



# Sri Siva Vishnu Temple

6905 Cipriano Road, Lanham Maryland, 20706

Tel: (301) 552-3335

Email: [ssvt@ssvt.org](mailto:ssvt@ssvt.org)

Website: <https://www.ssvt.org>



**Newsletter** Vol 32, No. 11

**November 2023**

## Deepavali

**Sunday, November 12, 2023**

Deepavali (meaning the row of lights) is celebrated in different ways in many parts of India. In Bengal, for example, it is celebrated as a Kaali Puja. In most other parts, it is celebrated by performing Lakshmi-Kubera Puja.

10:00 am Kalasa Puja, Mahalakshmi Abhisheka, Ashttotara, Aradhana, Deeparadhana

6:30 pm Deepotsavam, Lakshmi-Kubera Puja (Mahalakshmi Kumkuma Archana), Mahalakshmi Stotra Parayanam, Deeparadhana

**Sponsorship: \$51 - All Day; \$31 - Morning or Evening Puja**

## Skanda Shashti Festival

**Monday, November 13 - Saturday, November 18, 2023**

Skanda Shashti marks the triumph of Lord Subrahmanya over the evil Sura Padma. The son of Lord Siva killed the demon, Sura Padma, with His Holy Spear (Vel) and brought relief and joy to the suffering celestials and humans. Allegorically, the Vel represents the Jnaana Shakti (Power of Wisdom) of the Lord and Sura Padma, the demon of Ego and Ignorance within us. Lord Subrahmanya is hence considered to be the lord of wisdom who dispels our ego and ignorance. The devotees of Muruga (as Lord Subrahmanya is called in several parts of the world) observe austerities such as fast and mouna vratham starting from the day of Prathama Thithi to (and including) Skanda Shasti day. The Shashti Vratham begins on Monday, November 13 and ends on Saturday, November 18. Sunday, November 19 is celebrated as Devasena Kalyanam. Participation in these Archanas and Homa is believed to ward off evil and usher in peace and prosperity.

**Monday, November 13, 2023**

9:30 am Anugnay, Mahaganapathi Homa, Subrahmanya Moola Mantra Homa, Shatru Samhara Trishati Homa

11:00 am Subrahmanya Abhisheka, Archana, Deeparadhana

6:00 pm Sahasranama Archana, Shatru Samhara Trishati Archana, Deeparadhana

**Tuesday, November 14 - Friday, November 17, 2022**

**(Daily)**

9:30 am Subrahmanya Moola Mantra Homa

11:00 am Subrahmanya Abhisheka, Archana, Deeparadhana

6:00 pm Sahasranama Archana, Shatru Samhara Trisati Archana, Skanda Shashti Kavacham Parayana, Deeparadhana, Bhajans by devotees

**Saturday, November 18, 2023 (Skanda Shashti Day)**

9:30 am Shatru Samhara Trisati Homa, Kaavadi Procession

10:00 am Paal Kudam

11:00 am Sarva Dravya Subrahmanya Abhisheka, Archana, Deeparadhana

6:00 pm Shatru Samhara Trisati Archana, Skanda Shashti Kavacham, Parayana

7:30 pm Procession of Lord Subrahmanya

8:00 pm Enactment of Soora Samhara in the Vasantha Mandapam

**Sunday, November 19, 2023**

10:00 am Devasena Kalyana Utsava

**Sponsorship: \$175 - Entire Festival; \$61 - Skanda Shashti Day Puja; \$51 - Daily Puja per day; \$31 - Homa per day; \$31 - Kaavadi or Milk Kalasa per day; \$31 - Kalyanam**

## Guruvayoor Ekadashi

**Thursday, November 23, 2023**

The Shukla Ekadashi, prior to Vaikunta Ekadashi in the Vrishchika Maasa is celebrated as Guruvayoor Ekadashi

10:00 am Sri Krishna Abhisheka, Deeparadhana

**Sponsorship: \$31**

## Tulasi Kalyanam

**Friday, November 24, 2023**

The Dwaadasi day (12th day of the lunar fortnight) following Deepavali is celebrated as Tulasi Kalyanam. Legend has it that Lord Krishna married Tulasi Devi on that day. In many Udipi Krishna temples, Tulasi Kalyanam is performed all 12 days in the Sri Madhwa tradition.

6:00 pm Purvanga Puja, Sri Krishna Aradhana, Tulasi Puja, Tulasi Kalyanam, Deeparadhana,

**Sponsorship: \$31**

## Thiruppaavai & Thiruvempaavai

**Friday, December 16, 2023 - Friday, January 13, 2024**

Thiruppavai, the divine hymn on Lord Vishnu composed by Goddess Andal (the Divine incarnation of Mother Earth), and Thiruvempaavai the divine Hymn on Lord Siva composed by Saint Maanickavaasagar will be recited daily during the Hindu "Dhanu" month (December 16, 2023 - January 13, 2024) at 9:30 AM.

## Vaikuntha Ekadashi Celebrations

**Thursday, December 21 - Friday, December 22, 2023**

Vaikuntha Ekadashi is one of the most important Ekadashis of the year. On Vaikuntha Ekadashi day, the traditional practice is that devotees can enter the Vaikuntha Dwaara (a special gate to Vaikuntha) of temples. This is a special symbolic event, that signifies the belief that devotee can be closer to the God by observing special sadhanas such as fasting and remembering God on Vaikuntha Ekadashi day. In tune with this tradition, SSVT offers an opportunity for devotees to have Sameepa Darshanam (seeing the Lord at a close distance) by allowing the devotees to climb up the steps leading to Ananthapadmanabha shrine during that day. This sameepadarshanam will be available ONLY on the Vaikuntha Ekadashi day, Friday, December 22. We request all the devotees make use of this opportunity to have the special darshanam of the Lord on that day.

