THE DEANERY OF GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND

[THE EXARCHATE UK DEANERY ASSOCIATION]

Registered charity number 1164976

TRUSTEES' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

The trustees present their report and the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2025. The trustees who served during the year and up to the date of this report are set out at the end of this report.

Objectives and activities

The objects are to advance the Orthodox Christian Faith in accordance with the principles of church government accepted by the Deanery in Great Britain and Ireland.

The Orthodox Christian Faith is defined by the governing document to mean the faith of the One Holy Orthodox-Catholic and Apostolic Church, rooted in the Holy Tradition, and taught by the Holy Scriptures, the Seven Ecumenical Councils and the Local and Provincial Councils, and by the Holy Fathers, and as preserved and taught by the Churches of the four ancient patriarchates of Constantinople, Jerusalem, Antioch and Alexandria, and by the Churches now in communion with any or all of them.

The "principles of church government" are set out in the Statutes of the Deanery, which themselves accorded with the Statutes of the Archdiocese of Orthodox Parishes of Russian Tradition in Western Europe. These principles enshrine the decisions of the Council of Moscow of 1917-18. The Statutes provide a formal structure for the presbytery, and for the Deanery Assembly and the Deanery Executive (the Trustees).

The status of Exarchate was withdrawn by a decision of the Holy Synod of the Ecumenical Patriarchate on 27th November 2018, with proposals for a new organisation. In November 2019 the Deanery was received into the Archdiocese of Thyateira and Great Britain. The Deanery Trust continued to be registered with the Charities Commission under the name of Exarchate UK Deanery during 2022 pending formal agreement by the trustees to a revised name. It is now known informally as Thyateira Deanery.

The Deanery is committed to developing a locally-based Orthodox Church which is open to all who wish to come and learn more about the Orthodox Christian Faith, without regard to nationality, language, racial or cultural background. The Deanery is strongly committed to the view, expressed by the late Metropolitan Anthony of Sourozh, of blessed memory (1914-2003), that the Orthodox Faith must be rooted in the culture of the place where its people live. Accordingly, the communities of the Deanery now use English as the principal language of liturgical prayer.

Members of the Deanery work, wherever possible, with other Christian groups and seek to develop good relationships with representatives of other faiths and, indeed, with those who do not profess any religious faith, in a spirit of tolerance and peace whilst holding firm to the fullness of the Orthodox Faith they have received as their inheritance.

The Deanery is likely to play a more significant role in wider society than the number of its Parishes and Eucharistic Communities would suggest, precisely because its members are fully incorporated with the local community, and do not see themselves as representing a foreign faith.

The trustees have paid due regard to guidance issued by the Charity Commission in deciding what activities the charity should undertake and in particular the specific guidance for charities for the advancement of religion.

Achievements and Performance

Parishes and Communities

There were nine Parishes and seven Eucharistic Communities during 2025, as well as a few small monastic houses, known as *sketes* in the Orthodox tradition, where members of the Deanery carry on a more-or-less secluded life of prayer, and places where occasional services take place.

Pastoral Care and Oversight

For the year 2025 the Deanery was under the pastoral care of His Eminence Archbishop Nikitas of Thyateira and Great Britain. The Archbishop was able to undertake some activities for the Deanery, but his duties as a member of the Holy Synod caused some restrictions.

Ordinations and Clergy Formation

The clergy were only able to hold one face-to-face meetings in 2025. There were two ordinations to the diaconate during the year.

Youth Work

The main activity within the Deanery for youth is the annual children's summer camp. The responsibility for organising, administering and financing the camp is held by the Parish of St Peter and St Paul in Clapham, London. The camp took place again in South Wales, and it was the fifty first anniversary since the founding of the first diocesan camp by Father Michael Fortounatto.

