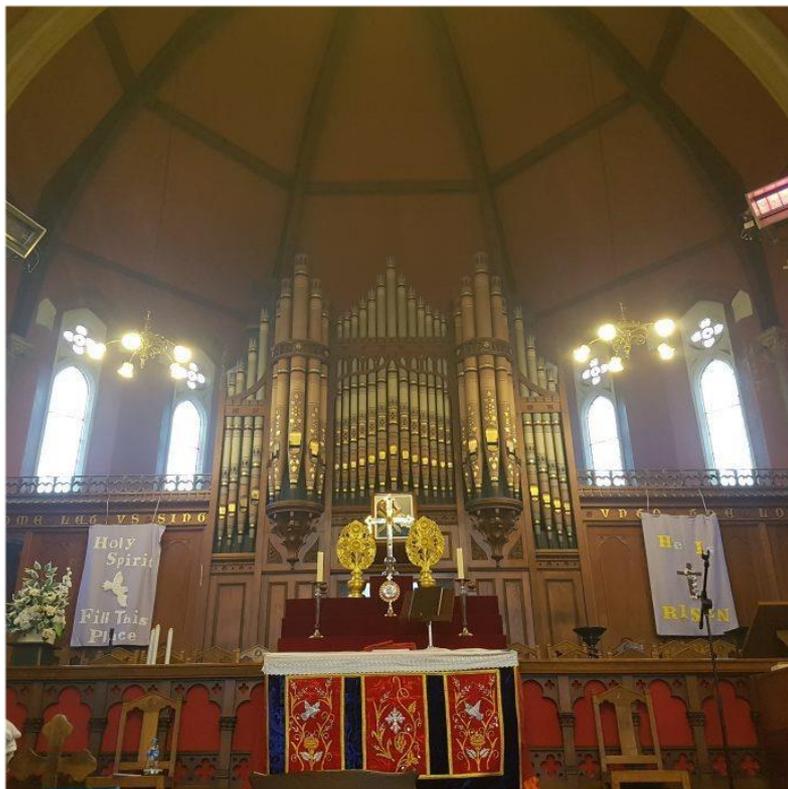


St. Mary's Jacobite Syrian Orthodox Church, (Under the Holy Apostolic See of Antioch & All the East) **Northampton**



**Trustee's Report and Accounts
for the year
1st April 2018- 31st March 2019**

St. Mary's Jacobite Syrian Orthodox Church, Northampton
(Under the Holy Apostolic See of Antioch & All the East)

Administrative Information

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Rev. Fr. Geevarghese Thandayath
Mr. Anuroop Jacob
Mr. Fenny Abraham
Mr. Eldhose Varghese
Mr. Saji Varghese
Mr. Jins Cherian
Mr. Johnson Pockayil
Mr. Mathews Mathai Mattamana
Mr. Biju Thomas
Mr. Eldhose George
Mrs. Sonu Beena Chacko

VICAR & PRESIDENT

Rev. Fr. Geevarghese Thandayath

SECRETARY

Mr. Anuroop Jacob

TREASURER

Mr. Fenny Abraham

AUDITORS

Mr. Jaimon Paul & Mr. Bijoy Thomas

COMMUNICATION ADDRESS

10 Kenmuir Avenue
Northampton NN2 7DX
United Kingdom

Email - stmarys.jsoc.northampton2015@gmail.com

WEB SITE

www.jacobitechurchnorthampton.com

CHARITY NUMBER

1162484

OUR BANK

HSBC
22 Abington Street
NORTHAMPTON NN1 2AN

WORSHIP PLACE

Victoria Road Congregational Church,
Victoria Road,
Northampton NN1 5ED

The Trustees present their report and accounts for the period of 1st April 2018 to 31st March 2019.

Let us thank God Almighty for guiding us through the last year and glorify his name. On behalf of the Board of Trustees, I the Secretary, present the Annual Report of our parish for the year 2018-19.

