

St Gregorios Indian Orthodox Church

Northern Ireland · Charity number 106964

Details

Known as	IOCNI (Indian Orthodox Church, Northern Ireland)
Status	Received
Registered	2018-04-30
Register	View on the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland register

Contact

Address	228A Bush Manor Antrim Bt41 2ur BT41 2UR
Phone	07540787962
Email	iocnibelfast@gmail.com
Website	www.iocni.org.uk

Activities

Purposes: (a) The object of the Parish/Society shall be to promote the Orthodox Christian faith.

What the charity does: The advancement of religion, The advancement of the arts, culture, heritage or science

How the charity works: Community development, Cultural, Education/training, General charitable purposes, Relief of poverty, Religious activities, Youth development

Who the charity helps: Children (5-13 year olds), Ethnic minorities, General public, Homelessness, Language community, Overseas/developing countries, Women, Youth (14-25 year olds)

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£141,800	£34,886	£0	0

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Anish Mathai		
Dr Cucki Thomas		
George Mathew Madathil		
Mr Albert Abraham		
Mr Jebin Varughese Varughese		
Mr Jitin Babu		
Mr Mobin Punnoose Abraham		
Mr Robin Babu		
Mr Thomas George		
Mr Varghese Philip		
Rev.Jobson Abraham		
Saju Thomas		
Sanu John		
Sini Kuriakose		

St Gregorios Indian Orthodox Church

Northern Ireland - Charity number 106964

Accounts



ST. GREGORIOS INDIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH (IOCNI) - BELFAST

(EST: 2004)

(Diocese of UK-Europe-Africa of the Malankara (Indian) Orthodox Church)

Charity Registration No:106964

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

(01/04/2024 to 31/03/2025)

SUMMARY OF INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

INCOME RESOURCES

Incoming resources from generated funds

Voluntary income	A	£23089.57
Income from operating activities	B	£15203.84
Other incoming resources	C	£103507.07
Total incoming resources		£141800.48

RESOURCES EXPENDED

Management and administration	D	£34886.19
Total expended		£34886.19

Net incoming/outgoing resources		£106914.29
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RECONCILIATION of FUNDS

Total funds brought forward from the previous year		£72255.07
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Total funds carried forward		£179169.36
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ST. GREGORIOS INDIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH (IOCNI) - BELFAST

(EST: 2004)

(Diocese of UK-Europe-Africa of the Malankara (Indian) Orthodox Church)

Charity Registration No:106964

Balance Sheet on 31st March 2025

Fixed Assets		
Tangible assets	£0.00	£0.00

Current Assets		
Sundry Debtors	£0.00	
Cash in hand and at the Bank	£179169.36	£179169.36

Liabilities		
Bank Overdraft	£0.00	£0.00
Amount falling due within one year	£0.00	

Net Assets		£179169.36
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FUNDS		
Restricted funds	£13479.74	
Unrestricted funds	£165689.62	
Total funds		£179169.36

A. Voluntary Income		
Donation from members		£4689.57



ST. GREGORIOS INDIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH (IOCNI) - BELFAST

(EST: 2004)

(Diocese of UK-Europe-Africa of the Malankara (Indian) Orthodox Church)

Charity Registration No:106964

Subscription from members	£18400.00
Total	£23089.57

B. Incoming from operating activities	
Offertory from services	£9223.84
Christmas Carol	£2650.00
Birthday Cover	£560.00
Wedding Anniversary	90.00
Sunday School	340.00
Wedding	200.00
Baptism	100.00
OCYM	484.00
Snack Bazar	1556.00
Total	£15203.84

C. Other incoming resources	
Public Auction	£333.00
Onam festival	£2115.00
Bank interest	£2003.07
Raffle Ticket	£246.00
Funeral	9659.00
Building Fund	87601.00
Diocesan Cover	185.00



ST. GREGORIOS INDIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH (IOCNI) - BELFAST

(EST: 2004)

(Diocese of UK-Europe-Africa of the Malankara (Indian) Orthodox Church)

Charity Registration No:106964

Catholicate Day Cover	235.00
NSPCC	425.00
MMVS Contribution	705.00
Total	£103507.07

D. Church management and administration	
Bank Charges	£86.70
Catering	£5147.00
Charity Payments Community	£9450.00
Charity	200.00
Catholicate & Diocesan Cover	£300.00
Church Rent	£6415.00
Website Charge	£212.62
Orthodox Sangamam	£801.38
General Purchase	£3537.46
Insurance Charge	£311.09
Miscellaneous expense	£1639.94
Sunday School	£360.00
Remuneration	£5650.00
Travelling expenses	£350.00
Training & Courses	£425.00
Total	£34886.19

Approval

The above statement of accounts was approved by the general body meeting on 25/01/2026.