**Thursday, December 21, 2023**

6:00 pm Anugnay, Vishwakshena Aradhana, Vasudeva Punyahavachanam, Raksha Bandanam,

Mritsangrahanam, Ankoorarpanam, Kalasa Sthapanam,

*(Continued on page 4 - see Vaikuntha Ekadashi Celebrations)*

## Inside the November 2023 Newsletter

- ▶ Annual Fundraising Gala Invite - page 5
- ▶ Deepavali Celebrations Details- page 6
- ▶ Volunteer Spotlight - page 9

# RELIGIOUS CALENDAR

## November 2023

Fri 3	10:00 AM	Mahalakshmi Abhisheka
	10:00 AM	Sri Rama Abhisheka - Punarvasu
	10:00 AM	Subrahmanya Abhisheka - Shashti
Sat 4	6:00 PM	Srinivasa Kalyanam
Tue 7	10:00 AM	Andal Abhisheka - Poorva Phalguni
Wed 8	7:00 PM	Ananthapadmanabha Abhisheka - Ekadashi
Thu 9	10:00 AM	Ayyappa Puja - Uttara Phalguni
Fri 10		<b>DHANTERAS</b>
	10:00 AM	Sarada Abhisheka
	6:00 PM	Siva Abhisheka - Pradosham
Sat 11		<b>NARAKA CHATURDASHI</b>
Sun 12		<b>DEEPAVALI / KEDAR GOWRI VRATAM - SEE DETAILS</b>
	9:30 AM	Sudarshana /Yoga Narasimha Homa - Swathi
	10:30 AM	Sudarshana /Yoga Narasimha Abhisheka - Swathi
Mon 13		<b>SKANDA SHASTHI FESTIVAL BEGINS - SEE DETAILS</b>
	7:00 PM	Siva Abhisheka - Kaartika Somvara
Thu 16	9:30 AM	Ganesha Homa - Chaturthi
	10:00 AM	Anjaneya Abhisheka - Mula
	10:30 AM	Ganesha Abhisheka - Chaturthi
Fri 17		<b>AYYAPPA MANDALA UTSAVA BEGINS</b>
	10:00 AM	Parvati Abhisheka
Sat 18	10:00 AM	<b>SPECIAL AYYAPPA PUJA / IRUMUDI ABHISHEKA</b>
		<b>SKANDA SHASTHI DAY</b>
Sun 19		<b>SPECIAL AYYAPPA PUJA / IRUMUDI ABHISHEKA</b>
		<b>DEVASENA KALYANAM</b>
	10:00 AM	Utsava Srinivasa Abhisheka - Shravana
Mon 20	7:00 PM	Siva Abhisheka - Kaartika Somvara
Thu 23		THANKSGIVING FEDERAL HOLIDAY - Temple Open 9 AM - 9 PM
	10:00 AM	Sri Krishna Abhisheka - <b>Guruvayoor Ekadashi</b>
	6:00 PM	Ananthapadmanabha Abhisheka - Uthana Ekadashi
Fri 24		<b>TULASI KALYANAM - SEE DETAILS</b>
	10:00 AM	Durga Abhisheka
	7:00 PM	Siva Abhisheka - Pradosham
	7:15 PM	Bhagavati Seva
Sat 25	10:00 AM	<b>SPECIAL AYYAPPA PUJA / IRUMUDI ABHISHEKA</b>
Sun 26		<b>SPECIAL AYYAPPA PUJA / IRUMUDI ABHISHEKA</b>
	9:30 AM	Navagraha Homa

## November 2023

Sun 29	10:00 AM	Utsava Subrahmanya Abhisheka - Kritika
	10:30 AM	Navagraha Abhisheka
	5:00 PM	Satyanarayana Puja - Poornima
	6:00 PM	<b>KARTIKA DEEPAM / SARVALAYA DEEPAM</b>
Mon 27	10:00 AM	Sri Krishna Abhisheka - Rohini
	7:00 PM	Siva Abhisheka - Kaartika Somvara
Thu 30	9:30 AM	Ganesha Homa - Sankatahara Chaturthi
	10:00 AM	Sri Rama Abhisheka - Punarvasu
	7:00 PM	Ganesha Abhisheka - Sankatahara Chaturthi

## December 2023

Fri 1	10:00 AM	Mahalakshmi Abhisheka
Sat 2		<b>SPECIAL AYYAPPA PUJA / IRUMUDI ABHISHEKA</b>
	10:00 AM	Subrahmanya Abhisheka - Shashti
	6:00 PM	Srinivasa Kalyanam
Sun 3		<b>SPECIAL AYYAPPA PUJA / IRUMUDI ABHISHEKA</b>
Mon 4	7:00 PM	Siva Abhisheka - Kaartika Somvara
Tue 5	10:00 AM	Andal Abhisheka - Poorva Phalguni
Wed 6	10:00 AM	Ayyappa Puja - Uttara Phalguni
Fri 8	10:00 AM	Sarada Abhisheka
	7:00 PM	Ananthapadmanabha Abhisheka - Ekadashi
Sat 9		<b>SPECIAL AYYAPPA PUJA / IRUMUDI ABHISHEKA</b>
	9:30 AM	Sudarshana /Yoga Narasimha Homa - Swathi
	5:00 PM	Sudarshana /Yoga Narasimha Abhisheka - Swathi
Sun 10		<b>SPECIAL AYYAPPA PUJA / IRUMUDI ABHISHEKA</b>
	10:00 AM	Utsava Subrahmanya Abhisheka - Vishakha

Rest of December in December Newsletter

### WEEKLY ABHISHEKAS

<b>Monday:</b>	9:30 AM	<b>Ganesha, Sri Rama</b>
<b>Tuesday:</b>	9:30 AM	<b>Durga, Anjaneya</b>
<b>Wednesday:</b>	9:30 AM	<b>Andal, Sarada, Navagrahas</b>
<b>Thursday:</b>	9:30 AM	<b>Krishna, Subrahmanya</b>
<b>Friday:</b>	9:30 AM	<b>Mahalakshmi, Parvati, Sudarsana/Yoga Narasimha</b>
<b>Saturday:</b>	10:15 AM	<b>Venkateswara</b>

### DAILY ABHISHEKAS

<b>Daily:</b>	9:30 AM	<b>Ayyappa, Ananthapadmanabha</b>
	10:00 AM	<b>Siva</b>

### Annual and Lifetime Puja Sponsorship

एकं सद्भिप्रा बहुधा वदन्ति (Ekam Sat Vipraha Bahuda Vadanti)  
- Rig Veda (1.164.46)

The truth is one; but the wise, talk of many.

