

**STS STYLIANOS AND CATHERINE PARISH**  
**REGISTERED CHARITY NO. 1178371**  
**A CHARITABLE INCORPORATED ORGANISATION**

**RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT**  
**FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER 2023**  
-  
**AND**  
**STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES AS AT 31<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER 2023**

**STS STYLIANOS AND CATHERINE PARISH**  
**LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION**  
**FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER 2023**

<b><u>Registered Name</u></b>	Sts Stylianos and Catherine Parish
<b><u>Registered Number</u></b>	1178371
<b><u>Principal Office</u></b>	51 Lower Elmstone Drive Reading RG315EB
<b><u>Trustees</u></b>	Rev Fr Ionut Gabriel Stelian Mandu Marius Andrei Picu Ancuta-Andreea Bogatu Bogdan Cristian Sichitiu (appt 22.01.23)
<b><u>Bankers</u></b>	Barclays Bank plc Metro Bank Redwood Bank Cambridge & Counties Bank NatWest
<b><u>Independent Examiner</u></b>	Mrs Tatiana Sandu 7 Crown Corner High Street, Crowthorne, RG45 7AD

**STS STYLIANOS AND CATHERINE PARISH**  
**TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT**  
**FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER 2023**

The Trustees present their Report and Accounts for the period ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2023. The accounts comply with the charity's constitution, the Charities Act 2011, and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland - Charities SORP (FRS 102); and the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

**The Charity's Trusts**

The Charity was registered on 14<sup>th</sup> May 2018, with its governing document being that of a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (C.I.O.)

**Legal and Administrative Information**

Page 2 to these accounts gives this information.

**Objects**

As set out in the Charity's governing documents, its objectives are:

- to advance the Orthodox Christian religion in South East England in accordance with the doctrines and the canons of the Romanian Orthodox Patriarchate and with the statutes of the Romanian Orthodox Metropolis of Western and Southern Europe, by providing a place of worship, raising awareness and understanding of Orthodox Christian beliefs and practices, and carrying out religious acts, missionary and outreach work;
- to advance such other charitable purposes as the trustees see fit from time to time, in particular but not limited to the preservation of Romanian cultural traditions, the advancement of children's and adult education in a Christian spirit, and the relief of those in need.

**Organisation of Services, Activities and Achievements during the Period**

The Orthodox Christian Parish of Sts Stylianos and Catherine is part of the Romanian Orthodox Archdiocese of Western Europe, which sits under the Romanian Orthodox Patriarchate. Its main objects are to advance the Orthodox Christian faith for the benefit of the public in accordance with teachings of the One, Holy, Catholic and Apostolic Church, rooted in the Holy Tradition, and taught by the Holy Scriptures, the teachings of the seven Ecumenical councils and the local and provincial councils of the Orthodox Church.

Membership of the Parish currently stands at 748 active members who have registered their details and receive regular updates. About a quarter of them also donate regularly to the charity associated with the Parish. Membership is contingent upon being 18 years of age and having a permanent address in the UK (the area of the Romanian Orthodox Diocese of Great Britain). The conditions of membership are subject to rules regarding membership in the wider body of the Archdiocese, of which the parish is a part, as well as the membership rules established in the Constitution of the Charity.

The parish has regular religious services on Saturday evenings, Sunday mornings and Thursday evenings, as well as on several Feast days and also Baptisms, Weddings and Funerals, home services,

**STS STYLIANOS AND CATHERINE PARISH**  
**TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT**  
**FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER 2023**

hospital and prison visits. All services are open to all members of the public. These services are celebrated in a mixture of English and Romanian (the traditional language of the Romanian Orthodox Church). On Sundays during the school year, the children are gathered during the morning service for a short Sunday school meeting. Further information about the on-going activities of the parish is available on the Parish website at [www.reading-orthodox.uk](http://www.reading-orthodox.uk).

**Future Developments**

The Parish continues to use Holy Trinity church in Reading as the central point where most services and events happen. The Parish is also involved in establishing and growing a mission in Bracknell. The Parish and its corresponding charity is also looking at the possibility of expanding its member base, purchasing of a worship space and expanding further into ministry in the local community.

