
| <b>B5 Liabilities</b>  | <b>Details</b>   | Fund to which<br>liability relates | Amount due<br>(optional)         | When due<br>(optional)          |
|  |  |                                    | -                                |                                 |
|  |  |                                    | -                                |                                 |
|  |  |                                    | -                                |                                 |
|  |  |                                    | -                                |                                 |
| Signed by one or two trustees on<br>behalf of all the trustees | Signature  | Print Name                         | Date of approval                 |                                 |
|  |  | Anil Mathew                        | 23/12/2024                       |                                 |
|  |  | Saibu Thomas                       | 23/12/2024                       |                                 |

**St. Mary's Jacobite Syrian Orthodox Church, Northampton**  
**Independent Examiner's Report on the Accounts**

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*Report to the Trustees / members of St. Mary's Jacobite Syrian Orthodox Church, Northampton (Charity No: 1162484) on the accounts for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2025.*

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***Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiners***

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

It is our responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act,
- to follow the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5) (b) of the Act, and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

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

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Our examination was carried out in accordance with the 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***

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In connection with our examination, no material matters have come to our attention which gives us 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.
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We 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.

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**Mr. Mathews Mattamana**



(Hon. Independent Examiner)

**Mr. Kevil Itty**



(Hon. Independent Examiner)

**Dated:** 22/11/25

**ST. MARY'S JACOBITE SYRIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH, NORTHAMPTON**

England & Wales - Charity number 1162484

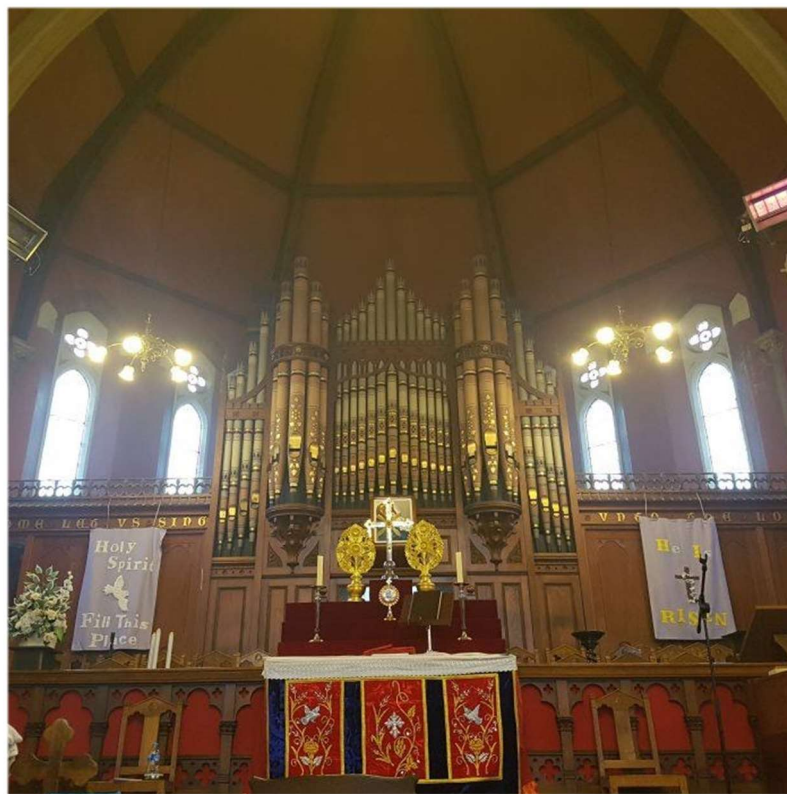
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# Accounts

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# **St. Mary's Jacobite Syrian Orthodox Church,** (Under the Holy Apostolic See of Antioch & All the East) **Northampton**

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**Trustee's Report and Accounts  
for the year  
1st April 2023- 31st March 2024**

**St. Mary's Jacobite Syrian Orthodox Church, Northampton**  
(Under the Holy Apostolic See of Antioch & All the East)

**Administrative Information**

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**BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

Rev. Fr. Jebin Ipe  
Mr. Anuroop Jacob  
Mr. Bijoy Thomas  
Mr. Eldhose Varghese  
Mr. Saibu Thomas  
Mr. Velson Thomas  
Mr. Johnson Pockayil  
Mr. Binu Jacob  
Mr. Thomas Daniel  
Mr. Manish Mathew  
Mrs. Shaiba Abraham

**VICAR & PRESIDENT**

Rev. Fr. Jebin Ipe

**SECRETARY**

Mr. Bijoy Thomas

**TREASURER**

Mr. Eldhose Varghese

**AUDITORS**

Mr. Jomon Issac and Thomas Varkey

**COMMUNICATION ADDRESS**

32, Oulton rise  
Northampton NN36 EW  
United Kingdom

Email - stmarys.jsoc.northampton2015@gmail.com

**WEB SITE**

[www.jacobitechurchnorthampton.com](http://www.jacobitechurchnorthampton.com)

**CHARITY NUMBER**

1162484

**OUR BANK**

HSBC  
22 Abington Street  
NORTHAMPTON NN1 2AN

**WORSHIP PLACE**

Victoria Road Congregational Church,  
Victoria Road,  
Northampton NN1 5ED

The Trustees present their report and accounts for the period of 1<sup>st</sup> April 2023 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024.

Let us thank God Almighty for guiding us through the last year and glorify his name. On behalf of the Board of Trustees, I the Secretary, present the Annual Report of our parish for the year 2023-24.