The one God, in His/Her infinite compassion, takes on several forms (*Ishta Devata* – personal God) to fulfill the needs and aspirations of His/Her devotees. Sri Siva Vishnu Temple was founded on this principle of having several Ishta Devas to meet the needs of a wide range of devotees. Worship of Ishta Devata and Kula Devata (Family Deity) is a special tradition to all Hindus. Supporting the rituals to various Deities according to one's choice and ability not only helps in maintaining this tradition, but it is recommended by the scriptures as one's duty. By supporting such activities in the temple, benefits accrue to the masses, and it sets a good example for future generations to follow.

Certain pujas are not conducive to be performed at home on a regular basis (ex. Siva Abhisheka, Padi Puja for Lord Ayyappa, or Butter Alankara for Lord Anjaneya) but are easily possible in a temple setting. Our scriptures place an emphasis on doing Pujas for the various deities on important days at the appropriate time (thithis); but due to schedules and other responsibilities, devotees may not be able to personally participate in these activities.

Supporting the worship of your Ishta Devas on important days during the year has been made easy through the *Annual and Lifetime Sponsorship Program* at SSVT. Sponsorship of your favorite deities will ensure that Pujas are done on your behalf on special days regardless of if you are present on that day. These tax-deductible sponsorship donations are at a discount compared to sponsorship of individual programs during the course of the year. Annual sponsorships are valid for one year from the date of sponsorship. Lifetime sponsorships are valid in perpetuity and are deposited into the Sri Siva Vishnu Temple Endowment.

You have helped build one of the largest temples in the United States; now consider extending the same generosity to ensure its future. Sponsor an Ishta Deity for a year, or in perpetuity and preserve Dharma today and for the future.

“धर्मो रक्षति रक्षितः” meaning *Dharma protects those who protect Dharma*.

For more information and sponsorship details – please contact Manager Ananth Iyengar at [puja@ssvt.org](mailto:puja@ssvt.org) or by phone at

(301) 552-3335. Thank you for your support!

## 2023 Board of Trustees

### Executive Committee

Chairperson	<b>Murali Elambilan</b> (501) 960-2807; chairperson@ssvt.org
Vice Chairperson - Operations	<b>Raji Ramesh</b> (630) 337-3814; vc-ops@ssvt.org
Vice Chairperson - Human Resources & Policy	<b>Padma Tipimani</b> (240) 604-5981; vc-policy@ssvt.org
Treasurer	<b>Bangalore Ravindra</b> (410) 227-7576; treasurer@ssvt.org
Secretary	<b>Manju Shivacharan</b> (240) 678-7752; secretary@ssvt.org

### Trustees

<b>B.T. Nivas</b> (703) 635-4939	<b>Gunda Reddy</b> (410) 652-1657
<b>Haridas Nambiar</b> (703) 999-3215	<b>Krishnaswamy S.V.</b> (412) 443-2151
<b>Mahesh Kukata</b> (410) 300-6379	<b>Nalini Iyer</b> (703) 620-6695
<b>Prabhavathi Pippalla</b> (240) 869-9194	<b>Subramanyam Jayaraman</b> (301) 346-9777
<b>Swaminatha Reddy</b> (301) 236-5319	<b>Thenappan Meyyappan</b> (443) 756-4466
<b>Umeshkumar Bangalore</b> (240) 602-7537	<b>Vijay Kumar</b> (202) 997-0791

### 2023 Governance Board

C.K. Dhananjayan, President - *Trustee Emeritus*

Uma Potarazu - <i>Trustee Emeritus (TE)</i>	Murali Elambilan, <i>Chairperson-BOT</i>
Jayaprada Valluripalli - <i>TE</i>	Swaminatha Reddy, <i>Trustee-BOT</i>
Ramaswamy Chandramouli - <i>TE</i>	Krishnaswamy S.V., <i>Trustee-BOT</i>

### About Sri Siva Vishnu Temple (SSVT):

Located outside of Washington D.C., Sri Siva Vishnu Temple is a premier Hindu temple with a congregation and community base of tens of thousands of Indian Americans, Hindu Americans and devotees across the globe. The temple houses several Sannidhis (shrines) which were consecrated between 1990 and 2002. As a non-profit, 501(c)(3) organization, SSVT serves the religious, cultural, and educational needs of the Hindu community and has represented the Hindu American community.

Support our temple while shopping online - search for and add **Sri Siva Vishnu Temple Trust** as your charity to support on [AmazonSmile](#) and contribute while making purchases  
SSVT Combined Federal Campaign Number: 47090

### Temple Hours

Monday - Friday	9:00 AM - 1:00 PM
	5:00 PM - 9:00 PM
Saturday - Sunday	9:00 AM - 9:00 PM
Note: SSVT is open on all Federal Holidays from 9:00 AM - 9:00 PM	
Puja Sponsorships are available <a href="#">online</a> or by calling (301) 552-3335.	

## Chairperson's Corner

Namaste devotees!

Our temple always focuses on providing the best service to our devotees. Whether it's religious services, cultural programs, or educational activities, we aim to serve all devotees in the best possible manner. That is the sole reason why any first-time visitor to our temple always feels like visiting again - making our temple premier temple in the United States. Our priests are the best in their class, our staff perform their duties with diligence and our volunteers always give their all for our temple, with sincerity. On behalf of the Board of Trustees, I thank our priests, our staff, and our volunteers for their continued commitment to not only serve our temple but serve our community.

Seva or volunteerism is the selfless act of compassion and care for others above oneself. For some, performing Seva is an inconvenience but for others, it is simply an opportunity to serve others without asking for anything in return. After all, serving a fellow human being, is serving the Supreme one. I want to introduce one such volunteer; **Sri Jaithm Mishra**. You can read more about Mr. Mishra on page 9, but I want to take this opportunity to thank him for leading multiple Seva efforts at our temple, including the monthly Sandwiches for the Homeless program, as well our temple garden which has many fruit trees and plants. Thank you for your leadership, your time, and selflessness for our temple and our community.

