

# **THE YORK ORATORY TRUST (CIO)**

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER 1187865



**ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

# THE YORK ORATORY TRUST (CIO)

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# THE YORK ORATORY TRUST (CIO)

## Legal and Administrative information

|                           |                                                                                                                             |
|---------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Registered Charity number | 1187865                                                                                                                     |
| Date of registration      | 11 February 2020                                                                                                            |
| Charity address           | Petergate House<br>11 High Petergate<br>York<br>YO1 7EN                                                                     |
| Trustees                  | The Very Reverend Richard Duffield (Chair)<br>Fr Daniel Seward<br>Fr Stephen Brown<br>Br David Chadwick                     |
| Bankers                   | NatWest<br>3 Westborough<br>Scarborough<br>YO1 1UH                                                                          |
| Independent examiner      | Mr N.C. Everard B.A., F.C.A.<br>Hunter Gee Holroyd, Chartered Accountants<br>Club Chambers<br>Museum Street<br>York YO1 7DN |

# **THE YORK ORATORY TRUST (CIO)**

## **REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31<sup>st</sup> DECEMBER 2023**

The Trustees present their report and the financial statements of the Charity for the year ended 31st December 2023. The Trustees have adopted the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" (FRS 102), in preparing the annual report and financial statements of the Charity.

### **PRINCIPAL ADDRESS**

The Charity's principal address is 11, High Petergate, York. YO1 7EN

### **TRUSTEES**

The Trustees at the date of this report were:

Fr Richard Duffield (Chair)  
Fr Daniel Seward  
Fr Stephen Brown  
Br David Chadwick

All these Trustees served throughout the year and to the date of this report.

### **BANKERS**

National Westminster Bank  
3 Westborough,  
Scarborough  
YO11 1UH

### **SOLICITORS**

For questions relating to Property, Finance and Charity Law the Charity's Solicitors are Lupton Fawcett of Stamford House, Piccadilly, York YO1 9PP.

### **INDEPENDENT EXAMINER**

Hunter Gee Holroyd  
Club Chambers  
Museum Street  
York. YO1 7DN

### **STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT**

#### **Legal Status**

The Charity was established under a Trust Deed dated 11<sup>th</sup> February, 2020. It was registered as a CIO on 20<sup>th</sup> February, 2020. The Charity Number is 1187865

# THE YORK ORATORY TRUST (CIO)

## **Governance**

New Trustees are appointed by existing Trustees.

The Trustees are appointed from among the voting members of the General Congregation of the York Oratory which is the governing body of the Congregation of the Oratory of St Philip Neri in York in Roman Catholic particular law.

The Trustees themselves are responsible for the day to day running of the charity under the leadership of the Provost of the York Oratory, Fr Richard Duffield, who is also *ex officio* Chair of the Trustees.

Clergy stipends of the Trustees are set according to the provisions made in the Particular Statutes of the Congregation of the Oratory of St Philip Neri in York. Clergy receive a stipend according to their need and not exceeding the amount agreed for clergy salaries by the Trustees of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Middlesbrough in which we work. This is reflected in the York Oratory Trust (CIO) governing document.

## **Risk Management**

The Trustees have a risk management strategy based on the risk management strategy of the Diocese in which we work. This involves an annual review of the risks the Charity may face and the establishment of systems and procedures to mitigate those risks, and the implementation of procedures to mitigate any potential impact on the Charity should those risks materialise.

The Trustees consider that the Charity's main risks are those associated with financial sustainability, safeguarding, legislative compliance, and buildings.

## **Objectives and Activities**

The Charity exists for the benefit of the public, the advancement of the Roman Catholic religion in England and particularly in, or in the vicinity of, the city of York and the county of North Yorkshire by, but not limited to, the provision of religious services and pastoral care in the region.

The York Oratory Trust (CIO) was founded to support a religious community, the Congregation of the Oratory of St Philip Neri in York, which was invited to undertake religious and pastoral work in the City of York and its vicinity by the Bishop of Middlesbrough, the Roman Catholic Diocese in which it works. In addition to providing the Diocese with the religious and pastoral services required by a parish, the Congregation of the Oratory also undertakes other activities particular to its own tradition.