## **Introduction**

### **Structure, objectives**

This Church is a part of the Universal Syrian Orthodox Church and a Diaspora community of the Malankara Jacobite Syrian Christian Church, India. The supreme head of this Church is His Holiness Moran Mar Ignatius Aphrem II, The Patriarch of Antioch and all the East and his Successors. His Beatitude Aboon Mor Baselios, Catholicos of the East is the second highest hierarchical position of the Church. He is the Head of the Church in India. The Patriarch appointed a Metropolitan (called Patriarchal Vicar) from Malankara Jacobite Syrian Christian Church, His Grace Mor Osthathos Issac who is the Bishop in charge of the Parish.

Church's objective is to maintain the faith, traditions and doctrines of the Jacobite Syrian Christian Church and to perform all the religious rites and sacraments to all its members in accordance with the ancient Syriac Orthodox traditions. And to help the poor and the needy.

### **Governance and Management**

This Church is a registered charity and therefore governed as per its governing laws. The Charity is run by the Board of Trustees who is elected by the Church General Meeting. The Trustees manage the administrative as well as the financial affairs of the Church. The Trustees meet regularly for taking decisions and monitoring the activities.

### **The Parish and membership**

During the report year, with the help of members, Board of Trustees and the Vicar, we have maintained our Parish register up to date. As per the current parish register, our total membership is 40 families.

### **The Vicar**

Rev Fr. Jebin Ipe is our Vicar. Vicar's spiritual leadership has had great influence on our families. Vicar's capable leadership has helped tremendously in the running of spiritual organizations like Sunday school, women's association, and student's movement in the Church.

### **General Body Meetings**

The annual general body meeting (AGM) was held on 24th June 2023 to present and approve the annual report and accounts for the year 2023 - 2024. The general body approved the accounts with the audit report.

## Report year Board of Trustees (Managing Committee)

|                         |                   |           |
|-------------------------|-------------------|-----------|
| 1. Rev. Fr. Jebin Ipe   | Vicar & President | Appointed |
| 2. Mr. Bijoy Thomas     | Secretary         | Elected   |
| 3. Mr. Eldhose Varghese | Treasurer         | Elected   |
| 4. Mr. Johnson Pockayil | Council member    | Elected   |
| 5. Mr. Binu Jacob       | Committee member  | Elected   |
| 6. Mr. Anuroop Jacob    | Committee member  | Elected   |
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| 7. Mr. Manish Mathew    | Committee member  | Elected   |
| 8. Mr. Thomas Daniel    | Committee member  | Elected   |
| 9. Mr. Velson Thomas    | Committee member  | Elected   |
| 10. Mrs. Shaiba Abraham | Committee member  | Elected   |

Mr. Jomon Issac and MR Thomas Varkey are the auditors for the report year.

## Activities

Our Holy Services are on second and fourth Saturday morning of every month. We would like to thank all the Priests who conducted Holy Mass over the past years in our Church, all altar boys who helped in Church services and the choir members.

We would like to express our sincere thanks to the Trustees of Victoria Road Congregational Methodist Church, Northampton for providing Church premises for all our services.

## **Parish Day & Annual Feast (St. Mary's Day)**

Annual day of the Church celebrations were held on 22nd and 23rd of Sept 2023. Services were led by our parish priest Fr. Jebin Ipe along with Fr. Geevarghese Palikkadath and Fr. Jacob Mathew Komadatthuserril Cor Episcopa.

On Friday 22nd Sept 2023 Parish Day proceedings started with flag hosting, evening prayer followed by Gospel preaching and Benediction.

On Saturday 23rd Sept 2023 on the main feast day, proceedings started with morning prayer followed by special Holy Mass. Chief celebrant was Fr. Jacob Mathew Komadatthuserril Cor Episcopa. and co celebrant was Vicar Rev. Fr. Jebin Ipe and Fr. Geevarghese Palikkadath. Holy Mass was followed by a sermon which was a blessing to everyone who attended. There was Procession afterwards in the traditional way and cultural activities followed. Prizes were distributed for Sunday school children who won in the cultural competition which was held in the summer. Nercha and a traditional Kerala meal was given to all who attended the feast.

## **Great Lent and Passion Week**

Our parish observed Great Lent was held face to face from 1st April till 8th April in year 2023, services were led by His Grace Dr Mathews Mor Anthimos who is the bishop in charge of the Parish. For year 2024 from March 23rd till March 30th, services were led by our His Grace Mor Osthatheos Issac who is the current Bishop in charge of the Parish. During lent our vicar Fr Jebin Ipe had conducted the house visit among parish members. As part of charity collection during lent we had organized the Food Drive.

## **Baptism**

This year our parish was blessed to conduct baptism service for a young boy in the parish. The service was led by Vicar Rev Fr, Jebin Ipe which was a blessed occasion for all members who witnessed.

## **Church Kalolsavam**

We conducted our church Kalolsavam on 13th Jan 2024. The event included various competitions for children which was eagerly participated by our Sunday school students. We would like to thank Sunday school teachers and parents for preparing kids for the event. First and second prize winners got qualified to represent our Church in the Midland Zonal Kalolsavam.

## **Harvest and Food Festival**

Harvest and food festival was celebrated in our parish on 25th November 2023 at Victoria Road Congregational Church. The day started with morning prayer followed by Holy Mass and then we auctioned the products brought by our church members and then everyone had the opportunity to taste the home delicacies cooked by Women's association members which was the main highlight of the event. Thanks to our women's association members for yet another successful celebration of harvest festival.