For the board of trustees,

Manu Jacob Mathew (Trustee)

St Gregorios Indian Orthodox Church

Northern Ireland - Charity number 106964

Accounts



ST. GREGORIOS INDIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH (IOCNI) - BELFAST

(EST: 2004)

(Diocese of UK-Europe-Africa of the Malankara (Indian) Orthodox Church)

Charity Registration No:106964

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

(01/04/2023 to 31/03/2024)

SUMMARY OF INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

INCOME RESOURCES

Incoming resources from generated funds

Voluntary income	A	£22141.00
Income from operating activities	B	£14975.93
Other incoming resources	C	£7202.64
Total incoming resources		£44319.57

RESOURCES EXPENDED

Management and administration	D	£30448.14
Total expended		£30448.14

Net incoming/outgoing resources		£13871.43
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RECONCILIATION of FUNDS

Total funds brought forward from the previous year		£58383.64
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Total funds carried forward		£72255.07
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ST. GREGORIOS INDIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH (IOCNI) - BELFAST

(EST: 2004)

(Diocese of UK-Europe-Africa of the Malankara (Indian) Orthodox Church)

Charity Registration No:106964

Balance Sheet on 31st March 2024

Fixed Assets		
Tangible assets	£0.00	£0.00

Current Assets		
Sundry Debtors	£0.00	
Cash in hand and at the Bank	£72255.07	£72255.07

Liabilities		
Bank Overdraft	£0.00	£0.00
Amount falling due within one year	£0.00	

Net Assets		£72255.07
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FUNDS		
Restricted funds	£13479.74	
Unrestricted funds	£58775.33	
Total funds		£72255.07

A. Voluntary Income		
Donation from members		£9331.00

St. Gregorios Indian Orthodox Church,
Belfast Bible College, Glenburn Road, Belfast BT17 9JP
www.iocni.org.uk



ST. GREGORIOS INDIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH (IOCNI) - BELFAST

(EST: 2004)

(Diocese of UK-Europe-Africa of the Malankara (Indian) Orthodox Church)

Charity Registration No:106964

Subscription from members	£12810.00
Total	£22141.00

B. Incoming from operating activities	
Offertory from services	£11352.36
Christmas Carol	£2271.00
Charity Coin Box	£1352.57
Total	£14975.93

C. Other incoming resources	
Public Auction	£102.00
Onam festival celebration	£1665.00
Bank interest	£1012.65
Raffle Ticket	£215.00
Purchase return	7.99
Building Fund	4200.00
Total	£7202.64

D. Church management and administration	
Bank Charges	£117.87
Catering	£8840.00
Charity Payments	£1200.00

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(EST: 2004)

(Diocese of UK-Europe-Africa of the Malankara (Indian) Orthodox Church)

Charity Registration No:106964

Choir & Music	£500.00
Church Rent	£5695.00
Diocese of UK, Europe & Africa	£600.00
Freight Charges	£150.00
General Purchase	£1251.79
Gift & presents	£200.00
Insurance Charge	£295.20
Miscellaneous expense	£316.99
Printing, Stationery & Postage	£102.94
Refreshment	£732.00
Service Expense	£1748.39
Sound & Light	£425.00
Sunday School Expenses	£470.00
Remuneration	£6900.00
Repair & Maintenance	£77.96
Travelling expenses	£400.00
Training & Courses	£425.00
Total	£30448.14

Approval

The above statement of accounts was approved by the general body meeting on 16/06/2024.

For the board of trustees,

Varghese Philip

Trustee

St. Gregorios Indian Orthodox Church,
Belfast Bible College, Glenburn Road, Belfast BT17 9JP
www.iocni.org.uk

St Gregorios Indian Orthodox Church

Northern Ireland - Charity number 106964

Annual report



ST. GREGORIOS INDIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH (IOCNI) - BELFAST

(EST: 2004)

(Diocese of UK-Europe-Africa of the Malankara (Indian) Orthodox Church)

Charity Registration No:106964

Annual Report

St. Gregorios Indian Orthodox Church, Belfast

2023-2024
2023-2024

St. Gregorios Indian Orthodox Church,
Belfast Bible College, Glenburn Road, Belfast BT17 9JP
www.iocni.org.uk



ST. GREGORIOS INDIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH (IOCNI) - BELFAST

(EST: 2004)

(Diocese of UK-Europe-Africa of the Malankara (Indian) Orthodox Church)

Charity Registration No:106964

Trustees Report:

With great honour, I present this church report from 1 April 2023 to 31 March 2024 on behalf of the Board of Trustees.