The temple will celebrate Deepavali on Sunday, November 12 - with grand flare and enthusiasm. Sweets and special food will be available all day. We will also host fireworks display in the evening and special lighting throughout the festival.

Our annual fundraising gala event is on Saturday, December 2nd. Tune into our YouTube channel for performances by Unni Menon, Varsha Krishnan and Sai Vignesh, featuring Madhan's Band! The keynote speaker will be Arjun Pillai, Cofounder and CEO of Docket Inc.

This year, we have completed several projects (including the granite flooring installation, lower-level flooring and painting, LED lighting, children's playground and others) but, we have many more projects in the pipeline. We need your support for the successful completions of these projects.

There are many ways you can support the temple. Please consider donating to our temple to help with operations, and support special projects for the year. Your tax-deductible contribution of any amount will help our temple as we embark on several capital projects. Please [click here to donate](#).

May the Deities of Sri Siva Vishnu Temple bless you, and your family with good health and prosperity. Each one of the Board of Trustees here at SSVT is always available and working hard to give you a temple that supports you. Please feel free to contact me by email @ chairperson@ssvt.org or by phone at (501)960-2807 if I can be of any assistance.

Respectfully,

*Murali Elambilan*

**Murali Elambilan**  
2023 Chairperson, Board of Trustees  
Sri Siva Vishnu Temple



(Continued from page 1 - see Vaikuntha Ekadashi Celebrations)

Aradhana, Archana, Saatumurai Mahamangalahaarati, Teerthaprasada Viniyogam

### **Friday, December 22, 2023 (Vaikuntha Ekadashi Day)**

6:00 am Suprabatham, Sri Ashtakshari Moola Mantra Homam, Mahapoornahuti, Sri Ananthapadmanabha Nava Kalasabhishekam, Gadya Trayam Parayanam, Vishnu Sahasranama Parayanam, Archana, Deeparadhana, Procession within the temple, Vaikuntha Dwaara Puja, Vaikuntha Dwaara, Pravesham, Bali Haranam, Saatumurai, Mahamangalahaarati, Sameepadarshanam, Teerthaprasada Viniyogam

12:00 pm Prasadam Distribution, Continous Sahasranama Parayanam until the temple closes

**Sponsorship: \$91 - One Day Puja; \$31 - Homa or Abhisheka**

### **Geetha Jayanthi**

**Friday, December 22, 2023**

This year, Geetha Jayanthi has coincided with Vaikuntha Ekadashi. Geetha Jayanthi is the day when Lord Krishna imparted the Bhagavad Gita to Arjuna in Kurukshetra on the first day of the famous 18-day battle in the Mahabharata. Gita Jayanthi falls on the Ekadashi day of Shukla Paksha of the Margashirsha month. It is also an important Ekadasi in many parts of India, especially in Guruvayoor. Special Pujas will be held to celebrate both the events

8:30 am Krishna Moola Mantra Homa/Bhagwad Gita Homa

10:00 am Sri Krishna Abhisheka, Aradhana to Lord Krishna, Narayaneeyam Parayanam by Devotees, Deeparadhana

**Sponsorship: \$51 - Homa and Abhisheka; \$31 - Homa or Abhisheka**

### **Aardra Darshanam**

**Wednesday, December 27, 2023**

6:00 am Ganesha Puja, Abhishekam to Nataraja, Archana, Deeparadhana, Nataraja procession within the temple

**Sponsorship: \$31**

### **Ayyappa Mandala Puja**

**Wednesday, December 27, 2023**

The Ayyappa Shrine at Sri Siva Vishnu Temple is a blessing to those living all over North America who would like to observe the Ayyappa Vratam and climb the holy 18 steps every year. Devotees who have been to Sabarimala in India but could not continue to go there due to their move to North America, consider SSVT Ayyappa Shrine as the "Sabarimala of the West." Devotees climbing 18 steps at SSVT follow the same rigorous austerities of Ayyappa Vratam. The 2023 - 2024 Ayyappa Mandala Makarotsavam starts on Friday November 17, 2023. Hundreds of Ayyappa devotees from all over the country, observing Ayyappa Vratam, climb the 18 Holy Steps with Irumudi to have darshan of Lord Ayyappa. The Ayyappa MANDALA PUJA is on Wednesday December 27, 2023. Due to the large number of Ayyappa devotees expected for the Mandala Puja, the Irumudi preparation at the temple will start from 7:00 am to 8:30 am, and the trek and climbing of the 18 Holy Steps is planned from 8:30 am to 9:00 am, followed by Nirmalya Darsanam, Abhishekam, MANDALA PUJA Archana, Deeparadhana, and ANNADANAM by Devotees. The evening session will include Bhajan, Sahasranama Stotram, Deeparadhana, Athazha Puja, Seeveli with Thalapoli, Bhasmabhishekam, Harivarasanam. Devotees who need Irumudi materials from the temple are requested to send an e-mail to [ssvt.ayyappa@gmail.com](mailto:ssvt.ayyappa@gmail.com)

### **Navaratri Vastram Alankaram**







## Sri Siva Vishnu Temple (SSVT)

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<https://www.facebook.com/ssvtTempleDC>

Sri Gurubhyo namaH  
Haraye Namah, Shambhaye namaH,  
Mahaalakshmyai namaH



SSVT Cordially invites You and Your Family:

# Virtual Annual Fundraising Gala

**Saturday, December 2, 2023 at 5:30PM**

Enjoy fabulous music, performances, and support your temple:  
*SSVT Sai Mandir - from Concept to Reality*



Unni Menon



Sai Vignesh

Pledge Form (live now): [www.tinyurl.com/pledge2ssvt](http://www.tinyurl.com/pledge2ssvt)

Annual Fundraising Portal (live by Nov 25):

[www.tinyurl.com/SSVT-Gala](http://www.tinyurl.com/SSVT-Gala)

YouTube (watch on Dec 2):

<https://www.youtube.com/c/SSVTStreaming>



Varsha  
Krishnan



Keynote Address by

**Arjun Pillai**

Cofounder and CEO, Docket Inc



**Madhan's Band**

## Join Sri Siva Vishnu Temple's WhatsApp Group!

Receive temple announcements including  
upcoming religious, cultural, and educational  
events! Open the camera app on your phone,  
point at this QR code, and click on the  
WhatsApp link to join! Or Click Here



## SSVT COMMUNITY SERVICE

### Join the Charity Committee

The primary objective is to integrate and formalize SSVT's charitable activities and to conduct these activities in a systematic and continual basis. The Charity Committee has helped strengthen the fourth pillar of the temple which involves social outreach and community service. To learn more and to join the Charity Committee, please contact Raji Ramesh at (630) 337-3814, or Murali Elambilan at (501) 960-2807.