## **Carol Virunnu**

Our church choir team participated in Carol Virunnu conducted by MSOC in December 2023.

## **Christmas Carol & Special service**

To commemorate the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ we were able to conduct home carols for our church members. It was held on 08th Dec, 09th Dec and 10th Dec 2023. Thanks to all members who participated carols.

## **House Blessing**

House Blessing During the report year, several of our members have acquired new homes and the Vicar had conducted house blessing services at the new homes.

## **Spiritual Organization's**

### **Sunday School**

"Therefore, everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock." - Matthew 7:24. Our Sunday school classes are conducted after Holy Mass. To educate our children spiritually and morally, in accordance with the teachings of Jesus Christ and the faith and traditions of the Syrian Orthodox Church and to develop our children the habit of attending church regularly, studying the Scriptures, and participating conscientiously in the worship and sacramental life of our Church.

Sunday school annual exam was held face to face, which helped children to showcase the knowledge gained over the year. Our children are very talented, in addition to the Bible studies we gave importance to teach extracurricular activities for the youth development. The hard work of the head teacher and all other teachers are greatly appreciated.

### **Vacation Bible School (VBS)**

Vacation Bible School (VBS) was held on 27th and 28th Oct 2023. On Friday 27th Oct 2023 VBS started with registration at 9.00 AM followed by different activities and classes. On Saturday 28th VBS closing ceremony and rally was conducted after the holy Mass. Thanks to all Sunday School teachers and parents who prepared the children for the occasion.

### **Women's Association (Marth Mariam Vanitha Samajam):**

With the Motto of "Pray, Act and Illuminate", the Women's prayer group of the Church meet once in a month online. Their activities are prayer, singing devotional songs, Bible reading, conducting bible quiz, Chain prayer, Bible classes and presentation etc. Parish members often send prayer requests to women's association.

Women's association is functioning under the able leadership of Rev Vicar, Secretary Mrs. Shaiba Abraham and Treasurer Mrs. Bindu Johnson.

## **Other activities**

### **Charity**

We had donated **£4000** to one of our church members relative who was undergoing critical illness treatment. We also had donated **£1130** to St: Thomas church Karikode back in India for renovating the church.

### **Website**

The Parish website is <http://www.jacobitechurchnorthampton.com/> and Facebook account which is regularly updated with useful information for our church members.

### **Financial activities**

This year total income from various incoming resources was **£63,111.00** and total expenses was **£35,590.00**, By adding up the retained surpluses from the previous years of **£73,527.00** current total retained surplus for the period is **£101,048.00**.

### **Future Developments**

With the enormous support from our members, we would like to extend our activities which include that to find a permanent place for Worship.

### **Conclusion**

By the grace of our heavenly Holy Father, our savior Lord Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit, we have completed yet another blessed year. Words are not enough express our gratitude and submission to our Lord. During the year through the regular holy worship services, prayer meetings, special events and activities we have experienced God's abiding presence and Grace.

On behalf of the Managing committee and for the parishioners, wholeheartedly express and reaffirm our sincere allegiance and loyalty to the Holy Throne of Antioch & All the East, our Patriarch His Holiness Moran Mor Ignatius Aphrem II, to our Catholicos of the East His Beatitude Baselios Thomas I, to our Patriarchal Vicar His Grace Mor Osthathos Issac and their prayers be with us.

We are indebted to all our parish members for their generosity and active participation in all the programs. The executive committee extends our

heartfelt appreciation to the Vicar and all spiritual organization office bearers for their prayerful support towards spiritual growth. We are also grateful to the families who volunteer regularly to provide refreshments on Saturdays after the holy service and on special occasions. Also, all our members and friends who supported the work of the Parish with their prayers and generous financial support.

The intercession of Holy Mother Mary, our Patron Saint and all other saints are always the constant inspiration and enlightening guidance for our parish. Let us continue the communion with them. May our Lord lead us in light to accomplish the best for the Church in the days to come. May the Lord Almighty bless our Parish to make all our efforts for the Glory of His Kingdom.

Thank you  
On behalf of the Board of Trustees,

**Bijoy Thomas**

Northampton

**Hon. Secretary**

### **Approval**

This report was approved by the annual General Meeting on 25th May 2024. This is a true copy of St. Mary's Jacobite Syrian Orthodox Church, Northampton Annual Report.



## Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period  
from

01/04/2023

To

31/03/2024

### Section A Receipts and payments

|   | Unrestricted funds | Restricted funds | Endowment funds  | Total funds      | Last year        |
|---|--------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|
|   | to the nearest £   | to the nearest £ | to the nearest £ | to the nearest £ | to the nearest £ |
| <b>A1 Receipts</b>                                    |                    |                  |                  |                  |                  |
| Donations   | 24,212             | -                | -                | 24,212           | -                |
| Offertory   | 11,109             | -                | -                | 11,109           | -                |
| Monthly subscription                                  | 8,895              | -                | -                | 8,895            | -                |
| Christmas celebration receipts                        | 1,585              | -                | -                | 1,585            | -                |
| Receipts by church organisations                      | 330                | -                | -                | 330              | -                |
| Harvest festival collections                          | 3,373              | -                | -                | 3,373            | -                |
| Bank interest income                                  | 894                | -                | -                | 894              | -                |
| Tax refund from HMRC                                  | 12,713             | -                | -                | 12,713           | -                |
| <b>Sub total (Gross income for AR)</b>                | <b>63,111</b>      | <b>-</b>         | <b>-</b>         | <b>63,111</b>    | <b>-</b>         |
| <b>A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).</b>    |                    |                  |                  |                  |                  |
|   | -                  | -                | -                | -                | -                |
|   | -                  | -                | -                | -                | -                |
| <b>Sub total</b>                                      | <b>-</b>           | <b>-</b>         | <b>-</b>         | <b>-</b>         | <b>-</b>         |
| <b>Total receipts</b>                                 | <b>63,111</b>      | <b>-</b>         | <b>-</b>         | <b>63,111</b>    | <b>-</b>         |
| <b>A3 Payments</b>                                    |                    |                  |                  |                  |                  |
| Refreshments  | 11,191             | -                | -                | 11,191           | -                |
| Vicar / Priest allowance                              | 9,300              | -                | -                | 9,300            | -                |
| Rent, rate and tax                                    | 3,106              | -                | -                | 3,106            | -                |
| Donations paid  | 5,130              | -                | -                | 5,130            | -                |
| Expenses incurred by church organisations             | 965                | -                | -                | 965              | -                |
| Church council expenses                               | 2,005              | -                | -                | 2,005            | -                |
| Altar items purchased                                 | -                  | -                | -                | -                | -                |
| Travelling expenses                                   | 135                | -                | -                | 135              | -                |
| Miscellaneous expenses                                | 1,276              | -                | -                | 1,276            | -                |
| HSBC bank charges                                     | 87                 | -                | -                | 87               | -                |
| Printing and stationary                               | 2,395              | -                | -                | 2,395            | -                |
| <b>Sub total</b>                                      | <b>35,590</b>      | <b>-</b>         | <b>-</b>         | <b>35,590</b>    | <b>-</b>         |
| <b>A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)</b> |                    |                  |                  |                  |                  |
|   | -                  | -                | -                | -                | -                |
|   | -                  | -                | -                | -                | -                |
| <b>Sub total</b>                                      | <b>-</b>           | <b>-</b>         | <b>-</b>         | <b>-</b>         | <b>-</b>         |
| <b>Total payments</b>                                 | <b>35,590</b>      | <b>-</b>         | <b>-</b>         | <b>35,590</b>    | <b>-</b>         |
| <b>Net of receipts/(payments)</b>                     | <b>27,521</b>      | <b>-</b>         | <b>-</b>         | <b>27,521</b>    | <b>-</b>         |
| <b>A5 Transfers between funds</b>                     | <b>-</b>           | <b>-</b>         | <b>-</b>         | <b>-</b>         | <b>-</b>         |
| <b>A6 Cash funds last year end</b>                    | <b>73,527</b>      | <b>-</b>         | <b>-</b>         | <b>73,527</b>    | <b>-</b>         |
| <b>Cash funds this year end</b>                       | <b>101,048</b>     | <b>-</b>         | <b>-</b>         | <b>101,048</b>   | <b>-</b>         |

## Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

| Categories           | Details  | Unrestricted funds<br>to nearest £ | Restricted funds<br>to nearest £ | Endowment funds<br>to nearest £ |
|----------------------|--|------------------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| <b>B1 Cash funds</b> | Cash in hand   | 827                                | -                                | -                               |
|                      | Cash at bank-General                                   | 100,221                            | -                                | -                               |
|                      |  | -                                  | -                                | -                               |
|                      | <b>Total cash funds</b>                                | <b>101,048</b>                     | <b>-</b>                         | <b>-</b>                        |
|                      | (agree balances with receipts and payments account(s)) | OK                                 | OK                               | OK                              |

| Categories                      | Details | Unrestricted funds<br>to nearest £ | Restricted funds<br>to nearest £ | Endowment funds<br>to nearest £ |
|---------------------------------|---------|------------------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| <b>B2 Other monetary assets</b> |         | -                                  | -                                | -                               |
|                                 |         | -                                  | -                                | -                               |
|                                 |         | -                                  | -                                | -                               |
|                                 |         | -                                  | -                                | -                               |
|                                 |         | -                                  | -                                | -                               |
|                                 |         | -                                  | -                                | -                               |

| Categories                  | Details | Fund to which asset belongs | Cost (optional) | Current value (optional) |
|-----------------------------|---------|-----------------------------|-----------------|--------------------------|
| <b>B3 Investment assets</b> |         |                             | -               | -                        |
|                             |         |                             | -               | -                        |
|                             |         |                             | -               | -                        |
|                             |         |                             | -               | -                        |
|                             |         |                             | -               | -                        |

| Categories  | Details | Fund to which asset belongs | Cost (optional) | Current value (optional) |
|---|---------|-----------------------------|-----------------|--------------------------|
| <b>B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use</b> |         |                             | -               | -                        |
|   |         |                             | -               | -                        |
|   |         |                             | -               | -                        |
|   |         |                             | -               | -                        |
|   |         |                             | -               | -                        |
|   |         |                             | -               | -                        |
|   |         |                             | -               | -                        |
|   |         |                             | -               | -                        |
|   |         |                             | -               | -                        |

| Categories            | Details | Fund to which liability relates | Amount due (optional) | When due (optional) |
|-----------------------|---------|---------------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|
| <b>B5 Liabilities</b> |         |                                 | -                     |                     |
|                       |         |                                 | -                     |                     |
|                       |         |                                 | -                     |                     |
|                       |         |                                 | -                     |                     |
|                       |         |                                 | -                     |                     |

|   |           |              |                  |
|---|-----------|--------------|------------------|
| Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees | Signature | Print Name   | Date of approval |
|   |           | Anil Mathew  | 23/12/2024       |
|   |           | Saibu Thomas | 23/12/2024       |

