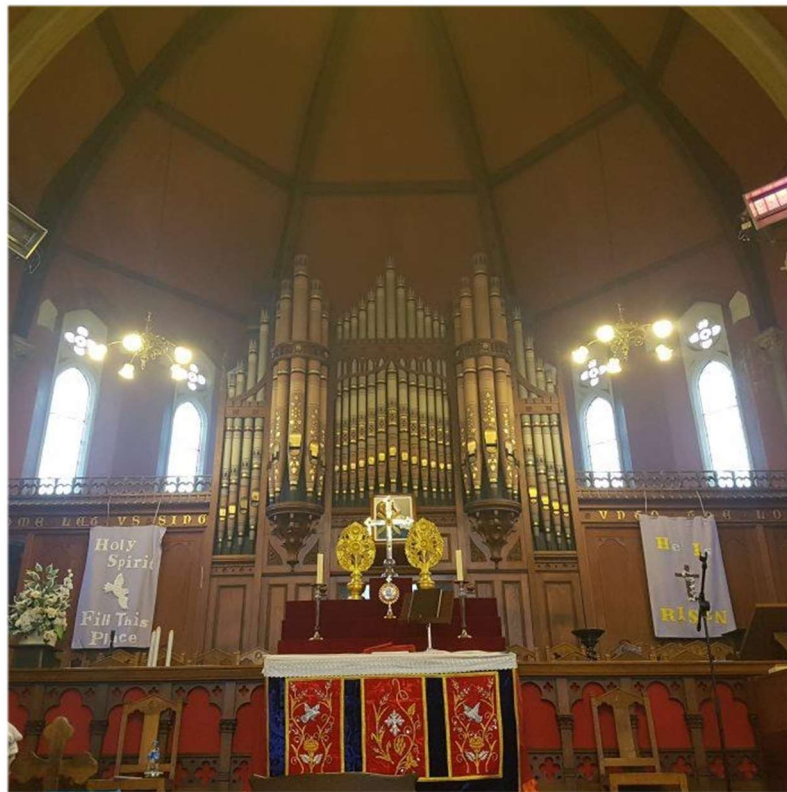


St. Mary's Jacobite Syrian Orthodox Church,

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

Northampton



**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

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

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 1st April 2023 to 31st 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
6. Mr. Saibu Thomas	Committee member	Elected
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 Osthathos 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 OsthathEOS 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

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For the period from	01/04/2023	To	31/03/2024
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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 £
A1 Receipts					
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	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	63,111	-	-	63,111	-
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	63,111	-	-	63,111	-
A3 Payments					
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	-
Sub total	35,590	-	-	35,590	-
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	35,590	-	-	35,590	-
Net of receipts/(payments)	27,521	-	-	27,521	-
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	73,527	-	-	73,527	-
Cash funds this year end	101,048	-	-	101,048	-

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 £
B1 Cash funds	Cash in hand	827	-	-
	Cash at bank-General	100,221	-	-
		-	-	-
	Total cash funds	101,048	-	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	OK
		Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B3 Investment assets			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
		Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
		Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
B5 Liabilities			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
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

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

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiners

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

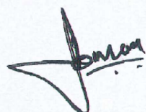
Our examination was carried out in accordance with the general Direction given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or 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

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

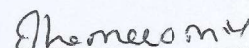
- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
 - the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
 - the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts 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.



Mr. Jomon Isaac

(Hon. Independent Examiner)



Mr. Thomas Varkey

(Hon. Independent Examiner)

Dated: 15/01/2025