### Homeless SEVA - Sandwich Program

Each month, on the 2nd Saturday, volunteers make sandwiches for the homeless. Every time, roughly about 1500 sandwiches are prepared and delivered to area shelters. SSVT encourages all devotees, especially youth, to participate in this program. Maryland school students can earn Student Service Learning (SSL) hours - a high school graduation requirement. Please meet at Temple Dining Hall at 10:30 AM. For additional information, please contact T.H. Mishra at [laithm@gmail.com](mailto:laithm@gmail.com) / (571) 214-3198

## SSVT SENIOR CITIZENS MEET UP

The SSVT Senior Citizens Group meets once a month on the third Wednesday in the auditorium from 11 am to 1 pm. Because of the COVID-19 pandemic, we are not hosting a potluck lunch, instead, we ask attendees to bring their own snacks and water.

We invite all seniors 55+ to join us at the meetings and share our seniors-related common interests. We invite speakers from within and outside the group to talk on topics of interest to senior citizens, such as those related to health, religion, finance, legal matters, vacation travel, etc. We also hold programs such as music & comedy, picnics and bus trips which would help promote social interaction between members of the group.

For more information please email Satyen Verma, Senior Citizen Group Coordinator, at [seniorcitizensgroup2022@gmail.com](mailto:seniorcitizensgroup2022@gmail.com)

## SSVT Sri Shirdi Sai Baba Aradhana Center

Sri Siva Vishnu Temple's dedicated Sri Shirdi Sai Baba Aradhana Center is now open in the Aakaar area (behind the Auditorium stage). Please consider donating to support the Sri Shirdi Sai Baba Aradhana Center at SSVT. The Sai Aradhana Center is currently being built on the temple grounds. Please consider supporting this effort. For more information please contact: Sreekumar Sreedharan 703-622-5542; Shobha Prasad 240-568-9151; Mythili Bachu 301-526-5135; Sridevi Umesh 301-560-3102; Srini Tirumalasetti 443-540-4110; Rohini Homnappa 240-441-1266; Sujatha Badrinath 301-805-1943



# Deepavali Celebrations

Sunday, November 12, 2023

Deepavali (meaning the row of lights), is celebrated in different ways in many parts of India. In Bengal, it is celebrated as Kaali Puja. In most other parts it is observed by performing Lakshmi-Kubera Puja



**10:00 AM**

- 🪔 Kalasa Puja
- 🪔 Mahalakshmi Abhishekam
- 🪔 Ashttotara, Aradhana
- 🪔 Deeparadhana

**4:30 PM**

- 🪔 Deepotsavam
- 🪔 Lakshmi-Kubera puja  
(Mahalakshmi Kumkuma Archana)
- 🪔 Mahalakshmi Stotra Parayanam
- 🪔 Deeparadhana

**6:30 PM**

- 🪔 Fireworks

**Sponsorship**

- 🪔 Morning Puja - \$31
- 🪔 Evening Puja - \$31
- 🪔 Both Morning & Evening Puja - \$51
- 🪔 [Click here to sponsor](#)

Sweets & Special Food  
available all day for  
purchase







# SRI SIVA VISHNU TEMPLE

6905 Cipriano Road, Lanham MD-20706  
Phone: (301) 552 3335 Fax: (301) 552 1204  
Email: ssvt@ssvt.org Website: www.ssvt.org

## 2023-2024 Ayyappa Mandala Makarotsavam Schedule

### DAILY PUJA SCHEDULE

9:30 am - 11:00 am Ayyappa Puja (Abhishekam, Ashtothra Archana, Deeparadhana)  
7:00 pm - 9:00 pm Sahasranama Stotram, Athaazha Puja, Seeveli, Harivarasanam

### SPECIAL PUJA SCHEDULE

8:00 am - 10:00 am Irumudi Preparation & Climbing of Holy Steps  
9:30 am Suprabhatham  
10:00 am Abhishekam  
10:30 am Alankaram, Bhajan  
11:15 am Sahasranamam, Ashtothram, Ayyappa Ashtakam, Kavacham, Deeparadhana, Namaskaram, Padi Pattu, Deeparadhana, Temple Song  
1:00 pm Prasadam distribution

**PLEASE NOTE – CLIMBING OF HOLY STEPS ONLY ON SPECIAL AYYAPPA PUJA DAYS.**  
Registration is mandatory. To register click here: <https://www.ssvt.org/ayyappa-mandalam/>

### Thursday, November 16, 2023

9:30 am - 12:00 pm Bimba Sudhi  
7:00 pm - 8:00 pm Praasadha Sudhi

### Friday, November 17, 2023

#### MANDALA UTSAVA AARAMBHAM

8:00 am - 9:00 am Ganapathi Homam  
9:00 am - 9:30 am Dwaja Aarohanam  
10:00 am - 1:00 pm SAHASRAABHISHEKAM, Ayyappa Puja, Deeparadhana  
7:00 pm - 8:00 pm PADI PUJA,  
8:00 pm - 9:00 pm Athaazha Puja, Seeveli, Harivarasanam

### Saturday, November 18, 2023

8:00 am - 2:00 pm Special Ayyappa Puja, **UDAYASTHAMANA PUJA**

### Sunday, November 19, 2023

8:00 am - 1:00 pm Special Ayyappa Puja

### Saturday, November 25, 2023

8:00 am - 1:00 pm Special Ayyappa Puja, **PUSHPAALANKARAM**

### Sunday, November 26, 2023

8:00 am - 1:00 pm Special Ayyappa Puja  
7:00 pm - 9:00 pm **PUSHPABHISHEKAM**, Seeveli, Harivarasanam