**St. Mary's Jacobite Syrian Orthodox Church, Northampton**  
**Independent Examiner's Report on the Accounts**

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*Report to the Trustees / members of St. Mary's Jacobite Syrian Orthodox Church, Northampton  
(Charity No: 1162484) on the accounts for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024.*

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***Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiners***

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

It is our responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act,
- to follow the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5) (b) of the Act, and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

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

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Our examination was carried out in accordance with the 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***

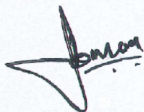
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In connection with our examination, no material matters have come to our attention which gives us cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- 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.
- 

We 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.

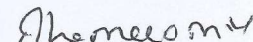
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**Mr. Jomon Isaac**

(Hon. Independent Examiner)

---



**Mr. Thomas Varkey**

(Hon. Independent Examiner)

---

**Dated: 15/01/2025**

**ST. MARY'S JACOBITE SYRIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH, NORTHAMPTON**

England & Wales - Charity number 1162484

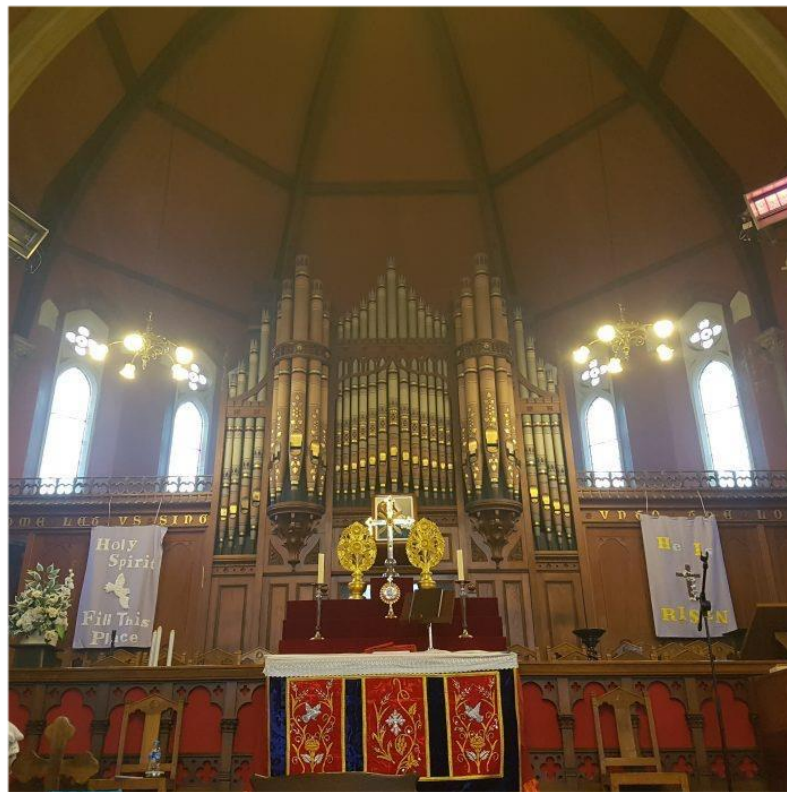
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# Accounts

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# **St. Mary's Jacobite Syrian Orthodox Church,** (Under the Holy Apostolic See of Antioch & All the East) **Northampton**

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**Trustee's Report and Accounts  
for the year  
1st April 2022- 31st March 2023**

**St. Mary's Jacobite Syrian Orthodox Church, Northampton**  
(Under the Holy Apostolic See of Antioch & All the East)

**Administrative Information**

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**BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

Rev. Fr. Jebin Ipe  
Mr. Anuroop Jacob  
Mr. Bijoy Thomas  
Mr. Eldhose Varghese  
Mr. Saibu Thomas  
Mr. Velson Thomas  
Mr. Johnson Pockayil  
Mr. Binu Jacob  
Mr. Thomas Daniel  
Mr. Manish Mathew  
Mrs. Shaiba Abraham

**VICAR & PRESIDENT**

Rev. Fr. Jebin Ipe

**SECRETARY**

Mr. Bijoy Thomas

**TREASURER**

Mr. Eldhose Varghese

**AUDITORS**

Mr. Jomon Issac and Thomas Varkey

**COMMUNICATION ADDRESS**

32, Oulton rise  
Northampton NN36 EW  
United Kingdom

Email - stmarys.jsoc.northampton2015@gmail.com

**WEB SITE**

[www.jacobitechurchnorthampton.com](http://www.jacobitechurchnorthampton.com)

**CHARITY NUMBER**

1162484

**OUR BANK**

HSBC  
22 Abington Street  
NORTHAMPTON NN1 2AN

**WORSHIP PLACE**

Victoria Road Congregational Church,  
Victoria Road,  
Northampton NN1 5ED

The Trustees present their report and accounts for the period of 1<sup>st</sup> April 2022 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023.

Let us thank God Almighty for guiding us through the last year and glorify his name. On behalf of the Board of Trustees, I the Secretary, present the Annual Report of our parish for the year 2022-23.