Annual Conference and Festival

The Deanery Annual Conference and Festival was once again held at the High Leigh Conference Centre near Hoddesdon in May 2025. Thanks to interesting and challenging speakers and full involvement by participants the event can be considered a success. The same event has been planned for 2027, 2028 and 2029, to help consolidate the Liturgical life, understanding and assimilation of the Faith and the increasing need to introduce the newly illuminated to the Orthodox way of life and to benefit all from the enhanced fellowship and closeness that the Conference confers to the Deanery by virtue of its members having a chance to get together in faith and love.

Publications, Journal and Website

The website, located at https://thyateira-deanery.uk, is continuing to be the principal means of communication with the members of the Deanery and the wider public. This website is being updated and renewed during 2025 and 2026 to reflect the growing nature of the Deanery, to help to orientate newcomers to the Church and to provide extended services for the current members of the Deanery. Therefore plans, designs and engagement of a development company are being arranged by the team of Deanery Website Managers.

Ecumenical and Inter-Faith Relationships

The Deanery had been a member of Churches Together in Britain and Ireland (CTBI) and of Churches Together in England (CTE), and of the Religious Education Council for England (REC). These responsibilities have now been assumed by the Archdiocese of Thyateira and Great Britain. Father Alexander Fostiropoulos has been able to take part in the CTE Enabling Group and other duties, now representing the Archdiocese of Thyateira and Great Britain. Wherever possible members of the Deanery play a full part in the Standing

Advisory Committees for Religious Education (SACREs) as well as other local ecumenical and inter-faith projects.

Financial Review

The finances of the Deanery have operated so far on the principle of income and expenditure broadly matching. Many members and friends have made monthly contributions and every parish has to pay a percentage of its income to the Deanery. Parishes were allowed a 'contribution holiday' during the pandemic.

The Deanery did make a voluntary contribution to the Archdiocese in 2023 and 2024, and have agreed that we will contribute in the same way in 2025, using our previous method of calculating our contribution. However, following on from assessment of our income and expenses over the last two years, The Treasurers are considering asking the Executive to re-consider the percentage agreed with the Archdiocese thus far. We are continuing to ask parishes to contribute a percentage of their income to the Deanery as was the case in previous years.

The Deanery received a portion of a bequest that was given to parishes of the Archdiocese of Russian Tradition in Western Europe that remained within the Ecumenical Patriarchate in 2022. The Deanery Executive set up a working party to consider the most appropriate way to use the funds received from Paris for the benefit of our parishes and the Deanery as a whole. Some preparatory work has been made in this area. Application forms have been developed with a policy document developed, and a 'proof of concept' application being made to test the system. During 2026 other groups will be encouraged to develop their own rationale for applying for funding to benefit the whole Deanery

Reserves Policy

Policy is for there to be a minimum general reserve of £8,000, which would keep the Deanery running for six months.

Risk Management

The Deanery is dependent solely on the generosity of its supporters and could not continue that work if its regular income, and the contributions from parishes, ever failed.

Plans for the Future

The Deanery anticipates a continuing growth in numbers, and the development of more Eucharistic Communities into full Parishes, as God wills.

Funds have been established to allow the further development of monastic communities and for support of the clergy.

Structure, Governance and Management

The Deanery is governed by a Trust Deed made on 20th May 2008. The original Statutes were adopted on 23rd June 2007, when the organisation was an Episcopal Vicariate, and new Statutes as a Deanery were approved on 10th November 2012.

The Clergy/Laity Meeting of 23rd November 2013 voted to amend the new Statutes.

The Deanery up-to-now has been officially the 'Association of Parishes of the Archdiocese within Britain and Ireland', hereinafter the 'Exarchate UK Deanery Association' or the 'Deanery'. The Charity Commission registered the Deanery as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) with the title 'The Exarchate UK Deanery' on 23rd December 2015. The charity number of this body is 1164976. The accounts were transferred with effect from 1st January 2016 and the old charity was closed.