### Saturday, December 2, 2023

8:00 am - 1:00 pm Special Ayyappa Puja, **NEYYABHISHEKAM**

### Sunday, December 3, 2023

8:00 am - 1:00 pm Special Ayyappa Puja, Vedaparayanam

### Saturday, December 9, 2023

8:00 am - 1:00 pm Special Ayyappa Puja, **KALABHAABHISHEKAM**

### Sunday, December 10, 2023

8:00 am - 1:00 pm Special Ayyappa Puja

### Saturday, December 16, 2023

8:00 am - 1:00 pm Special Ayyappa Puja, **ASHTABHISHEKAM**

### Sunday, December 17, 2023

8:00 am - 1:00 pm Special Ayyappa Puja

### Saturday, December 23, 2023

8:00 am - 1:00 pm Special Ayyappa Puja, **DEEPALANKARAM**

### Sunday, December 24, 2023

8:00 am - 1:00 pm Special Ayyappa Puja

### Monday, December 25, 2023

8:00 am - 1:00 pm Special Ayyappa Puja, **NAVAKA KALASA ABHISHEKAM**

### Wednesday, December 27, 2023

#### MANDALA PUJA

8:00 am - 1:00 pm Special Ayyappa Puja, Nirmalya Darsanam, Abhishekam, **MANDALA PUJA**, Archana, Deeparadhana

7:00 pm - 9:00 pm Bhajan, Sahasranama Stotram, Deeparadhana, Athazha Puja, Panapara, **Seeveli with Thalapoli, Bhasmabhishekam**, Harivarasanam

### Saturday, December 30, 2023

8:00 am - 1:00 pm Special Ayyappa Puja **SPECIAL PAYASA NIVEDYAM**

### Sunday, December 31, 2023

8:00 am - 1:00 pm Special Ayyappa Puja

### Saturday, January 6, 2024

8:00 am - 1:00 pm Special Ayyappa Puja, **CHANDANAKKAPPU**

### Sunday, January 7, 2024

8:00 am - 1:00 pm Special Ayyappa Puja

### Saturday, January 13, 2024

8:00 am - 1:00 pm Special Ayyappa Puja, **Special Maha Nivedyam (Appam & Modakam)**

### Sunday, January 14, 2024

8:00 am - 1:00 pm Special Ayyappa Puja

### Monday, January 15, 2024

#### MAKARA VILAKKU

8:00 am - 1:00 pm Special Ayyappa Puja, **Makara Sankramabhishekam**, Archana, Deeparadhana

7:00 pm - 9:00 pm **THIRUVABHARANAM**, Deeparadhana, Sahasranama Stotram, Panapara, **Seeveli with Thalapoli**, Acharya Sambhavana, Bhasmabhishekam, Harivarasanam,

### Tuesday, January 16, 2024

7:30 pm - 8:30 pm Malikappurthamma Puja

### Wednesday, January 17, 2024

7:30 pm - 8:30 pm Malikappurthamma Puja

### Thursday, January 18, 2024

7:30 pm - 8:30 pm Malikappurthamma Puja

### Friday, January 19, 2024

9:30 am - 12:30 pm **Kalabha Puja & KALABHABHISHEKAM**

### Saturday, January 20, 2024

6:00 pm - 9:00 pm Bhajan, **Dwaja Avarohanam**, Athaazha Puja, **GURUTHI PUJA**, Bhasmabhishekam, Harivarasanam

# 2023-2024 SSVT AYYAPPA MANDALA MAKARA SANKRANTI PUJA SPONSORSHIP FORM



Family Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Gothram: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_  
 E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

First Name	Last Name	Birth Star

Date(s) of Puja	Puja Sponsored	Amount
All Year	<b>All Puja for Season &amp; Monthly Puja</b>	\$ 501.00
11/16/2023 – 01/20/2024	<b>All Puja for Entire Season</b>	\$ 351.00
See Schedule	All Special Ayyappa Puja	\$ 251.00
11/17/2023	<b>MANDALOTHSAVA AARAMBHAM</b>	\$ 61.00
11/17/2023	<b>PADI PUJA</b>	\$ 31.00
11/26/2023	Pushpabhishekam	\$ 31.00
12/27/2023	<b>MANDALA PUJA</b>	\$ 61.00
01/15/2024	<b>MAKARA SANKRANTHI</b>	\$ 61.00
	One Day Weekend Special Puja	\$ 51.00
	One day Regular Puja	\$ 31.00
	Irumudi Materials & Abhishekam	\$ 91.00
	Irumudi Abhishekam	\$ 51.00
	Annadhanam	\$
	Donation	\$
<b>TOTAL Sponsorship (Check/Cash Enclosed):</b>		<b>\$</b>

Please make check payable to SSVT

FOR REGISTRATION AND SPONSORSHIP: <https://www.ssvt.org/ayyappa-mandalam/>

## AYYAPPA MANDALA - MAKAROTSAVAM

### Austerities and Preparation required for the Pilgrimage to Ayyappa Sannidhi with Irumudi

#### Ayyappa Vratam

Devotees who wish to go to Sabarimala have to observe vratam (follow certain austerities) for one mandalam (41 days) to purify the mind and soul. On the first day of the month of Karthika/ Vrichikam (the middle of November), devotees wear the mudra maala and start the vratam.

#### Manthram to be chanted before wearing mudra maala

*Gjaana Mudraam Saasthru Mudraam Guru Mudraam Namaamyaham  
 Vana Mudraam Sudha Mudraam Rudra Mudraam Namaamyaham  
 Saantha Mudraam Sathya Mudraam Vritham Mudraam Namaamyaham  
 Sabaryaasrama Sathyena Mudraam Paathu Sathaapi Me  
 Gurudakshinaaya Poorvam Thasyaanugraha Kaarine  
 Saranaagatha Mudraakayam Thvan Mudraam Dhaaraayaamyaham  
 Chin Mudraam Khechari Mudraam Bhadra Mudraam Namaamyaham  
 Sabaryaachala Mudraayay Namasthubhyam Namu Namaha*

Devotees wear the mudra maala after chanting the above manthram

#### Manthram to remove mudra maala

*Apoorvam Achaalaroha Divya Darsanakaarana  
 Saasthrumudraath Makaadeva Dehi Me Vrithamochanam*

Devotees remove the mudra maala after chanting the manthram. The mudra maala and Irumudi be kept under the feet of Lord Ayyappa and used again.