**Public Benefit**

In reviewing the Charity's ongoing objectives and activities, the Trustees have considered the guidance set out in the Charity Commission's guidelines on public benefit and are of the opinion that the objectives and activities are in total compliance therewith.

**Trustees**

The Trustees named on page 2 served during the period and up to the date of signing this report. Mrs. Diana Popusoi, former Treasurer, resigned on 31 January 2023, and Mr. Bogdan Cristian Sichitiu was appointed as the new Treasurer on 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2023. There are no other Trustees.

**Appointment of Trustees**

Trustees are appointed following selection based on their professional skills and/or representational qualities.

**Reserves Policy**

The Trustees consider that free reserves amounting to six month's operating costs is sensible and advisable to cover the various uncertainties and risks in the current economic climate and the aftermath of the worldwide coronavirus pandemic. These requirements are under constant review by the Trustees, who appreciate that reserves are currently at a higher level than this requirement, but consider this a prudent position to adopt at the present time.

**Trustees Remuneration/Expenses**

Two of the Trustees, Rev Fr Ionut Gabriel Stelian Mandu and Dcn Marius Andrei Picu, receive stipends from the charity for their pastoral services; the payment of such services has been approved by the Charity Commission. Fr John received £2,500 per month during 2023, a sum equivalent to the average UK salary. Dcn Marius received a minimal amount, £300 per month. No expenses are paid to Trustees other than to reimburse occasional, low-value authorised disbursements incurred.

**STS STYLIANOS AND CATHERINE PARISH**  
**TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT**  
**FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER 2023**

**Statement of Trustees' responsibilities**

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the annual report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice.

Law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year, which give a true and fair view of the Charity's financial activities during the year and of its financial position at the end of the year. In preparing those financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles of the applicable Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards and statements of recommended practice have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Charity will continue in operation.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Charity and which enable them to ascertain the financial position of the Charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011 and the applicable Charities SORP. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

**Approval**

This report has been approved by the Trustees and is signed on their behalf by:

Signed..... Pen Tj Hlam .....  
 (Trustee)

Date..... 31-05-2024 .....

Signed..... BOGDAN CRISTIAN SICHITIU .....  
 (Trustee)

Date..... 31.05.2024 .....



**STS STYLIANOS AND CATHERINE PARISH**  
**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT**  
**FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2023**  
**REGISTERED CHARITY NO. 1178371**

I report on the accounts of the charity, for the year ended 31st December 2023, which are set out on pages 7 to 9.

**Respective responsibilities of the 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 period 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;
- follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners under Section 145(5)(b) of the Act; and
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

**Basis of independent examiner's report**

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. 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 you as 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:

- 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 to comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act

have 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.

Mrs Tatiana Sandu  
 7 Crown Corner High Street,  
 Crowthorne, RG45 7AD

Signature.....

*Sandu T.*

Dated.....

*31.05.2024*

**STS STYLIANOS AND CATHERINE PARISH****RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2023**  
**CHARITY NO. 1178371**

	<b><u>2023</u></b>	<b><u>2022</u></b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<b><u>RECEIPTS</u></b>		
Donations	137,408.30	119,827.36
Gift Aid	24,132.81	21,056.54
Interest received	9,111.41	2,571.68
	<b><u>170,652.52</u></b>	<b><u>143,455.58</u></b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<b><u>PAYMENTS</u></b>		
Father John Mandu support grants	34,603.40	27,000.00
Deacon Marius Picu support grants	3,300.00	3,000.00
Candles	4,094.72	7,977.61
Rent and utility bills	12,791.83	10,406.34
Parking and fuel	1,520.09	
Jerusalem pilgrimage	-	900.00
Church Suite App	540.00	540.00
Church consumables	1,797.44	1,091.84
Social welfare cases	10,453.78	12,758.90
Community events	3,118.52	1,894.40
Telephone and internet	214.68	189.35
Books	3,079.96	2,797.72
Misc equipment	-	112.69
Travel costs	-	513.58
Stationery, postage, computer costs	157.60	57.60
Independent Examiner's costs	300.00	1,050.00
Bookkeeping	-	380.00
Miscellaneous	272.39	117.40
Insurance	685.55	592.44
DBS checks	32.00	206.80
Security for Easter night	1,440.00	960.00
	1,252.00	525.00
Donations to Metropolis and Romanian Orthodox Deanery		
Refuse collection (trade waste)	300.56	323.68
Bank charges	127.60	226.26
Depreciation	2,221.50	2,243.51
	<b><u>-82,303.62</u></b>	<b><u>-75,865.12</u></b>
<b><u>Net surplus</u></b>	<b><u>88,348.90</u></b>	<b><u>67,590.46</u></b>

