



Trustees' Annual Report for the period

Period start date	From
Period end date	To

01
Jan
2020

31
Dec
2020

Section A	Reference and administration details
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Charity name

ST THOMAS JACOBITE SYRIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH LONDON

Other names charity is known by

ST THOMAS JSOC LONDON

Registered charity number (if any)

1177726

Charity's principal address

2A Taunton road

TAR

Harold hill,

Romford

Post code

RM3 7ST

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

Trustee name

Office (if any)

Dates acted if not for whole year

Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)

Fr. Raju C Abraham (Vicar)
Chair Person

1

General Body

POULOSE KAKKASSERY
Secretary

2

General Body

BIJU JACOB
Treasurer

3

General Body

Aji Paul
Joint Secretary

4

General Body

5

Pradeep Cherian

General Body

6

Babu Parakudiyil

General Body

7

BASIL JOHN

General Body

8

SIRIL KURIAN

General Body

9

Sujoy Abraham

General Body

Mrs. Simi C. Yohannan	10
General Body	
Vinu Paul	11
General Body	
George Pottackal	12
General Body	
Uthup Abraham	13
General Body	

Names of the trustees for the charity, if any, (for example, any custodian trustees)

Name

Dates acted if not for whole year

Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser

Name

Address

Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

Section B Structure, governance and management

Description of the charity's trusts

Type of governing document
(eg. trust deed, constitution)

The Church's governing document is the Constitution that has been submitted to the Charity Commission.

How the charity is constituted
(eg. trust, association, company)

CIO

Trustee selection methods
(eg. appointed by, elected by)

Elected by General Body

Additional governance issues (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant, about:

- policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees;
- the charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works;
- relationship with any related parties;
- trustees' consideration of major risks and the system and procedures to manage them.

Our Church St Thomas Jacobite Syrian Orthodox Church is an integral part of the Universal Syrian Orthodox Church led by Mor Ignatius Aphrem II who is the Patriarch and Supreme Head of Antioch and all the East, reigning on the Apostolic Throne of St Peter. The Church also owes its allegiance to his Beatitude Aboon Mor Baselios Thomas I, the Catholicos of the East (Malankara) and His successors. The Patriarchal Vicar (Metropolitan in charge of the UK) in consultation with the Patriarch, governs and guides our Church in the matters of faith.

The Vicar is appointed by the Patriarch through the Patriarchal Vicar. The Annual General Body elects the Church office bearers including the Secretary, the Joint Secretary, the Treasurer, an internal auditor and the other Managing Committee members/Trustees. All administrative and financial affairs of the church are managed and administered by the Managing Committee. The tenure of the elected managing committee is usually two years.

The Managing Committee meets at least once in a month on an average, to deliberate and make decisions regarding the day to day affairs of the Church, including the approval of new applications to the membership of the church. A half yearly general body meeting is convened every six months. All the income and expenditure is budgeted at the beginning of the church financial year and approved by the general body. Spending is regulated and misuse of funds is safeguarded by the strict adherence to the rules set out by the Trustees

Accounts and procedures are internally audited at least twice a year by an internal auditor elected at the Annual General Body Meeting (AGM). An independent examination or external scrutiny is also carried out by an independent examiner appointed by the Trustees.

Section C Objectives and activities

Summary of the objects of the charity set out in its governing document

The prime objective of the church is to promote the Christian faith and spread the Good word.

To conduct the Holy Eucharist, Sacraments and Services according to the faith, traditions and customs of the Jacobite Syrian Orthodox Church.

To provide the Holy Sacrament to all its faithful members.

To establish charitable institutions for the welfare of the members of the church and to support these and other charitable institutions to be able to provide for the poor and the needy in a wider society.

Other charitable purposes for the benefit of the public and the Development of the community.

Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit in relation to these objects (include within this section the statutory declaration that trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit)

The Holy Eucharist is celebrated every Sunday of the year at St Thomas JSO Church, Romford, London, RM3 7ST, where, on an average, more than 200 people attend the Holy Mass and other religious discourses. The service starts at 0930 hrs with morning prayers and the Holy Mass begins at 10.00 hrs. An additional Holy Qurbana used to conduct from this church at St. Mary's and St. Shenouda Coptic Orthodox church Coulsdon on every 4th Saturdays of the month mainly for the convenience of Members of St. Mary's Kudumba unit and believers from south London. However due to Covid 19 pandemic and unavailability of the above venue or a suitable place this service is temporarily suspended.