“SWAMIYE SARANAM AYYAPPA”

#### Important austerities to be observed during vratam

- Observe Brahmacharyam during the vratam
- Always start the conversation with “Swami Saranam”
- Take shower twice daily and chant the names of Lord Ayyappa
- Control your temper and be kind to others
- Consume only freshly cooked vegetarian food
- Do not smoke or consume alcoholic beverages
- Attend Puja either at the temple or wherever conducted
- Treat your body, mind and intellect as the abode of Ayyappa

#### How to prepare irumudi (in brief)

After performing Ayyappa Puja, fill the mudra coconut with melted ghee. If you are a Kanni Ayyappan or Kanni Maalikappuram (first timer), Guruswamy will help you to fill the mudra coconut with ghee. Mudra coconut and other Pujaitems must be placed in the front pocket of the Irumudi and the other two coconuts must be placed in the rear pocket. Always keep chanting the names of Lord Ayyappa while preparing the Irumudi. Never place the Irumudi on the floor; always place it on a towel and treat it with Bhakthi.

**For Further Information email [ssvt.ayyappa@gmail.com](mailto:ssvt.ayyappa@gmail.com) or contact by phone:**  
 Suresh Babu 301-330-5533, BT Nivas 703-635-4939, Ekambar Bomma 702-527-8692,  
 Theo Meyyappan 443-756-4466, Sowrirajan 703-559-4682, Aditya Kothuri 484-901-6931

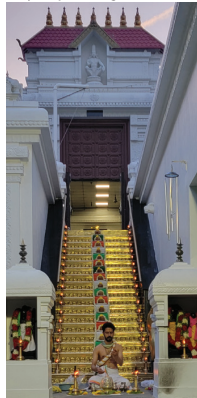
#### Irumudi Items

ITEMS	QTY	COMMENTS
<b>I. MUNMUDI (FRONT)</b>		
01. Kanikka panam (coin)	1	-
02. Beetel Leaf	1	-
03. Areca Nut - Supari	1	-
04. Mudra coconut with Ghee	1	The shell has to be polished drained by removing the middle eye of the coconut; find a cork to tightly seal the opened eye
05. Honey	1bottle	Plastic; small
06. Turmeric Powder	1 packet	Small Packet
07. Sandal -		Few tablets or powder
08. Vibhoothi	1 packet	Small Packet
09. Rose Water	1bottle	Plastic; small
<b>II. PINMUDI (BACK)</b>		
01. Coconut	2(Min)	One to break before climbing Holy Steps and one to break after coming down the Steps after puja
02. Rice	1 packet	Small Packet
03. Avil	1 packet	Extra small zip lock
04. Malar	1 packet	Extra small zip lock
05. Kadali pazham or Jaggery	1	1 small piece
06. Kalkandam (Sugar Candy)	-	Few tablets
07. Dry Grape	1 packet	Extra small zip lock
08. Kumkum	1 packet	Small Packet
09. Camphor	-	Few tablets

#### 2024 MONTHLY AYYAPPA PADI PUJA AND IRUMUDI ABHISHEKAM

Consequent to the Installation and consecration of the Panchaloha Kavacham for the 18 Holy Steps, Sri Siva Vishnu Temple has beenw conducting monthly PADI PUJA and Irumudi Abhishekam and Puja from April to October every year. This will enable devotees to take Irumudi and climb the Holy steps during warm weather.

Month	PADI PUJA	Special Ayyappa Puja
<b>April</b>	<b>Saturday, 4/13/2024</b>	<b>Sunday, 4/14/2024</b>
<b>May</b>	<b>Saturday, 5/18/2024</b>	<b>Sunday, 5/19/2024</b>
<b>June</b>	<b>Saturday, 6/15/2024</b>	<b>Sunday, 6/16/2024</b>
<b>July</b>	<b>Saturday, 7/20/2024</b>	<b>Sunday, 7/21/2024</b>
<b>Agust</b>	<b>Saturday, 8/17/2024</b>	<b>Sunday, 8/18/2024</b>
<b>September</b>	<b>Saturday, 9/21/2024</b>	<b>Sunday, 9/22/2024</b>
<b>October</b>	<b>Saturday, 10/19/2024</b>	<b>Sunday, 10/20/2024</b>



Devotees can prepare Irumudi at the temple. Please email [ssvt.ayyappa@gmail.com](mailto:ssvt.ayyappa@gmail.com) for additional details.

**Sponsorship:**  
 All Monthly PADI PUJAS (From April to October) - \$501.00  
 Monthly PADI PUJA - \$101.00  
 Irumudi Abhishekam and Puja - \$91.00 (Irumudi provided by Temple)  
 Irumudi Abhishekam and Puja - \$51.00 (Irumudi provided by devotee)

Please click below to sponsor:  
<https://www.cognitiforms.com/SriSivaVishnuTemple/MonthlyAyyappaPadiPujalrumudi>

**To receive email notifications about the ayyappa pujas please join ssvtayyappa google group by sending an email to [ssvtayyappa+subscribe@googlegroups.com](mailto:ssvtayyappa+subscribe@googlegroups.com) and by replying to the auto-response email to confirm joining the group. Note that clicking on join this group on the auto response email does not work.**