Governance and Structure:

The St. Gregorios Indian Orthodox Church, Belfast, is a parish affiliated to and constituted by the Malankara Orthodox Church, also known as the Indian Orthodox Church. It was founded in India by St. Thomas, one of the Twelve apostles of our Lord Jesus Christ are administered by His Holiness Baselios Marthoma Mathews III, Catholicos of the East and Malankara Metropolitan, successor to the Apostolic Throne of St. Thomas.

St. Gregorios Indian Orthodox Church, Belfast, is under the direct ecclesiastical jurisdiction of His Grace Abraham Mar Stephanos, Metropolitan of the Diocese of UK- Europe- Africa, subject to the authority of the Holy Episcopal Synod of the Malankara Orthodox Church. Rev. Fr. Jobson Abraham, our present vicar who led the parish during the reporting year. Dn. Calvin Poovathoor is actively assisting our Vicar in all church matters. Our Church is a registered Charity under the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland. The church generates its funds through members monthly subscriptions, donations from members, yearly charity box collections within the church community and other events organised by the church. The church donates money for people in need with medical conditions, the homeless and for educational purposes, and donations to various charity organisations in Northern Ireland.

Objectives:

To maintain the faith and traditions of Malankara (Indian) Orthodox Church and to perform all religious rights and sacraments for all in Northern Ireland by the ancient Malankara (Indian) Orthodox traditions as followed by the Indian Orthodox Church in India.

The Church conducts Eucharist (Qurbana), sacraments, and other services according to the faith, traditions, customs, and rites of the Malankara (Indian) Orthodox Church. It also organises and conducts Sunday school, prayer meetings, and different activities for community development.

St. Gregorios Indian Orthodox Church,
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ST. GREGORIOS INDIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH (IOCNI) - BELFAST

(EST: 2004)

(Diocese of UK-Europe-Africa of the Malankara (Indian) Orthodox Church)

Charity Registration No:106964

1. General Body and Managing Committee/Board of Trustees Meetings, Office Bearers for the Year 2023-24.

The general body held a meeting on 10/6/23 and elected the present committee for another year, 2023-24, by adding a few committee members.

Secretary	Mr. Anil Thomas
Treasurer	Mr. Varghese Philip
Committee Members	Mr. Sanu John
	Mr. Shoby Saimon
	Mr. George Thomas
	Mr. Abraham Varkey
	Ms. Jinsu Mary Jacob
	Mr. Raju Issac (ex-officio)
	Mr. Bejoy Daniel (ex-officio)
	Mr. Aby Thomas
	Mr. Lijo Chacko
	Mr. Reny Mathew
	Mrs. Shenin Ninan
Internal Auditor	Mr. Mathew Koshy

The general body also elected other representatives:

Dr. Cucki Thomas (Youth representative)

Mr. George Thomas (Sunday School Headmaster)

Mrs. Sini Kuriakose (Martha Mariyam Samajam Secretary)

Mrs. Tensy John (Prayer Meeting Secretary)

The vicar Fr. Jobson Abraham is the chair of the trustee Board.



ST. GREGORIOS INDIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH (IOCNI) - BELFAST

(EST: 2004)

(Diocese of UK-Europe-Africa of the Malankara (Indian) Orthodox Church)

Charity Registration No:106964

The General Body, which met on 10/6/23, approved the annual report, annual Account Statement, and balance sheet for the years 2022-2023.

The Managing Committee (Board of Trustees) met online or in person several times during the year to plan and coordinate the parish's day-to-day church administration. I would like to take this opportunity to thank each committee member for their continued cooperation, dedication, and hard work.

2. Activities

a) Worship and Pastoral Care

Holy Qurbana is held twice every month during 2023-24. Holy Qurbana (Service) is celebrated on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of each month, commencing with morning prayer at 9 am and Holy Qurbana after that. Holy services are conducted by Vicar Rev. Fr. Jobson Abraham. Our Vicar conducts special prayers after Holy Qurbana and greets them with greeting cards on special occasions such as birthdays and anniversaries.

b) Holy Week Services 2023 & 2024

Last year's Holy Week services were held from 1 April to 8 April 2023. Palm Sunday was held on 1 April at St. Peter's Church Hall, Antrim Road, Belfast. The remainder of the services were held in Belfast Bible College Dunmurry.