The Charity's objectives and activities fall under the following broad headings:

- Religious and Spiritual Activities
- Pastoral Activities
- Social Activities
- Cultural Activities & Church Music

# **THE YORK ORATORY TRUST (CIO)**

## **ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE**

### **Religious and Spiritual Activities**

The main activity of the Charity is to provide Liturgy and Worship according to Roman Catholic rites in the parishes and chapels entrusted to us by the Diocese of Middlesbrough, St Wilfrid's Church, St Joseph's Church and the Shrine of St Margaret Clitherow in the Shambles. We also do this for the Chaplaincy of the University of York, in our Primary School and for a local religious community. We have two daily Masses in St Wilfrid's Church and six Masses (with two other sung services) every Sunday across all the Churches and Chapels entrusted to us. The parishes – especially St Wilfrid's – have a large number of Baptisms, Weddings and Funerals.

All the trustees and the other members of the York Oratory Community (including parishioners) are involved in giving spiritual talks for a wide variety of different audiences in the City of York and further afield. The "Talking Heads" Bible Study talks are repeated twice each week and are made available online. There are regular talks every Sunday afternoon for most of the year on Christian Art, Poetry and Church music. There are classes in Latin, Church Music and, according to demand, in New Testament Greek. These are all well-attended, attracting up to thirty people.

Many of the Trustees and Members of the Oratorian Community are engaged in giving spiritual retreats, conferences and lectures, both in the city of York and further afield. We also provide spiritual direction and counselling for a large number of individuals.

### **Pastoral Activities**

The Parish has the care of a Catholic Primary School for which the community provides chaplaincy and governance. There is extensive parish visiting for the lonely and housebound, both by members of the community and by parishioners co-ordinated by the Parish Priest.

The community also provides a Chaplain to the University of York who provides a service for the Roman Catholic students and also who also works collaboratively with Anglican and Methodist colleagues in an Ecumenical Covenant. Priest members of the Oratorian Community take their turn in providing chaplaincy services in the York hospital and for religious communities in the district.

### **Social Activities**

Together with the Trussell Trust we run a weekly Food Bank in St Joseph's Parish. There are also two groups of parishioners who provide relief for poverty through the Society of St Vincent de Paul.

### **Cultural Activities and Church Music**

The Charity runs two choirs, one semi-professional and one amateur, who sing at the main services on Sundays. Apart from providing music for services the Director of Music is also charged with musical formation of parishioners across all our parishes. The choirs also give sacred concerts, called Musical Oratories, on a regular basis.

The Charity is responsible for three listed buildings, St Wilfrid's Church, Petergate House and the Shrine of St Margaret Clitherow in the Shambles.

### **Plans for the Future**

Restoration of the interior of St Joseph's Church.

Developing the property on High Petergate to provide accommodation for the community or for income for the Charity.

Order of Malta Group for social events for the elderly and lonely.

# THE YORK ORATORY TRUST (CIO)

## Reserves Policy

The Trustees have set a level of unrestricted or 'free' reserves that the Charity needs to have to bridge any shortfall between future income and expenditure levels (particularly in relation to increased utility bills and church fabric repairs costs) at a level of £250,000 which equates to approximately 12 months running costs. The total unrestricted reserves at 31st December were above this level at a total of £344,005.

The Trustees are conscious of significant capital works revealed by the last Quinquennial Report on the condition of the property, and that cost of living pressures are likely to increase.

## Investment Policy

The trustees are aware of a need to develop an investment policy for the future and to avoid keeping more liquidity in current accounts than we need. We have opened an interest bearing account and will look at ways of establishing an investment fund governed by policies consistent with the Catholic Faith.

## Volunteers

We recruit and train volunteers to help us meet different demands of our charitable objectives including administration, pastoral support, education and the maintenance of the church buildings and their contents. We have thirty regular volunteers.

## Financial Review

The charity's main expenses are the maintenance of our property; the support of the clergy who, together with volunteers, undertake most of the work for the charity's objectives; and the training of new clergy to do this work in the future. The income comes from the donations of those who come to our churches, some rental income, and grants from charities which support the training of clergy.