Introduction

Structure, objectives

This Church is a part of the Universal Syrian Orthodox Church and a Diaspora community of the Malankara Jacobite Syrian Christian Church, India. The supreme head of this Church is His Holiness Moran Mar Ignatius Aphrem II, The Patriarch of Antioch and all the East and his Successors. His Beatitude Aboon Mor Baselios, Catholicos of the East is the second highest hierarchical position of the Church. He is the Head of the Church in India. The Patriarch appointed a Metropolitan (called Patriarchal Vicar) from Malankara Jacobite Syrian Christian Church, His Grace Dr. Mathews Mor Anthimos who is the Bishop in charge of the Parish.

Church's objective is to maintain the faith, traditions and doctrines of the Jacobite Syrian Christian Church and to perform all the religious rites and sacraments to all its members in accordance with the ancient Syriac Orthodox traditions. And to help the poor and the needy.

Governance and Management

This Church is a registered charity and therefore governed as per its governing laws. The Charity is run by the Board of Trustees who is elected by the Church General Meeting. The Trustees manage the administrative as well as the financial affairs of the Church. The Trustees meet regularly for taking decisions and monitoring the activities.

The Parish and membership

During the report year, with the help of members, Board of Trustees and the Vicar, we have maintained our Parish register up to date. As per the current parish register, our total membership is 32 families, two members joined the Church in the report year.

The Vicar

Rev. Fr. Geevarghese Thandayath was appointed as our Vicar from 1st December 2016. Achen's spiritual leadership has had great influence on our families. Achen's capable leadership has helped tremendously in the running of spiritual organizations like Sunday school, women's association and student's movement in the Church.

General Body Meetings

The annual general body meeting (AGM) was held on 26th May 2018 to present and approve the annual report and accounts for the year 2017 -18. The general body approved the accounts with the audit report and passed the forecasted budget for 2018 - 2019.

Report year Board of Trustees (Managing Committee)

1. Rev. Fr. Geevarghese Thandayath	Vicar & President	Appointed
2. Mr. Anuroop Jacob	Secretary	Elected
3. Mr. Fenny Abraham	Treasurer	Elected
4. Mr. Johnson Pockayil	Council member	Elected
5. Mr. Eldhose Varghese	Committee member	Elected
6. Mr. Saji Varghese	Committee member	Elected
6. Mr. Jins Cherian	Committee member	Elected
7. Mr. Mathews Mathai	Committee member	Elected
8. Mr. Biju Thomas	Committee member	Elected
9. Mr. Eldhose George	Committee member	Elected
10. Mrs. Sonu Beena Chacko	Committee member	Elected

Mr. Jaimon Paul and Mr. Bijoy Thomas are the auditors for the report year. This Board of Trustees (managing committee) was appointed as per the decision of annual general body meeting held on 8th June 2018, tenure for the committee is 2 years. During the report year, Trustees met five times.

Activities

Our Holy Services are on second and fourth Saturday morning of every month. During the period we had 20 regular Holy Qurbano (Holy Masses). On an average around 125 people attend the Holy Mass service. After the service there is a love feast and gathering. Would like to thank all the Priests who conducted Holy Mass over the past years in our Church, all altar boys who helped in Church services and the choir members.

We would like to express our sincere thanks to the Trustees of Victoria Road Congregational Methodist Church, Northampton for providing Church premises for all our services.

Parish Day & Annual Feast (St. Mary's Day)

Annual day of the Church celebrated on 11th and 12th January 2019 along with the St. Mary's Day. All members had taken shares for the annual feast. The feast was led by our beloved Vicar Rev. Fr. Geevarghese Thandayath, Rev. Fr. Eldhose Vattaparambil and Rev. Fr. Philip Thomas.

On Friday 11th January Parish day, proceedings started with flag hoisting, evening prayer followed by Gospel preaching and Benediction. Thereafter Sunday school anniversary was held during which Sunday school students performed their well-rehearsed programs, which were a treat to watch. Thanks to all Sunday school teachers and parents who worked tirelessly to help the students prepare for the same.