Holy Week services were held this year between March 24 and March 30, 2024. Our vicar, Fr. Jobson Abraham, led the services. Thanks to all families for their donations and sponsorship of refreshments/food.

c) Onam Celebration - Harvest Festival

Onam is an Indian Annual Harvest Festival celebrated predominantly in the southern state of Kerala. Onam was celebrated at our church on 17/9/23, with an Onam Sadhya (meal) arranged for all members and entertainment. A number of families also won raffle prizes. Church members brought in home-grown products, and an auction of these products was held during the celebrations.



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(EST: 2004)

(Diocese of UK-Europe-Africa of the Malankara (Indian) Orthodox Church)

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d) Feast of our Patron Saint Gregorios

By God's grace, we celebrated the 121st Memorial Day of St Gregorios of Parumala on November 5, 2023.

We conducted the Rasa and Nercha serving which was followed by the feast after the Holy Qurbana. Thanks to choir group led by Shibu and team from Dublin.

e) Christmas

Christmas carol service was conducted on Dec 2nd, 9th, 15th and 16th December again this year in a traditional manner, visiting the houses of our parish members. Over 4 days, we visited multiple homes, including most of our church members, spreading the warm festive greetings. Our Santa was very glad to present gifts and greeting cards to every household and pose with families for family photos. We raised £2271.00. We sincerely thank everyone for actively participating in the Christmas carol service, especially to all the youth who took the time to make it a tremendous success. We appreciate the effort taken by the youth coordinators in coordinating the service and organising the youth. Christmas service was conducted at St. Joseph Parish Hall in Antrim. Thanks to all families who contributed towards the Christmas service. We have collected £190 for the homeless through charity box collection during Christmas service.

3. Food Collection for Homeless

We have arranged a charity box collection for the homeless in NI during Christmas. (Appeal titled "Feed our Homeless") on behalf of Welcome Organization. We have handed over £250 to Welcome Organization in Belfast. We extend thanks to all church members for their support.

4. Donations & Refreshments

Our Sincere thanks to everyone who has contributed during the Perunnal, Christmas carol, auction and birthdays/anniversary collections. We are grateful to all of you for your continued contributions through monthly subscriptions and offerings. Several families have contributed towards refreshments/meals after the holy service and other events. God bless them all.

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ST. GREGORIOS INDIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH (IOCNI) - BELFAST

(EST: 2004)

(Diocese of UK-Europe-Africa of the Malankara (Indian) Orthodox Church)

Charity Registration No:106964

5. Gift Aid.

We are preparing for Gift aid claim for 4 years. (2020-24). We appreciate all the effort Mr. Varghese Philip made in preparing the accounts for submission to HMRC. We sincerely thank all members who have filled the gift aid declaration form when requested.

6. Charity Box

We have distributed charity coin boxes. My sincere thanks to those who have contributed to our charity causes. A special mention to Dr. Cucki Thomas for her highest contribution.

7. Spiritual Organizations

a) Sunday School/OVBS

Sunday School classes were held online most weekends. Conducted OVBS (Orthodox Vacation Bible School) in October and closing ceremony on 5th November 2023. Six Sunday school students attended the central 10th std exam, and all of them passed. One student sat the 12th central exam and passed. A new curriculum started for Sunday school students this year and there is currently a total of eight Sunday school divisions and more than 50 students. I want to thank Mr. George Thomas (Headmaster), vicar Fr. Jobson Abraham and all the Sunday School teachers for their continued efforts in making Sunday school a big success.

b) Martha Mariyam Samajam.

Martha Mariyam Samajam organised all church events. Thanks to Martha Mariyam, coordinator Mrs. Sini Kuriakose, and her team members for their efforts and involvement.

c) Youth Movement

The Youth Movement actively supports all church activities. I appreciate all the youth coordinators' efforts in organising the youth new to Northern Ireland.



ST. GREGORIOS INDIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH (IOCNI) - BELFAST

(EST: 2004)

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d) Prayers Meetings

Area-wise prayer meetings were started on Friday, 16th February 2024. Antrim, Dundonald, Lisburn, Craigavon, Enniskillen and Belfast areas. Thanks to our vicar, Fr. Jobson Abraham, for his efforts.

8. Safeguarding Children & Vulnerable Adults – NSPCC

The Safeguarding Children and Adults course was held on Saturday, April 15th, 2023, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. All Sunday school teachers, Church priests, and office bearers (those directly involved with children) attended the course.

9. Pastoral visit of bishop

H.G. Abraham Mar Stephanos metropolitan of UK, Europe and Africa of the Malankara Orthodox Church made a pastoral visit to Belfast church on Sunday, July 9th. H.G. Abraham Mar Stephanos celebrated Holy Qurbana.