The church strongly feels that the children of the church are the foundation of the future society and this church and hence a great deal of emphasis has been given to provide them with proper spiritual guidance in the Christian faith. We conduct Sunday School for the children for these very reasons and we instil belief, teachings of the Lord, traditions of our church and the positive moral and social values that will develop in these children. We follow a structured curriculum for these teachings which are provided by our organisations (MJSSC) based in Kerala, India in coordination with MJSSA UK. More than 85 children have registered as students of the Sunday School and regularly attend these Sunday School classes which are held currently online after the Holy Mass. The curriculum focuses on teachings from the Bible.

A Youth Association is active in our church as altar boys, choir singers and leaders in many other groups. Their goal is to learn and practices the Lord's teachings, to grow together in the faith and to build on the strong moral values and develop a social conscience as a result. They also organise various cultural, community and charity activities.

A Women's forum has been set up and very active in the Church. The main purpose is to grow spiritually in Christ through prayers, devotional songs of worship and Bible study sessions.

Four fellowship units have been created based on the geographical spread of the member's residences. Regular prayer meetings are held in each unit once every month. Such meetings give the families a nice opportunity to come together, interact and worship together and strengthen the fellowship.

Christmas Carol services are held in the traditional way where a group of singers including ladies, children, the Vicar and Santa Claus visit member's residences singing and proclaiming the glorious news of the Saviour's birth and the everlasting hope offered to mankind.

We believe that one of the important benefits of attending the Holy services on a regular basis is that it changes people. It purifies the soul and gives a finer perspective on life and brings out the best in each individual. It prompts us to consider others' needs as equally important as ours.

Helping the poor and the needy forms an important part of our Worship to God. We also believe that helping the poor is one of the ways of contributing towards building a better world. A portion of our income is spent each year to provide financial assistance to sick patients, disabled and the poor.

Grants are given to the eligible applicants, only after proper verification of the genuineness and their existing financial status and this is discussed in detail in the committee meetings of the Trustees. It is also here that the amount to be given is decided and this is sent directly to the beneficiary with no third parties involved.

Additional details of objectives and activities (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include further statements, where relevant, about:

- policy on grantmaking;
- policy programme related investment;
- Contribution made by volunteers.

Section D

Achievements and performance

Section D

Achievements and performance

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year

Our Church is registered as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) with effect from 27th Mar 2018. Our new Charity Registration Number is 1177726.

St Thomas Day: On 4th and 5th, our Church celebrated the feast day of St Thomas which was blessed by a Perunnal message from HG Mathew Mor Anthemos and special Holy Mass was conducted by parish priest Rev Fr Gee Varghese Thandayath and Vicar: Fr Raju C Abraham and Rev. Abin Markose.

Youth Association: With the theme Spiritual nourishment and personality development, many activities such as Food for community charity food distributions, meet and greet, Youth retreat and Holy Mass in English are successfully undertaken this year.

Other community and charity activities undertaken during the year 2019:

- **Food bank aid; community food deliveries in Romford community on every 4th Sundays.**
- **Garden of Love veg. garden project and tree planting within the church compound.**
- **Regularly support by providing food items to needy neighbourhood area, Abercrombie house and local sheltered homes at Harold hill.**

Section E

Financial review

Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves

The Church reserves are held to fund its current and future activities.

Details of any funds materially in deficit

There are no funds in deficit.

Further financial review details (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant about:

- the charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising);
- how expenditure has supported the key objectives of the charity;
- investment policy and objectives including any ethical investment policy adopted.

The principal source of income is voluntary donations and monthly subscription fees from our members.

The major expenditure is the mortgage being paid to Charity Bank for repaying the loan.

The Church is run by volunteers who are not entitled to any remuneration, except the Vicar's allowances being paid to the Priest for pastoral services.

Other expenses are in proportion to the needs of the congregation.

The Church does not have sufficient funds currently to invest in long term investments. Funds available are held as cash in a mainstream bank,

Public Benefit:

The Trustees have considered the guidance produced by the Charity Commission on the provision of the public benefit and they confirm that the public benefit has been provided by:

- 1) Promoting the whole mission of the church through activities for individuals, parents and toddlers.
- 2) Providing regular Christian Worship open to all.
- 3) Teaching Christianity through sermons, courses and small groups.
- 4) Instituting Christian values in children.
- 5) Extending the charity works of the Church to other communities around us.