The charity incurred an operating loss in the year on unrestricted activities of £14,724 and also received a legacy of £184,638 resulting in a net income for the year of £169,914. The total reserves at 31st December 2023 increased to £348,011 (2022 £174,091)

## Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The 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 state of affairs of the charity and of the income and expenditure of the charity for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

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

The Trustees are responsible for keeping sufficient accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the trust deed. 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.

Approved by the Trustees on 14<sup>th</sup> October 2024 and signed on their behalf by:

**V. Rev. Richard Duffield Provost  
& Chair of Trustees**

# THE YORK ORATORY TRUST (CIO)

## INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE YORK ORATORY TRUST (CIO)

I report to the trustees on my examination of the financial statements of The York Oratory Trust (CIO) (the charity) for the year ended 31 December 2023.

### Responsibilities and basis of report

As the trustees of the charity, you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act).

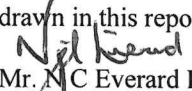
I report in respect of my examination of the charity's financial statements carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act. In carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

### Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. Accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 130 of the 2011 Act; or
2. the financial statements do not accord with those records; or
3. the financial statements do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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

  
Mr. N C Everard BA FCA  
Hunter Gee Holroyd  
Club Chambers  
Museum Street  
York YO1 7DN  
Dated: 28<sup>th</sup> October 2024

# THE YORK ORATORY TRUST (CIO)

## Statement of Financial Activities (including income and expenditure account) for the year ended 31 December 2023

|                                              | Unrestricted<br>Funds | Restricted<br>Funds | Total          | Total           |
|----------------------------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|----------------|-----------------|
|                                              | 2023                  | 2023                | 2023           | 2022            |
|                                              | £                     | £                   | £              | £               |
| <b>Income from:</b>                          |                       | <i>Note 4</i>       |                | (as restated)   |
| Voluntary income                             |                       |                     |                |                 |
| Donations and giving                         | 164,491               |                     | 164,491        | 146,220         |
| Legacies                                     | 184,638               |                     | 184,638        | 19,958          |
| Oxford Oratory                               | -                     |                     | -              | 1,244           |
| Training grant                               | -                     | 14,500              | 14,500         | -               |
| Generated income                             |                       |                     |                |                 |
| Diocesan contribution                        | 26,715                |                     | 26,715         | 19,658          |
| Mass stipends and stole fees                 | 13,642                |                     | 13,642         | 6,979           |
| Rental income                                | 25,620                |                     | 25,620         | 25,786          |
| Other income                                 | 11,153                | 10,228              | 21,381         | 11,953          |
| <b>Total income</b>                          | <b>426,259</b>        | <b>24,728</b>       | <b>450,987</b> | <b>231,798</b>  |
| <b>Expenditure on:</b>                       |                       |                     |                |                 |
| <b>Charitable Activities</b>                 |                       |                     |                |                 |
| Administration and office costs              | 14,584                |                     | 14,584         | 10,133          |
| Church, liturgical and pastoral              | 103,680               |                     | 103,680        | 72,948          |
| Community allowances                         | 19,240                |                     | 19,240         | 23,314          |
| Household expenses                           | 51,948                |                     | 51,948         | 42,401          |
| Property expenses                            | 15,978                |                     | 15,978         | 27,092          |
| Clergy training                              | -                     | 10,494              | 10,494         | 9,160           |
| Utilities & insurance                        | 41,507                |                     | 41,507         | 49,870          |
| Website and IT consultancy                   | 2,645                 |                     | 2,645          | 16,837          |
| Other expenditure                            | 6,763                 | 10,228              | 16,991         | 7,705           |
| <b>Total expenditure</b>                     | <b>256,345</b>        | <b>20,722</b>       | <b>277,067</b> | <b>259,460</b>  |
| <b>Net income/(expenditure) for the year</b> | <b>169,914</b>        | <b>4,006</b>        | <b>173,920</b> | <b>(27,662)</b> |
| <b>Reconciliation of funds</b>               |                       |                     |                |                 |
| Funds brought forward at 1 January 2023      | 174,091               | -                   | 174,091        | 201,753         |
| Funds carried forward at 31 December 2023    | <b>344,005</b>        | <b>4,006</b>        | <b>348,011</b> | <b>174,091</b>  |