10. Appointments/Recognition from Church

Sanu John was elected as Diocesan representative on 8th April. Dr. Cucki Thomas was elected as OCYM Ireland region coordinator.

Fr. George T was relieved from the responsibilities as the Vicar of St. Gregorios IOC, Belfast w.e.f. 15th June 2023, and Fr. Jobson Abraham appointed the new vicar of St. Gregorios, IOC Belfast w.e.f. 15th June 2023 until further orders by Kalpana ref E-175/AMS/2023 dated 1st June 2023.

11. New Members.

We welcome all the new members who joined our church last year.

12. Newborn & Baptism (Christening)

We welcome all little ones to our church. The baptism of Adam Jomon S/o Jomon Chacko and Manju Mathew was held on 15/10/23.

St. Gregorios Indian Orthodox Church,
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(EST: 2004)

(Diocese of UK-Europe-Africa of the Malankara (Indian) Orthodox Church)

Charity Registration No:106964

13. Our Charity

Several charity donations were made over the last year. Our charity donations are listed below:

Cash donations to the homeless (Welcome Organisation) and food donations to the homeless are collected by the church for Welcome Organisation, Royal National Institute of Blinds, air ambulance services NI, NI Hospice (Children), Marie Curie Hospice, and British Red Cross. **Total cash donations made £1200.**

14. Communication

We are using e-mail and WhatsApp to communicate church news to our members. Our Facebook page also covers most events through wonderful photographs. Our official website is: www.iocni.org.uk

15. Farewell

We were honoured to arrange a Farewell meeting with Fr. T George on 10 June 2023. We had the opportunity to express our appreciation and love for all that he has done for our church. Raju and their family secretaries, Bejoy Daniel and Sinju Raju, have relocated to Australia to seek better opportunities. Best wishes to all of them.

16. Financial Activities:

During 2023- 2024, the total income was £44,319.57, and the total expenditure was £30,448.14. With the retained surplus of £58,383.64 from the previous year, the current surplus is £72,255.07.

17. Future Developments.

With the enormous support from our members and well-wishers, we would like to extend our activities. We are planning to find a permanent place for worship and activities.



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(EST: 2004)

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17. Conclusion and Word of Thanks

Thanks to Diocesan Metropolitan H.G. Abraham Mar Stephanos, Vicar Rev. Fr. Jobson Abraham, Treasurer Mr. Varghese Philip, all managing committee members, and all parish members for continued support during my tenure. I would also like to extend a thank you to Bible College officials for their support.

Approval

This report is presented to the Church General Body and approved on 16/06/2024

For Board of Trustees.

Anil Thomas
Secretary

St Gregorios Indian Orthodox Church

Northern Ireland - Charity number 106964

Annual return

Independent examiner's report to the charity trustees of St.
Gregorios Indian Orthodox Church, Belfast

I report on the accounts of St. Gregorios Indian Orthodox Church, Belfast for the year ended 31st March 2024, on pages 2 to 4.

Respective responsibilities of charity trustees and examiner

As the charity trustee, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 65 of the Charities Act
- Follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Commission under section 65 (9) (b) of the Charities Act.
- State whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of Independent Examiner's report

I have examined your charity accounts as required under section 65 of the Charities Act, and my examination was carried out by the general directions given by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland under section 65 (9) (b) of the Charities Act.


My examination included a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also included consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking an explanation from you as charity trustees concerning any such matters-

My role is to state whether any material matters have come to my attention, giving me cause to believe:

1. That accounting records were not kept by section 64 of the Charities Act.
2. The die accounts do not match those accounting records.
3. That the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act
4. Further information is needed to properly understand die accounts.

Independent Examiner's Statement

I have completed my examination and have no concerns about matters (1) to (4) listed above. In connection with following the directions of the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland, I have found no matters that require your attention.