Section G

Declaration

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)



Full name(s)

Poulose Kakkassery

Position (Secretary)

Secretary

Date

29/07/2021



Charity Name ST THOMAS JACOBITE SYRIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH	No (if any) 1177726
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Receipts and payments accounts

For the period from	Period start date 1/1/2020	To	Period end date 12/31/2020
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Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £
A1 Receipts				
SUBSCRIPTIONS	27,249		-	27,249
OFFERINGS	21,964		-	21,964
DONATIONS	25,121		-	25,121
BUILDING FUND		1,100	-	1,100
INTEREST	16			16
GIFT AID	32,403			32,403
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	106,753	1,100	-	107,853
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).				
	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	106,753	1,100	-	107,853
A3 Payments				
RENT FOR CHURCH /HALL HIRE	300		-	300
ACCOUNTANCY FEES	1,440		-	1,440
PAYMENTS TO VICAR	9,375		-	9,375
VISITING BISHOPS/PRIESTS/SPEAKERS	650		-	650
MISSION OF CONGREGATION	14,113		-	14,113
INSURANCE			-	-
CHARITY CONTRIBUTION	8,871		-	8,871
FOOD & REFRESHMENT	3,326		-	3,326
MSOC CONTRIBUTION	1,118		-	1,118
LEGAL & PROFESSIONAL			-	-
CHURCH LOAN REPAYMENT	18,777		-	18,777
LOAN INTEREST PAYMENT			-	-
CHURCH UTILITIES	2,562		-	2,562
NEW CHURCH BUILDING + EXPENSES C	1,908		-	1,908
MAINTANANCE	207		-	207
Sub total	62,648	-	-	62,648
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)				
	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-
Total payments	62,648	-	-	62,648
Net of receipts/(payments)	44,105	1,100	-	45,205
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	73,033	17,209	-	90,242
Cash funds this year end	117,138	18,309	-	135,447

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

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	CURRENT	86,886	-
	SAVING	31,223	-
	PETTY CASH	-	
	BUILDING FUND	-	17,338
	Total cash funds	118,109	17,338
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	Agreement Error	Agreement Error

	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-

	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)
B3 Investment assets			-
			-

	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use	CHURCH BUILDING	629,939	-
			-
			-
			-
			-
			-
			-
			-
			-

	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)
B5 Liabilities	BANK LOAN (THE CHARITY BANK LTD)	319,416	-
			-
			-
			-
			-

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

Signature	Print Name
	Mr. Santhosh Alexander
	Mr. Biju Jacob

CC16a

Last year

to the nearest £

23,535
21,253
43,326
16,191
62
22,264
126,631

-
-

126,631

3,200
1,440
14,650
2,550
8,432
848
3,925
8,552
3,355
257
8,469
13,712
4,027
272
10,115
83,805

-

83,805

42,826

-

47416

90,242



**Endowment
funds**

to nearest £

-
-
-
-

OK

**Endowment
funds**

to nearest £

-
-
-
-
-
-

**Current value
(optional)**

-
-

**Current value
(optional)**

-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-

**When due
(optional)**

**Date of
approval**



Independent examiner's report on the accounts

Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/
members of

ST THOMAS JACOBITE SYRIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH

On accounts for the year
ended

31st DECEMBER 2020

Charity no
(if any)

1177726

Set out on pages

(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

Respective
responsibilities of
trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act,
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act, and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent
examiner's statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from 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 my examination, no matter has come to my attention (other than that disclosed below *)

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in, any material respect, the requirements:
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Acthave not been met ; or
2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

* Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.

Signed:

Date:

13/07/2021

Name:

Sebastian Machukattu Devasia

Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body
(if any):

Association of Chartered Certified Accountants

Address:

17 NEALS CORNER, BATH ROAD, HOUNSLOW
MIDDLESEX
TW3 3HJ

Sebastian and Daughters Ltd
Chartered Certified Accountants
17 Neals Corner, 2 Bath Road
Hounslow, Middlesex
TW3 3HJ
TEL: 020 3490 9263

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight material problems.

Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.