On Saturday the 12th January on main feast day, proceedings started with morning prayer followed by special Holy Tri-Mass. Chief celebrant was Rev. Fr. Eldhose Vattaparambil and co celebrants were Vicar Rev. Fr. Geevarghese Thandayath and Rev. Fr. Philip Thomas. Holy Tri-Mass was followed by a sermon by the Vicar which was a blessing to everyone who attended. There was Procession afterwards in the traditional way and cultural activities followed. Prizes were distributed for Sunday school children who won in the cultural competition which was held in the summer. Nercha and a traditional Kerala meal was given to all who attended the feast.

Great Lent and Passion Week

Our parish observed Great Lent through prayer meetings at parish members' houses leading up to passion week. Parish members were getting prepared for passion week at the end of this report year.

Christmas Carol & Special service

To commemorate the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ similar to earlier years, our Christmas carol group visited all members and well-wishers' houses. Thanks to all members who participated and encouraged the carol singers by extending a warm welcome for them in their homes. Christmas special service and Holy Mass were held on 24th December 2017 by Vicar Rev. Fr. Geevarghese Thandayath and a Christmas love feast was arranged after the service.

House Blessing

During the report year, several of our members have acquired new homes and the Vicar have conducted house blessing services at the new homes.

Spiritual organisations

Sunday School

King Solomon says, "*Train up a child in the way he should go, because when he is grown, he would not depart from it*" (Proverbs 22:6). Our Sunday school classes are conducted regularly after the Holy Service. To educate our children spiritually and morally, in accordance with the teachings of Jesus Christ and the faith and traditions of the Syrian Orthodox Church and to develop our children the habit of attending church regularly, studying the Scriptures, and participating conscientiously in the worship and sacramental life of our Church. An exam is held at the end of the year, which helps children to showcase the knowledge gained in the year. Our children are very talented, in addition to the Bible studies we gave importance to teach extracurricular activities for the youth development. The hard work of the head teacher and other teachers are greatly appreciated.

Vacation Bible School (VBS)

Vacation Bible School (VBS) was held on 2018 October 26th and 27th. On Friday 26th proceedings started with registration at 9.00 AM followed by different activities and classes. On Saturday 27th VBS closing ceremony and rally was conducted after the holy Mass. Thanks to all Sunday School teachers and parents who prepared the children for the occasion.

Women's Association (Marth Mariam Vanitha Samajam):

With the Motto of "Pray, Act and Illuminate", the Women's prayer group of the Church meet once in a month. Their activities are prayer, singing devotional songs, Bible reading, conducting bible quiz, Chain prayer, Bible classes and presentation etc.

Women's association is actively functioning in our parish. Women's association has conducted harvest festival and funds raised is spent on an appropriate charitable cause chosen by them from the applications. The association donated £550 towards the family of an ill patient

and £400 towards a family who was struggling to build a house. Our parish also raised £1,400 towards the flood victims in Kerala, which was sent to Chief Minister's Relief Fund.

Our parish gratefully remember all those who have contributed to this cause. Women's association is functioning under the able leadership of Rev Vicar, Secretary Mrs. Sonu Beena Chacko and Treasurer Mrs. Jinu Jinoy.

Prayer Meetings

With the aim of good relations among the families and to have better spiritual development from the prayers, we conduct prayer meeting once in a month. Our Vicar leads the monthly family prayer meeting which is held at a parish member's house on the Friday before second Saturday of the month.

Other activities

Harvest Festival

Harvest festival was celebrated in our parish on 22nd September 2018 at Victoria Road Congregational Church. Over the years Harvest Festival has evolved to be an event that is enjoyed by both the young and the old. The day started with morning prayer followed by Holy Mass. Home delicacies cooked by Women's association members was the main highlight of the event. Thanks to our Vicar and women's association members for yet another successful celebration of harvest festival.

Day out

Like previous years, this year also we conducted two days outing from Church for the member's social gathering and mind enrichment. The tour was conducted on June 30th and July 1st 2018. All families and well-wishers who attended enjoyed the experience thoroughly. Thank you for the organizers for another successfully organized tour.

Website

The Parish web site is www.jacobitechurchnorthampton.com and Facebook account which is regularly updated with useful information for our church members. We would like to express our sincere thanks to Mr. Velson Thomas and Mrs. Sonu Beena Chacko for the timely web updates.

