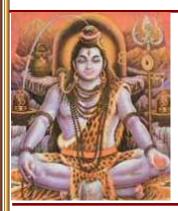


## Sri Siva Vishnu Temple

6905 Cipriano Road, Lanham MD 20706 Tel: (301) 552-3335 Fax: (301) 552-1204



## Trimurti Puja







Separate temples for Siva and Vishnu are common in most parts of the world where Hinduism is practiced. Temples housing Siva and Vishnu under the same roof are however rare. Our temple was founded under the principle of unity of Siva and Vishnu. One Rajagopuram for the entire temple also represents this unity. In one of the slokas it is said "Sivasya Hridyam Vishnuhu Vishnoscha Hridayam Sivaha", meaning the indweller in Siva is Vishnu and vice versa.

According to one of the Puranas, when the Divine Glance of Lord Siva fell on Lord Vishnu as Mohini, the result was a "Jyoti" (a divine light), which took the form of Lord Ayyappa. Hence Hari-Hara-Putra (as Lord Ayyappa is also known) represents the unity and the divine aspects of both Siva and Vishnu. To commemorate this unity the temple performs a Trimurti Puja for Lords Siva, Vishnu and Ayyappa once a year. The Trimurti

Puja is conducted by our temple priests representing the Saiva Agama, Paancharaatra (Vishnu) Agama and the Kerala Tantric traditions.

The preparation for the puja will begin the previous day with Suddhi rituals on the Ashtadala Mandalam (ritualistic cleansing and preparation for the puja). Druing the course of the Puja the Lords will be invoked in 21 lamps and offered the traditional Pujas. Sahasranama (1000 names) and ashtottara (108 names) archanas will be performed. In addition devotees can also participate in the Bhajans that will be interspersed throughout the Puja. All. All are welcome to participate in this unique Puja.



May Lords Siva, Vishnu and Ayyappa bless us all.