## **Introduction**

### **Structure, objectives**

This Church is a part of the Universal Syrian Orthodox Church and a Diaspora community of the Malankara Jacobite Syrian Christian Church, India. The supreme head of this Church is His Holiness Moran Mar Ignatius Aphrem II, The Patriarch of Antioch and all the East and his Successors. His Beatitude Aboon Mor Baselios, Catholicos of the East is the second highest hierarchical position of the Church. He is the Head of the Church in India. The Patriarch appointed a Metropolitan (called Patriarchal Vicar) from Malankara Jacobite Syrian Christian Church, His Grace Dr. Mathews Mor Anthimos who is the Bishop in charge of the Parish.

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During the report year, with the help of members, Board of Trustees and the Vicar, we have maintained our Parish register up to date. As per the current parish register, our total membership is 40 families.

### **The Vicar**

Rev Fr. Jebin Ipe is our Vicar. Vicar's spiritual leadership has had great influence on our families. Vicar's capable leadership has helped tremendously in the running of spiritual organizations like Sunday school, women's association, and student's movement in the Church.

### **General Body Meetings**

The annual general body meeting (AGM) was held on 24th June 2023 to present and approve the annual report and accounts for the year 2022 - 2023. The general body approved the accounts with the audit report.

## Report year Board of Trustees (Managing Committee)

|                         |                   |           |
|-------------------------|-------------------|-----------|
| 1. Rev. Fr. Jebin Ipe   | Vicar & President | Appointed |
| 2. Mr. Bijoy Thomas     | Secretary         | Elected   |
| 3. Mr. Eldhose Varghese | Treasurer         | Elected   |
| 4. Mr. Johnson Pockayil | Council member    | Elected   |
| 5. Mr. Binu Jacob       | Committee member  | Elected   |
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| 9. Mr. Velson Thomas    | Committee member  | Elected   |
| 10. Mrs. Shaiba Abraham | Committee member  | Elected   |

Mr. Jomon Issac and MR Thomas Varkey are the auditors for the report year.

## Activities

Our Holy Services are on second and fourth Saturday morning of every month. After the period of COVID 19 restrictions we are now able to conduct the Holy Mass service face to face, we would like to thank all the Priests who conducted Holy Mass over the past years in our Church, all altar boys who helped in Church services and the choir members.

We would like to express our sincere thanks to the Trustees of Victoria Road Congregational Methodist Church, Northampton for providing Church premises for all our services.

## **Parish Day & Annual Feast (St. Mary's Day)**

Annual day of the Church celebrations were held on 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> Sept 2022. Services were led by our Bishop His Grace Dr. Mathews Mor Anthimos.

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## **Great Lent and Passion Week**

Our parish observed Great Lent was held face to face from 9<sup>th</sup> April till 16<sup>th</sup> April 2022. Services were led by our Vicar Rev Fr. Jebin Ipe.

## **Baptism**

This year our parish was blessed to conduct baptism service for a young boy in the parish. The service was led by Vicar Rev Fr, Jebin Ipe which was a blessed occasion for all members who witnessed.

## **Church Kalolsavam**

We conducted our church Kalolsavam on 28<sup>th</sup> Jan 2023. The event included various competitions for children which was eagerly participated by our Sunday school students. We would like to thank Sunday school teachers and parents for preparing kids for the event. First and second prize winners got qualified to represent our Church in the Midland Zonal Kalolsavam.

## **Harvest and Food Festival**

Harvest and food festival was celebrated in our parish on 8<sup>th</sup> Oct 2022 at Victoria Road Congregational Church. The day started with morning prayer followed by Holy Mass and then we auctioned the products brought by our church members and then everyone had the opportunity to taste the home delicacies cooked by Women's association members which was the main highlight of the event. Thanks to our women's association members for yet another successful celebration of harvest festival.

## **Carol Virunnu**

Our church choir team participated in Carol Virunnu conducted by MSOC in December 2022. Our talented singers won 4<sup>th</sup> prize, which is a very commendable achievement.

## **Christmas Carol & Special service**

To commemorate the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ we were able to conduct home carols for our church members. It was held on 9<sup>th</sup> Dec ,10<sup>th</sup> Dec and 11<sup>th</sup> Dec 2022. Thanks to all members who participated carols.

## **House Blessing**

House Blessing During the report year, several of our members have acquired new homes and the Vicar had conducted house blessing services at the new homes.

## **Spiritual Organisations**

### **Sunday School**

*“Therefore everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock.” - Matthew 7:24.* Our Sunday school classes are conducted online. To educate our children spiritually and morally, in accordance with the teachings of Jesus Christ and the faith and traditions of the Syrian Orthodox Church and to develop our children the habit of attending church regularly, studying the Scriptures, and participating conscientiously in the worship and sacramental life of our Church.

Sunday school annual exam was held face to face, which helped children to showcase the knowledge gained over the year. Our children are very talented, in addition to the Bible studies

we gave importance to teach extracurricular activities for the youth development. The hard work of the head teacher and all other teachers are greatly appreciated.

### **Vacation Bible School (VBS)**

Vacation Bible School (VBS) was held on 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> Oct 2022. On Friday 28<sup>th</sup> Oct 2022 VBS started with registration at 9.00 AM followed by different activities and classes. On Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> VBS closing ceremony and rally was conducted after the holy Mass. Thanks to all Sunday School teachers and parents who prepared the children for the occasion.

### **Women's Association (Marth Mariam Vanitha Samajam):**

With the Motto of "Pray, Act and Illuminate", the Women's prayer group of the Church meet once in a month online. Their activities are prayer, singing devotional songs, Bible reading, conducting bible quiz, Chain prayer, Bible classes and presentation etc. Parish members often send prayer requests to women's association.