Mathew Koshy

50 Holly Mount,

Finaghy Belfast, BT10 0GN

St Gregorios Indian Orthodox Church

Northern Ireland - Charity number 106964

Accounts



ST. GREGORIOS INDIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH (IOCNI) - BELFAST

(EST: 2004)

(Diocese of UK-Europe-Africa of the Malankara (Indian) Orthodox Church)

Charity Registration No:106964

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

(01/04/2022 to 31/03/2023)

SUMMARY of INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

INCOME RESOURCES

Incoming resources from generated funds

Voluntary income	A	£16774.81
Income from operating activities	B	£7641.81
Other incoming resources	C	£1430.71
Total incoming resources		£25847.33

RESOURCES EXPENDED

Management and administration	D	£15034.49
Total expended		£15034.49

Net incoming/outgoing resources		£10812.84
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RECONCILIATION of FUNDS

Total funds brought forward from the previous year		£47570.80
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Total funds carried forward		£58383.64
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ST. GREGORIOS INDIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH (IOCNI) - BELFAST

(EST: 2004)

(Diocese of UK-Europe-Africa of the Malankara (Indian) Orthodox Church)

Charity Registration No:106964

Balance Sheet on 31st March 2023

Fixed Assets		
Tangible assets	£0.00	£0.00

Current Assets		
Sundry Debtors	£0.00	
Cash in hand and at the Bank	£58383.64	£58383.64

Liabilities		
Bank Overdraft	£0.00	£0.00
Amount falling due within one year	£0.00	

Net Assets		£58383.64
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FUNDS		
Restricted funds	£11462.17	
Unrestricted funds	£46921.47	
Total funds		£58383.64

A. Voluntary Income		
Donation from members		£7094.81



ST. GREGORIOS INDIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH (IOCNI) - BELFAST

(EST: 2004)

(Diocese of UK-Europe-Africa of the Malankara (Indian) Orthodox Church)

Charity Registration No:106964

Subscription from members	£9680.00
Total	£16774.81

B. Incoming from operating activities	
Offertory from services	£5903.45
Christmas Carol	£1605.00
Charity Coin Box	£133.36
Total	£7641.81

C. Other incoming resources	
Public Auction	£263.00
Onam festival celebration	£786.00
Bank interest	£209.71
Raffle Ticket	£172.00
Total	£1430.71

D. Church management and administration	
Church Rent	£1832.50
Vicar Remuneration	£3700.00
Charity Payments	£1650.00
Refreshment	£368.85
Service Expense	£223.30



ST. GREGORIOS INDIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH (IOCNI) - BELFAST

(EST: 2004)

(Diocese of UK-Europe-Africa of the Malankara (Indian) Orthodox Church)

Charity Registration No:106964

General Purchase	£1093.07
Miscellaneous expense	£524.99
Printing, Stationery & Postage	£644.68
Bank Charges	£111.14
Choir & Music	£450.00
Catering	£4060.00
Gift & presents	£160.00
Travelling expenses	£126.96
Insurance Charge	£89.00
Total	£15034.49

Approval

The above statement of accounts was approved by the general body meeting on 10/06/2023.

For the board of trustees,

Varghese Philip

Trustee

St Gregorios Indian Orthodox Church

Northern Ireland - Charity number 106964

Annual report



ST. GREGORIOS INDIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH (IOCNI) - BELFAST

(EST: 2004)

(Diocese of UK-Europe-Africa of the Malankara (Indian) Orthodox Church)

Charity Registration No:106964

Annual Report

**St. Gregorios Indian
Orthodox Church, Belfast**

2022-2023
2022-2023



ST. GREGORIOS INDIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH (IOCNI) - BELFAST

(EST: 2004)

(Diocese of UK-Europe-Africa of the Malankara (Indian) Orthodox Church)

Charity Registration No:106964

Trustees Report:

On behalf of the Board of Trustees, with great honor, I present this church report for the period 1st April 2022 to 31st March 2023.

Governance and Structure:

The St. Gregorios Indian Orthodox Church, Belfast is a parish affiliated to and constituted by the Malankara Orthodox Church, also known as the Indian Orthodox Church founded in India by St. Thomas, one of the Twelve Apostles of our Lord Jesus Christ, presently administered by His Holiness Baselios

Marthoma Mathews III, Catholicos of the East and Malankara Metropolitan, successor to the Apostolic Throne of St. Thomas.

St. Gregorios Indian Orthodox Church, Belfast is under the direct ecclesiastical jurisdiction of His Grace Abraham Mar Stephanos Metropolitan of the Diocese of UK- Europe- Africa, subject to the authority of the Holy Episcopal Synod of the Malankara Orthodox Church. Rev. Fr. George Thankachan, our present vicar who led the parish during the report year whose spiritual and administrative contributions helped in the growth of the church. Dn. Calvin Poovathoor is actively assisting our Vicar in all church matters. Our Church is a registered Charity under the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland. The church generates its funds through members monthly subscriptions, donations from members, yearly charity box collections within the church community and other events organized by church. Church donates money for people in need with medical conditions, the homeless and for educational purposes as well as making donations to various charity organizations in Northern Ireland.