**STS STYLIANOS AND CATHERINE PARISH****STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2023**  
**CHARITY NO. 1178371**

	<u>Notes</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
		£	£
<b><u>FIXED ASSETS</u></b>			
Tangible Fixed Assets	2	12,588.48	12,708.00
<b><u>CURRENT ASSETS</u></b>			
<b><u>Cash and Bank</u></b>			
Church Fund deposit account Barclays		6,530.51	-
Church Fund deposit account		-	16,986.72
Community account		-	136.92
Community Fund account Barclays		228.71	2,769.45
Community Fund account Metro		2,354.17	-
Community Fund deposit Metro		-	-
Redwood bank account		86,581.59	152,279.43
Cambridge & Counties bank account		83,368.99	40,402.50
Natwest		116,266.57	-
Funds in transfer		5,000.00	
Cash		119.09	119.09
		<u>300,449.63</u>	<u>212,694.11</u>
<b><u>CURRENT LIABILITIES</u></b>			
Credit card		-	112.90
Accruals		300.00	900.00
		<u>300.00</u>	<u>1,012.90</u>
<b>Net Current Assets</b>		<u>300,149.63</u>	<u>211,681.21</u>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		<u><b>312,738.11</b></u>	<u><b>224,389.21</b></u>
<b><u>CAPITAL</u></b>			
Unrestricted Funds B/Fwd		224,389.21	156,798.75
Surplus for the period		<u>88,348.90</u>	<u>67,590.46</u>
<b>Unrestricted Funds C/Fwd</b>		<u><b>312,738.11</b></u>	<u><b>224,389.21</b></u>

The notes given on page 9 form part of the financial statements.

Approved by the Trustees,

*Per Tj Mendi*

BOGDAN CRISTIAN SICHITU

*mit*



**STS STYLIANOS AND CATHERINE PARISH**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER 2023**

**1. Accounting Policies**

(a) **Basis of preparation**

The accounts (financial statements) have been prepared on a receipts and payments basis, with the additional inclusion of a depreciation charge, as below. This is deemed appropriate due to the nature of the fixed assets held, to enable the accounts to show a true value at the year end.

(b) **Tangible Assets and Depreciation**

Tangible fixed assets held for the charity's own use are stated at cost less accumulated depreciation. Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost of fixed assets, less their estimated residual value, over their expected useful lives at the following rates:  
 Mobile assets - 15% reducing balance basis.

Mobile assets comprise portable icons, altar pieces, vestments, altar cloths, books, and sundry other small items of equipment.

**2. Tangible Fixed Assets**

	<b><u>Mobile assets</u></b>	<b><u>Total</u></b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<b>Cost</b>		
Brought forward 01.01.23	22,028.00	22,028.00
Additions	2,101.98	2,101.98
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Carried forward 31.12.23	<u>24,129.98</u>	<u>24,129.98</u>
<b>Depreciation</b>		
Brought forward 01.01.23	9,320.00	9,320.00
Charge for the period	2,221.50	2,221.50
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Carried fwd 31.12.23	<u>11,541.50</u>	<u>11,541.50</u>
	<hr/>	<hr/>
<b>Net book value 31.12.23</b>	<u><b>12,588.48</b></u>	<u><b>12,588.48</b></u>
	<hr/>	<hr/>
<b>Net book value 31.12.22</b>	<u><b>12,708.00</b></u>	<u><b>12,708.00</b></u>

All tangible fixed assets are used directly for charitable purposes.

**3. Trustees Remuneration / Expenses**

Two of the Trustees, Rev Fr Ionut Gabriel Stelian Mandu and Dcn Marius Andrei Picu, receive stipends from the charity for their pastoral services; the payment of such services has been approved by the Charity Commission. Fr John received £2,500 per month during 2023, a sum equivalent to the average UK salary. Den Marius received a minimal amount, £300 per month. No expenses are paid to Trustees other than to reimburse occasional, low-value authorised disbursements incurred.