Women's association is functioning under the able leadership of Rev Vicar, Secretary Mrs. Shaiba Abraham and Treasurer Mrs. Bindu Johnson.

### **Other activities**

#### **Charity**

We donated £1500 to one of our community members passed away. We also had one of our church members in JSOC Stoke on Trent passed away and we donated £420. We donated £250 for one our church member relative who met with an accident.

#### **Website**

The Parish web site is [www.jacobitechurchnorthampton.com](http://www.jacobitechurchnorthampton.com) and Facebook account which is regularly updated with useful information for our church members.

### **Financial activities**

This year total income from various incoming resources was £36,862.27 and total expenses was £34,631.22, By adding up the retained surpluses from the previous years of £71,296.83 current total retained surplus for the period is £73,527.88.

### **Future Developments**

With the enormous support from our members, we would like to extend our activities which include that to find a permanent place for Worship.

## Conclusion

By the grace of our heavenly Holy Father, our saviour Lord Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit, we have completed yet another blessed year. Words are not enough express our gratitude and submission to our Lord. During the year through the regular holy worship services, prayer meetings, special events and activities we have experienced God's abiding presence and Grace.

On behalf of the Managing committee and for the parishioners, wholeheartedly express and reaffirm our sincere allegiance and loyalty to the Holy Throne of Antioch & All the East, our Patriarch His Holiness Moran Mor Ignatius Aphrem II, to our Catholicos of the East His Beatitude Baselios Thomas I, to our Patriarchal Vicar His Grace Dr. Matthews Mor Anthimos and their prayers be with us.

We are indebted to all our parish members for their generosity and active participation in all the programs. The executive committee extends our heartfelt appreciation to the Vicar and all spiritual organisation office bearers for their prayerful support towards spiritual growth. We are also grateful to the families who volunteer regularly to provide refreshments on Saturdays after the holy service and on special occasions. Also, all our members and friends who supported the work of the Parish with their prayers and generous financial support.

The intercession of Holy Mother Mary, our Patron Saint and all other saints are always the constant inspiration and enlightening guidance for our parish. Let us continue the communion with them. May our Lord lead us in light to accomplish the best for the Church in the days to come. May the Lord Almighty bless our Parish to make all our efforts for the Glory of His Kingdom.

Thank you  
On behalf of the Board of Trustees,

-Sd-

**Bijoy Thomas**  
Northampton  
**Hon. Secretary**

## Approval

This report was approved by the annual General Meeting on 24<sup>th</sup> June 2023. This is a true copy of St. Mary's Jacobite Syrian Orthodox Church, Northampton Annual Report.



CHARITY COMMISSION  
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

St. Mary's Jacobite Syrian Orthodox Church

1162484

**Receipts and payments accounts**

CC16a

|                        |            |    |            |
|------------------------|------------|----|------------|
| For the period<br>from | 01/04/2022 | To | 31/03/2023 |
|------------------------|------------|----|------------|

**Section A Receipts and payments**

|   | Unrestricted<br>funds<br>to the nearest £ | Restricted<br>funds<br>to the nearest £ | Endowment<br>funds<br>to the nearest £ | Total funds<br>to the nearest £ | Last year<br>to the nearest £ |
|---|---|---|--|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| <b>A1 Receipts</b>                                    |   |   |  |                                 |                               |
| Donations   | 15,558                                    | -                                       | -                                      | 15,558                          | -                             |
| Offerory  | 8,941                                     | -                                       | -                                      | 8,941                           | -                             |
| Monthly subscription                                  | 7,530                                     | -                                       | -                                      | 7,530                           | -                             |
| Christmas celebration receipts                        | 1,401                                     | -                                       | -                                      | 1,401                           | -                             |
| Receipts by church organisations                      | -   | -                                       | -                                      | -                               | -                             |
| Harvest festival collections                          | 3,391                                     | -                                       | -                                      | 3,391                           | -                             |
| Bank interest income                                  | 41  | -                                       | -                                      | 41                              | -                             |
| Tax refund from HMRC                                  | -   | -                                       | -                                      | -                               | -                             |
| <b>Sub total (Gross income for AR)</b>                | <b>36,862</b>                             | <b>-</b>                                | <b>-</b>                               | <b>36,862</b>                   | <b>-</b>                      |
| <b>A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).</b>    |   |   |  |                                 |                               |
|   | -   | -                                       | -                                      | -                               | -                             |
| <b>Sub total</b>                                      | <b>-</b>                                  | <b>-</b>                                | <b>-</b>                               | <b>-</b>                        | <b>-</b>                      |
| <b>Total receipts</b>                                 | <b>36,862</b>                             | <b>-</b>                                | <b>-</b>                               | <b>36,862</b>                   | <b>-</b>                      |
| <b>A3 Payments</b>                                    |   |   |  |                                 |                               |
| Refreshments  | 12,896                                    | -                                       | -                                      | 12,896                          | -                             |
| Vicar / Priest allowance                              | 7,930                                     | -                                       | -                                      | 7,930                           | -                             |
| Rent, rate and tax                                    | 3,430                                     | -                                       | -                                      | 3,430                           | -                             |
| Donations paid  | 2,170                                     | -                                       | -                                      | 2,170                           | -                             |
| Expenses incurred by church organisations             | 810                                       | -                                       | -                                      | 810                             | -                             |
| Church council expenses                               | 355                                       | -                                       | -                                      | 355                             | -                             |
| Altar items purchased                                 | 830                                       | -                                       | -                                      | 830                             | -                             |
| Travelling expenses                                   | 842                                       | -                                       | -                                      | 842                             | -                             |
| Miscellaneous expenses                                | 2,468                                     | -                                       | -                                      | 2,468                           | -                             |
| HSBC bank charges                                     | 71  | -                                       | -                                      | 71                              | -                             |
| Printing and stationary                               | 2,829                                     | -                                       | -                                      | 2,829                           | -                             |
| <b>Sub total</b>                                      | <b>34,631</b>                             | <b>-</b>                                | <b>-</b>                               | <b>34,631</b>                   | <b>-</b>                      |
| <b>A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)</b> |   |   |  |                                 |                               |
|   | -   | -                                       | -                                      | -                               | -                             |
| <b>Sub total</b>                                      | <b>-</b>                                  | <b>-</b>                                | <b>-</b>                               | <b>-</b>                        | <b>-</b>                      |
| <b>Total payments</b>                                 | <b>34,631</b>                             | <b>-</b>                                | <b>-</b>                               | <b>34,631</b>                   | <b>-</b>                      |
| <b>Net of receipts/(payments)</b>                     | <b>2,231</b>                              | <b>-</b>                                | <b>-</b>                               | <b>2,231</b>                    | <b>-</b>                      |
| <b>A5 Transfers between funds</b>                     | <b>-</b>                                  | <b>-</b>                                | <b>-</b>                               | <b>-</b>                        | <b>-</b>                      |
| <b>A6 Cash funds last year end</b>                    | <b>71,296</b>                             | <b>-</b>                                | <b>-</b>                               | <b>71,296</b>                   | <b>-</b>                      |
| <b>Cash funds this year end</b>                       | <b>73,527</b>                             | <b>-</b>                                | <b>-</b>                               | <b>73,527</b>                   | <b>-</b>                      |

**Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period**

| Categories           | Details  | Unrestricted funds to nearest £ | Restricted funds to nearest £ | Endowment funds to nearest £ |
|----------------------|--|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------------|
| <b>B1 Cash funds</b> | Cash in hand   | 635                             | -                             | -                            |
|                      | Cash at bank-General                                   | 72,892                          | -                             | -                            |
|                      |  | -                               | -                             | -                            |
|                      | <b>Total cash funds</b>                                | <b>73,527</b>                   | <b>-</b>                      | <b>-</b>                     |
|                      | (agree balances with receipts and payments account(s)) | OK                              | OK                            | OK                           |

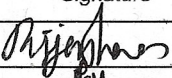

| Categories                      | Details | Unrestricted funds to nearest £ | Restricted funds to nearest £ | Endowment funds to nearest £ |
|---------------------------------|---------|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------------|
| <b>B2 Other monetary assets</b> |         | -                               | -                             | -                            |
|                                 |         | -                               | -                             | -                            |
|                                 |         | -                               | -                             | -                            |
|                                 |         | -                               | -                             | -                            |
|                                 |         | -                               | -                             | -                            |
|                                 |         | -                               | -                             | -                            |

| Categories                  | Details | Fund to which asset belongs | Cost (optional) | Current value (optional) |
|-----------------------------|---------|-----------------------------|-----------------|--------------------------|
| <b>B3 Investment assets</b> |         |                             | -               | -                        |
|                             |         |                             | -               | -                        |
|                             |         |                             | -               | -                        |
|                             |         |                             | -               | -                        |
|                             |         |                             | -               | -                        |

| Categories  | Details | Fund to which asset belongs | Cost (optional) | Current value (optional) |
|---|---------|-----------------------------|-----------------|--------------------------|
| <b>B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use</b> |         |                             | -               | -                        |
|   |         |                             | -               | -                        |
|   |         |                             | -               | -                        |
|   |         |                             | -               | -                        |
|   |         |                             | -               | -                        |
|   |         |                             | -               | -                        |
|   |         |                             | -               | -                        |
|   |         |                             | -               | -                        |

| Categories            | Details | Fund to which liability relates | Amount due (optional) | When due (optional) |
|-----------------------|---------|---------------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|
| <b>B5 Liabilities</b> |         |                                 | -                     |                     |
|                       |         |                                 | -                     |                     |
|                       |         |                                 | -                     |                     |
|                       |         |                                 | -                     |                     |
|                       |         |                                 | -                     |                     |

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees

| Signature   | Print Name       | Date of approval |
|---|------------------|------------------|
|  | Bijoy Thomas     | 27/12/2023       |
|  | Eldhose Varghese | 27/12/2023       |

**St. Mary's Jacobite Syrian Orthodox Church, Northampton**  
**Independent Examiner's Report on the Accounts**

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*Report to the Trustees / members of St. Mary's Jacobite Syrian Orthodox Church, Northampton  
(Charity No: 1162484) on the accounts for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023.*

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***Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiners***

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

It is our responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act,
- to follow the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5) (b) of the Act, and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

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

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Our examination was carried out in accordance with the 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***

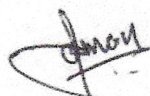
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In connection with our examination, no material matters have come to our attention which gives us cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- 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.
- 

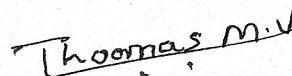
We have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

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**Mr. Jomon Isaac**

(Hon. Independent Examiner)



**Mr. Thomas Varkey**

(Hon. Independent Examiner)

**Dated: 28/12/2023**