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.  
All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

# THE YORK ORATORY TRUST (CIO)

## Balance Sheet as at 31 December 2023

|                                                | Notes | 2023<br>£       | 2022<br>£<br>(as restated) |
|------------------------------------------------|-------|-----------------|----------------------------|
| <b>Current assets</b>                          |       |                 |                            |
| Cash at bank and in hand                       |       | 362,025         | 181,824                    |
| <b>Liabilities</b>                             |       |                 |                            |
| Creditors: amounts falling due within one year | 2     | <u>(14,014)</u> | <u>(7,733)</u>             |
| <b>Net current assets</b>                      |       | <u>348,011</u>  | <u>174,091</u>             |
| <b>Total net assets</b>                        |       | <u>348,011</u>  | <u>174,091</u>             |
| <b>Funds:</b>                                  |       |                 |                            |
| Restricted funds                               | 4     | 4,006           | -                          |
| Unrestricted funds                             | 4     | <u>344,005</u>  | <u>174,091</u>             |
| <b>Total funds</b>                             | 5     | <u>348,011</u>  | <u>174,091</u>             |

The financial statements were approved by the Trustees on 14<sup>th</sup> October 2024 and signed on their behalf by:



**V. Rev. Richard Duffield**  
**Provost & Chair of Trustees**

# THE YORK ORATORY TRUST (CIO)

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

### 1. Statement of accounting policies

#### Charity information

The York Oratory Trust is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation.

#### Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the charity's governing document, the Charities Act 2011, FRS 102 Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Charities SORP "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 (FRS 102)" (effective 1 January 2019). The charity is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

The charity has taken advantage of the provisions in the SORP for charities applying FRS 102 Update Bulletin 1 not to prepare a Statement of Cash Flows.

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis under the historical cost convention. The principal accounting policies adopted are set out below.

#### Basis of accounting

The financial statements are prepared on an accruals basis to include the restatement of the previous year on this basis (previously prepared on a receipts and payments basis).

#### Going concern

At the time of approving the financial statements, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus, the trustees continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

#### Income

Income is recognised when the Charity is legally entitled to the income, the amount can be measured reliably, and it is probable that income will be received.

Church collections are recognised when received by the charity. Other donations are recognised once the charity has been notified of the donation, unless performance conditions require deferral of the amount. Income tax recoverable in relation to donations received under Gift Aid is recognised when agreed by the Revenue.

Legacies are recognised on receipt or otherwise if the charity has been notified of an impending distribution, the amount is known, and receipt is expected.

#### Resources expended

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis. All expenses including support costs and governance costs are allocated or apportioned to the applicable expenditure headings.

Irrecoverable VAT is charged against the expenditure heading for which it was incurred.

Governance costs include those costs associated with meeting the public accountability of the charity and its compliance with regulation and good practice including costs relating to the Independent Examination.

# THE YORK ORATORY TRUST (CIO)

## Fund Accounting

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the Charity and which have not been designated for other purposes.

Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the Trustees for particular purposes.

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by the donors or which have been raised by the Charity for particular purposes. The cost of raising and administering such funds are charged against the specific fund. The aim and use of each restricted fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

## Taxation

The charity is an exempt charity within the meaning of schedule 3 of the Charities Act 2011 and is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 Finance Act 2010 and therefore it meets the definition of a charitable company for UK corporation tax purposes.

## 2. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

|                              | 2023   | 2022<br>(as restated) |
|------------------------------|--------|-----------------------|
|                              | £      | £                     |
| Accruals and deferred income | 14,014 | 7,733                 |

## 3. Analysis of expenditure on charitable activities

|                      | Direct costs   | Support costs | Total<br>2023  | Total<br>2022  |
|----------------------|----------------|---------------|----------------|----------------|
|                      | £              | £             | £              | £              |
| Religious activities | <u>255,777</u> | <u>21,290</u> | <u>277,067</u> | <u>259,460</u> |