St. Gregorios Indian Orthodox Church,
Belfast Bible College, Glenburn Road S. Dunmurry, Belfast BT17 9JP, www.iocni.org.uk



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Objectives:

To maintain the faith and traditions of Malankara (Indian) Orthodox Church and to perform all religious rights and sacraments for all in Northern Ireland in accordance with the ancient Malankara (Indian) Orthodox traditions as followed by the Indian Orthodox Church in India.

The Church conducts Eucharist (Qurbana), sacraments and other services according to the faith, traditions, customs and rites of the Malankara (Indian) Orthodox Church. The church organises and conducts Sunday school, prayer meetings, and different activities for community development.

1. General Body and Managing Committee/Board of Trustees Meetings, Office Bearers for the Year 2022-23.

The general body held on 20/3/22 and elected following office bearers.

Hon. Secretary	Mr. Anil Thomas
Hon. Treasurer	Mr. Varghese Philip
Committee Members	Mr. Sanu John
	Mr. Shoby Saimon
	Mr. Sijo Joy*
	Mr. George Thomas
	Mr. Abraham Varkey
	Ms. Jinsu Mary Jacob
	Mr. Raju Issac (Ex Officio)
	Mr. Bejoy Daniel (Ex-Officio)
Internal Auditor	Mr. Mathew Koshy



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*Mr. Sijo Joy resigned after a few months.

The general body also elected other representatives:

Dr. Cucki Thomas (Youth representative)

Mr. George Thomas (Sunday School Headmaster)

Mrs. Sini Kuriakose (Martha Mariyam Samajam Secretary)

Mrs. Tensy John (Prayer Meeting Secretary)

The vicar Fr. T. George is the chair of the trustee Board.

The General Body held on 15/5/2022 approved the annual report and the Annual Account Statement and balance sheet for the year 2021-2022.

The Managing Committee (Board of Trustees) met online several times during the year to plan and coordinate day to day church administration of the parish. I would like to take this opportunity to thank each committee member for their continued cooperation, dedication, and hard work.

2. Activities

a) Worship and Pastoral Care

Holy Qurbana held every month during 2022-23 except July due to unavailability of Fr. T George. The Holy Qurbana is celebrated on the 3rd Sunday of each month, commencing with Morning Prayer at 9 am and Holy Qurbana at 10am. Holy services are conducted by Vicar Rev. Fr. T George. On special occasions such as birthdays and anniversaries, our Vicar conducts special prayers after Holy Qurbana and greets them with greeting cards.

b) Holy Week Services 2022

Holy week services were held from 10th April to 17th April 2022. Holy week services lead by vicar Fr. T. George.

c) Onam Celebration - Harvest Festival



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Onam is an Indian Annual Harvest Festival celebrated predominantly in the Southern state of Kerala. Onam was celebrated at our church on 18/9/22 with Onam sadhya (meal) arranged for all members and entertainment as well. Raffle prizes were also won by a number of families. Church members brought in home-grown products and auction of these products were carried out during Onam celebrations.

d) Feast of our Patron Saint Gregorios

By the Grace of God, we celebrated the 120th Memorial Day of the St Gregorios of Parumala on the 20th November 2022.

We conducted the Rasa and Nercha serving which was followed by the feast after the Holy Qurbana.

e) Christmas

Christmas carol service was conducted on Dec 3rd, 4th and 10th December again this year in a traditional manner, visiting the houses of friends and parish members. Over the period of three days, we visited multiple homes including most of our church members and friends spreading the warm festive greetings. Our Santa was very glad to present gifts along with greeting cards to every household and pose with families for family photos. We raised £1605.00. We express our sincere thanks to everyone for actively participating in the Christmas carol service, especially to all the youth who took the time to make it a tremendous success. This year our success was reflected by the participation of our new youth members in the carol service. We appreciate the effort taken by the youth coordinators in coordinating the service and organizing the youth. Christmas programs conducted at our church on 18/12/22 after holy service.

3. Food Collection for Homeless

During Christmas we have arranged a food collection for the homeless in NI (Appeal titled "Feed our Homeless") on behalf of Welcome Organization. We have handed over all collections to Welcome Organization in Belfast. We extend thanks to all church members and also to Belfast badminton group for their support.

4. Donations & Refreshments

Our Sincere thanks to everyone who contributed during the Perunnal, Christmas carol, auctions and birthday/anniversary collections. We are grateful

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to all of you for your continued contributions through monthly subscriptions and offerings. Several families contributed towards refreshments/meals after the Holy Qurbana and other events. God bless them all.