At the Clergy/Laity meeting on 29th February 2020, the voting members resolved to adopt a new set of statutes for the Deanery consisting of those Parishes and Eucharistic Communities situated in Great Britain and Ireland that were formerly part of the Archdiocese of Orthodox Parishes of Russian Tradition in Western Europe. The same would apply to any Parishes and Eucharistic Communities which subsequently join them. From November 2019 all these have formed part of a Deanery within the Archdiocese of Thyateira and Great Britain within the Ecumenical Patriarchate. Its working title is the 'Thyateira Deanery'.

Further refinements may be necessary in due course, and model Parish Statutes have already been developed, and in many cases adopted by parishes.

Deanery Services

The Deanery is an association of member parishes, and provides services to the parishes including the following: Safeguarding, organising DBS disclosures for clergy and others, supporting with model constitutions, advising on establishing and safeguarding parish property, financial support and advice and until 2020 participating in ecumenical bodies at a national level. The Deanery also provides trustee services to parishes and communities on request.

Administrative Information

Members of the Executive of the Deanery from time to time are the charity trustees for the purposes of the Charities Act.

In the period under review the following persons served on the Deanery Executive (the Trustees):-

Archpriest Patrick Hodson, Dean and ex officio Chairman

Mrs Sophie Barnard, Secretary

Ms Edith Reyntiens and

Mr Christos Constas: (as Joint Treasurers)

Father Ian Wallis

Father Julian Lowe

Mrs Tina Lowe

Ms Elizabeth von Schlippe

The administration of the Deanery was carried out during the period under review by the Dean, Archpriest Patrick Hodson and the Secretary and the administrative office was situated at 65 Balmoral Road, London NW2 5BH. The posts of the Secretary and the Treasurer are not remunerated.

Signed by authority of the Deanery Executive

Ms Edith Reyntiens 28/10/2026

Treasurer

Trustee

CamScanner

EXARCHATE UK DEANERY
(THYATEIRA DEANERY)
INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

TO THE TRUSTEES OF EXARCHATE UK DEANERY

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the receipts and payments accounts of Exarchate UK Deanery (the charity) for the year ended 31 December 2025.

Responsibilities and basis of report
As the trustees of the charity you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act).

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

Independent examiner's statement
I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of ICAEW (Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales), which is one of the listed bodies.

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 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 financial statements set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the financial statements 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.

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Lisa Johnston FCA
For and on behalf of Rogers Spencer
Independent Examiners

Newstead House
Pelham Road
Nottingham
NG5 1AP

Dated: 29 OCTOBER 2026

CHARITY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Exarchate UK Deanery

Receipts and payments accounts

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For the period from 01/01/2025 To 31/12/2025

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 and Legacies	24,497	-	-	24,497	18,390
Charitable Activities	6,974	30,800	-	37,774	32,733
Interest income	3,192	-	-	3,192	3,774
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	34,663	30,800	-	65,463	54,897
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	34,663	30,800	-	65,463	54,897
A3 Payments					
Contribution to Archdiocese	7,000	-	-	7,000	4,390
Conference	- 6,402	32,511	-	26,110	30,011
Other administrative expenses	- 891	-	-	- 891	736
Deanery clergy conferences	4,344	-	-	4,344	6,462
Legal/ Bank fees	145	-	-	145	170
Summer camp	13,534	-	-	13,534	8,824
Insurance	1,262	-	-	1,262	1,253
100th Anniversary banquet	1,178	-	-	1,178	-
Independent Examiner Fee	2,175	-	-	2,175	1,500
Travel Expenses	723	-	-	723	2,565
Sub total	23,069	32,511	-	55,580	56,211
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	
	-	-	-	-	
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	23,069	32,511	-	55,580	56,211
Net of receipts/(payments)	11,595	- 1,711	-	9,884	- 1,314
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	135,964	3,720	-	139,684	140,998
Cash funds this year end	147,559	2,009	-	149,568	139,684

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

B1 Cash funds

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
	Bank accounts	147,559	2,009	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
	Total cash funds (agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	147,559	2,009	-

B2 Other monetary assets

Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-

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 asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-

B5 Liabilities

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

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

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
	Edith M I Reyntiens	28/10/2026
		28/10/2026

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