### Direct costs

|                                 |                |                |
|---------------------------------|----------------|----------------|
| Church, liturgical and pastoral | 103,680        | 72,948         |
| Community allowances            | 19,240         | 23,314         |
| Household expenses              | 51,948         | 42,401         |
| Property expenses               | 15,978         | 27,092         |
| Clergy training                 | 10,494         | 9,160          |
| Utilities and insurance         | 41,507         | 49,870         |
| Other expenditure               | <u>12,930</u>  | <u>6,985</u>   |
|                                 | <u>255,777</u> | <u>231,770</u> |

### Support costs

|                                 |        |        |
|---------------------------------|--------|--------|
| Administration and office costs | 15,784 | 10,853 |
| Website and IT consultancy      | 2,645  | 16,837 |
| Bank charges                    | 1,781  | -      |
| Governance                      | 1,080  | -      |

|              |                |                |
|--------------|----------------|----------------|
|              | <u>21,290</u>  | <u>27,690</u>  |
| <b>Total</b> | <u>277,067</u> | <u>259,460</u> |

# THE YORK ORATORY TRUST (CIO)

All support costs relate to charitable activities.

Expenditure on charitable activities was £277,067 (2022 £259,460) of which £256,345 was unrestricted (2022 £256,460) and £20,722 restricted (2022 £3,000)

Governance costs are Independent Examiners Fees of £1,080

## 4. Funds

|                                                  | Balance at 1.1.23<br>£ | Income<br>£ | Expenditure<br>£ | Balance at 31.12.23<br>£ |
|--------------------------------------------------|------------------------|-------------|------------------|--------------------------|
| Restricted General funds                         |                        |             |                  |                          |
| Priests' training                                | -                      | 14,500      | (10,494)         | 4,006                    |
| Trip fund                                        | -                      | 7,249       | (7,249)          | -                        |
| Special collections<br>For third party charities | -                      | 2,979       | (2,979)          | -                        |
|                                                  |                        | 24,728      | (20,722)         | 4,006                    |
| Unrestricted funds                               |                        |             |                  |                          |
| General fund                                     | 174,091                | 426,259     | (256,345)        | 344,005                  |
| Total funds                                      | 174,091                | 450,987     | (277,067)        | 348,011                  |

The Priests' Training Fund is in respect of donations received and expenditure on clergy education.

The Charity also has a bell tower maintenance fund which is a restricted fund with a balance at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2023 of £2,815 which has not been consolidated within the financial statements. The income in the year was £3,973 and expenditure was £2,592.

## 5. Analysis of net assets between funds

Fund balances at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2023 are represented by:

|                     | Unrestricted funds<br>£ | Restricted funds<br>£ | Total funds<br>£ |
|---------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|------------------|
| Current assets      | 355,922                 | 6,103                 | 362,025          |
| Current liabilities | (11,917)                | (2,097)               | (14,014)         |
| Total net assets    | <u>344,005</u>          | <u>4,006</u>          | <u>348,011</u>   |

Fund balances at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2022 are represented by:

| Current assets      | 181,824        | -        | 181,824        |
|---------------------|----------------|----------|----------------|
| Current liabilities | (7,733)        | -        | (7,733)        |
|                     | <u>174,091</u> | <u>-</u> | <u>174,091</u> |

## THE YORK ORATORY TRUST (CIO)

### 6. Commitments under operating leases

#### Operating leases

As at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2023 the total of the charity's future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases was

|                                        | 2023<br>£     | 2022<br>£ |
|----------------------------------------|---------------|-----------|
| Amounts due within one year            | 3,470         | -         |
| Amounts due between one and five years | 9,022         | -         |
|                                        | <u>12,492</u> | <u>-</u>  |

### 7. Trustees' and key management personnel remuneration and expenses

The following Trustees received allowances for religious duties performed during the year:

|                     | 2023<br>£     | 2022<br>£     |
|---------------------|---------------|---------------|
| Fr Richard Duffield | 3,488         | 3,488         |
| Fr Stephen Brown    | 3,488         | 3,488         |
| Fr Daniel Seward    | 3,488         | 3,488         |
| Br David Chadwick   | 3,488         | 3,488         |
|                     | <u>13,952</u> | <u>13,952</u> |

The clergy members listed above are considered to be the charity's key management personnel.

### 8. Related party transactions

There were no related party transactions during the year other than those described in Note 7 above.