5. Gift Aid.

We are preparing for Gift aid claim for 3 years. (2020-23). We appreciate all the effort taken by Mr. Varghese Philip in preparing the accounts for submission to HMRC. I extend my sincere thanks to all members who filled the gift aid declaration form when requested.

6. Our Charity Box

We have distributed charity coin boxes. My sincere thanks to those who have contributed towards our charity causes. Special mention to Mr. Thomas George and Mrs. Elizabeth Ninan for winning top charity contributors' awards.

7. Spiritual Organizations

a) Sunday School

Sunday School classes are held online most weekends. I would like to thank Mr. George Thomas (Headmaster) and all the Sunday School teachers for their continued efforts in making Sunday school a big success. Sunday school children and Martha Mariyam Samajam members were actively participated in Christmas programs conducted at our church on 18/12/22 after holy service. Also Sunday School organized talent competition on 23/4/2022 and prizes were distributed to all participants. Thanks to George Thomas (Sunday school headmaster), Sini Kuriakose (Martha Mariyam Secretary), Tensy John (Prayer meeting secretary), all managing committee members and participants.

b) Martha Mariyam Samajam.

Martha Mariyam Samajam was involved in organizing all church events. Thanks to all team members for their efforts.



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c) Youth Movement

Youth Movement is actively supporting in all church activities. I appreciate all the youth coordinators in organizing the youth that are new to Northern Ireland.

8. Appointments/Recognition from Church

Rev. Fr. T. George is elected as Malankara Sabha managing committee member, Mr. Bejoy Daniel is elected as Malankara Association member and Dr. Cucki Thomas is elected as OCYM Ireland region coordinator. Congratulations to all.

9. New Members.

We welcome all the new members who joined our church in the last year.

10. New Born

We welcome all little ones to our church.

11. Our Charity

A number of charity donations were made over the last year. Our charity donations are listed below:

Cash donations to the homeless (Welcome Organisation), Food donations to the homeless collected by church for Welcome Organisation, Donation for funeral help, Church renovation help in India, Earthquake victims help in Turkey and Syria, Donation to RNIB, City Hospital Cancer Centre, British Red Cross appeal for earthquake victims and medical cost donation (student). **Total cash donations made £1650.**



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12. Communication

We are using e-mail and WhatsApp to communicate church news to our members. Our Facebook page also covers most events through wonderful photographs. Our official website is: www.iocni.org.uk

13. Financial Activities:

During 2022- 2023 the total income was £ 25,847.33 and the total expenditure was £15,034.49. With the retained surplus of £ 47,570.80 from the previous year, the current retained surplus for the period is £ 58,383.64

14. Future Developments.

With the enormous support from our members and well-wishers we would like to extend our activities. We are planning to find our own permanent place for worship and activities.

15. Conclusion and Word of Thanks

Sincere thanks to Diocesan Metropolitan H.G. Abraham Mar Stephanos, Vicar Rev. Fr. T George, Hon. Treasurer Mr Varghese Philip, all managing committee members and all parish members for their continued support to me to during my tenure. A special mention to Sanu John for his unwavering support throughout. I would also like to extend a thank you to the officials of Bible College and the Church of Ireland for their support.

Approval

This report is presented to the Church General Body and approved on 10/6/2023.

For Board of Trustees.

Anil Thomas
Secretary

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St Gregorios Indian Orthodox Church

Northern Ireland - Charity number 106964

Annual return

Independent examiner's report to the charity trustees of St.
Gregorios Indian Orthodox Church, Belfast

I report on the accounts of St. Gregorios Indian Orthodox Church, Belfast for the year ended 31st March 2023, which are set out on pages 2 to 4.

Respective responsibilities of charity trustees and examiner

As the charity trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with charities act (Northern Ireland) 2008.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 65 of the charities Act
- Follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Commission under section 65 (9) (b) of the Charities Act.
- State whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of Independent examiner's report

I have examined your charity accounts as required under section 65 of the Charities Act and my examination was carried out in accordance with the general directions given by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland under section 65 (9) (b) of the Charities Act.

My examination included a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also included consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanation from you as charity trustees concerning any such matters-

My role is to state whether any material matters have come to my attention giving me cause to believe:

1. That accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 64 of the Charities Act.
2. That the accounts do not accord with those accounting records.
3. That the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act
4. That there is further information needed for a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Independent Examiner's Statement

I have completed my examination and have no concerns in respect of the matters (1) to (4) listed above and, in connection with following the directions of the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland, I have found no matters that require drawing to your attention.


Matthew Koshy

50 Holly Mount

Finaghy, Belfast, BT10 0GN