Financial activities

This year total income from various incoming resources was £38,376.03 and total expenses was £21,445.89. By adding up the retained surpluses from the previous years of £32,451.94 current total retained surplus for the period is £49,392.08.

Future Developments

With the enormous support from our members we would like to extend our activities which include that to find a permanent place for Worship and activities. And have planning to start new Church choir in the traditional way of the Syrian Orthodox Church.

Conclusion

By the grace of our heavenly Holy Father, our saviour Lord Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit, we have completed yet another blessed year. Words are not enough express our gratitude and submission to our Lord. During the year through the regular holy worship services, prayer meetings, special events and activities we have experienced God's abiding presence and Grace.

On behalf of the Managing committee and for the parishioners, wholeheartedly express and reaffirm our sincere allegiance and loyalty to the Holy Throne of Antioch & All the East, our Patriarch His Holiness Moran Mor Ignatius Aphrem II, to our Catholicos of the East His Beatitude Baselios Thomas I, to our Patriarchal Vicar His Grace Dr. Matthews Mor Anthimos and their prayers be with us.

We are indebted to all our parish members for their generosity and active participation in all the programs. The executive committee extends our heartfelt appreciation to the Vicar and all spiritual organisation office bearers for their prayerful support towards spiritual growth. We are also grateful to the families who volunteer regularly to provide refreshments on Saturdays after the holy service and on special occasions. Also, all our members and friends who supported the work of the Parish with their prayers and generous financial support.

The intercession of Holy Mother Mary, our Patron Saint and all other saints are always the constant inspiration and enlightening guidance for our parish. Let us continue the communion with them. May our Lord lead us in light to accomplish the best for the Church in the days to come. May the Lord Almighty bless our Parish to make all our efforts for the Glory of His Kingdom.

Thank you
On behalf of the Board of Trustees,

-Sd-

Anuroop Jacob
Northampton
Hon. Secretary

08/06/2019

Approval

This report was approved by the annual General Meeting on 8th June 2019. This is a true copy of St. Mary's Jacobite Syrian Orthodox Church, Northampton Annual Report.



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Receipts and payments accounts

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For the period from		To	
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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 £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Donations	12,978	-	-	12,978	-
Offertory	3,886	-	-	3,886	-
Monthly subscription	5,625	-	-	5,625	-
Christmas celebration receipts	1,195	-	-	1,195	-
Receipts by church organisations	1,188	-	-	1,188	-
Building fund contributions	4,800	-	-	4,800	-
Harvest festival collections	707	-	-	707	-
Bank interest income	29	-	-	29	-
Tax refund from HMRC	7,968	-	-	7,968	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	38,376	-	-	38,376	-
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	38,376	-	-	38,376	-
A3 Payments					
Refreshments	8,596	-	-	8,596	-
Vicar/Priest allowance	4,850	-	-	4,850	-
Parish day expenses	1,980	-	-	1,980	-
Rent, rate and tax	1,945	-	-	1,945	-
Donations paid	1,850	-	-	1,850	-
Expenses incurred by church organisations	650	-	-	650	-
Church council expenses	400	-	-	400	-
Altar items purchased	-	-	-	-	-
Travelling expenses	110	-	-	110	-
Miscellaneous expenses	1,060	-	-	1,060	-
Snacks/ Beverages	-	-	-	-	-
Printing and stationary	5	-	-	5	-
Sub total	21,446	-	-	21,446	-
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	21,446	-	-	21,446	-
Net of receipts/(payments)	16,930	-	-	16,930	-
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	21,484	-	-	21,484	-
Cash funds this year end	38,414	-	-	38,414	-

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

		Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds
Categories	Details	to nearest £	to nearest £	to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	Cash in hand	433	-	-
	Cash at bank-General	44,149	-	-
	Cash at bank-Building fund	4,800	-	-
	Total cash funds	49,382	-	-

(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))

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

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

Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)	
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use		-	-	
		-	-	
		-	-	
		-	-	
		-	-	
		-	-	
		-	-	
		-	-	

Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)	
B5 Liabilities		-		
		-		
		-		
		-		
		-		

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

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
	Fenny Abraham	08/06/2019
	Anuroop Jacob	08/06/2019