## Volunteer Spotlight: Mr. Jaithm Mishra

Sri T.H. "Jaithm" Mishra leads Sri Siva Vishnu Temple's Sandwiches for the Homeless Seva program. Every month, volunteers of all ages make thousands of sandwiches for various homeless and underserved shelters in the DC metro region. Additionally, he leads the "volunteer to help mother nature" initiative by helping maintain the temple's fruit garden. Started earlier this year, the initiative aims to help young volunteers learn gardening while helping Mother Nature by planting plants and trees along the landscape of the temple grounds. The group has garnered more than 30 volunteers, who have helped plant various fruit trees, including apple, pears, pecan, persimmon, berries and figs. The volunteers also planted hundreds of sacred Tulasi plants, to help spread the divine aroma in the garden. Roses and banana trees were added to beautify the SSVT's Shri Ananthpurna Garden. Mr. Mishra sincerely thanks all the volunteers for their service to this effort, including Shiva, Gopal, Ganesh, Srini, Anil, Gagan, Bhushan, Saroj, Rohini, Shailaja, Lalitha, Aruna and many other volunteer families for their time and donations. Youth volunteers included Rishikant, Shrikant, Ansul, Viaan, Sai, Aashrit, Abhinav, Saket, Shivani, Vedant Ananya, Aadvik and many more – in his own words "they learned to appreciate mother nature by learning the nuances of gardening; from selecting seeds, preparing the ground, growing the plants from seedlings, watering, planting, mulching and planting trees, and pruning." Many volunteers enjoyed this program. The joy of seeing their first harvest of apples, berries, and figs in the very first year was beyond describable. The group also distributed more than 200 tulasi plants to the temple devotees.

Outside of his service at the temple, Mr. Mishra is committed to various charity initiatives to help the underprivileged through his nonprofit charity Le4p ([www.Le4p.org](http://www.Le4p.org)). If you or any youth volunteers want to join the Seva efforts at SSVT, please contact Mr. Mishra at (571) 214-3198 or join the WhatsApp group here:

<https://chat.whatsapp.com/DOQhIzgU59K9iDOWIBLJMI> Thank you, Mr. Mishra for all that you do!







# Sri Siva Vishnu Temple

## Live Nadaswaram Service

Devotees can now avail **Live Nadaswaram & Thavil** music service for their personal pujas/events at Temple or outside. Contact Temple Manager at **301-552-3335** or email to **ssvt@ssvt.org** for more details & booking







# SSVT DHARMA LIBRARY

PLACE HOLD ON BOOKS ONLINE AT THE CONVENIENCE OF YOUR HOME AND COLLECT THE CHECKED-OUT BOOKS FROM THE TEMPLE ON WEEKENDS.

Enjoy Our Collection:

**TEXTS**  
PURANAS,  
UPANISHADS

**ARTS  
&  
SCIENCE**

**PHILOSOPHY**

**rites  
&  
RITUALS**

**HISTORY**

**GEOGRAPHY**

**PEOPLE**

**CHILDREN'S  
COLLECTION**

## CHECK OUR LIBRARY WEBSITE TO SEE:

- ONLINE CATALOG
- REGISTRATION FORM
- LIBRARY OPERATIOTN DETAILS
- IN-PERSON BOOKS CHECKOUT HOURS (LIBRARY OPEN-HOUSE)



## WHERE:

SSVT Education room  
6905 Cipriano Rd, Lanham, MD 20706

**Contact:** [library@ssvt.org](mailto:library@ssvt.org)





*SSVT Dharma Library is expanding  
Hindu Children's Book Collection*  
**PLEASE DONATE!**

**We accept books under these categories:**

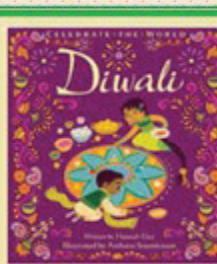
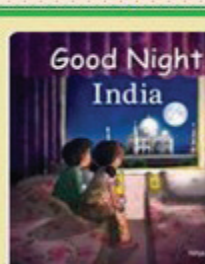
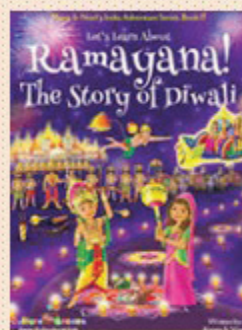
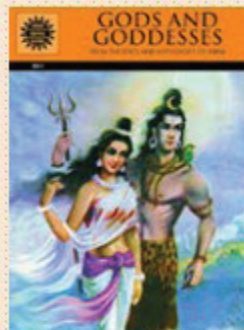
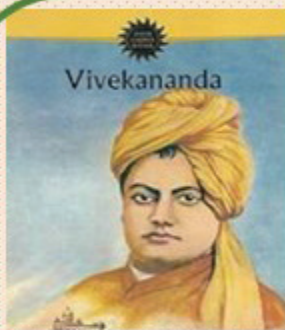
- Amar Chitra Katha about Hindu dharma
- Panchatantra stories
- About Indian culture
- Books about world religions, great leaders & Saints

**How can you donate?**

Please bring them during Library Open House times

(Every Second Saturday of the month)

11AM – 3PM



**Questions? Contact : [library@ssvt.org](mailto:library@ssvt.org)**





# SSVT DHARMA LIBRARY

## OPEN HOUSE

**OCT 7, 2023 - 11AM - 3PM**

**NOV 11, 2023 - 11AM - 3PM**

**DEC 9, 2023 - 11AM - 3PM**

Education Room

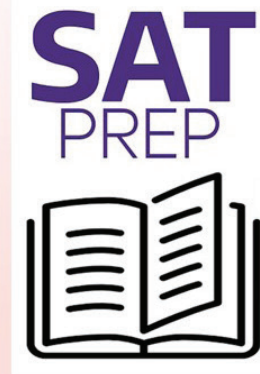
6905 Cipriano Rd, Lanham, MD

Contact - [library@ssvt.org](mailto:library@ssvt.org)



## SAT Preparatory Class for High School Students

- 15+ years of SAT Teaching Experience
- Assistance with College Admission Essays
- Guidance & Mentoring for Academic Success



Register: [education@ssvt.org](mailto:education@ssvt.org)

## SSVT Yoga



Email to register:  
[education@ssvt.org](mailto:education@ssvt.org)

In-person & Zoom  
Tuesday & Thursday  
6:00pm – 7:30pm  
SSVT Auditorium



# DHARMA VIDYALAYAM

## EDUCATION CLASSES FOR CHILDREN & ADULTS

- DHARMA STUDIES FOR CHILDREN (BALAVIDYALAYAM)

- SPOKEN SAMSKRTHAM

  - SAT

  - YOGA

  - UPANISHAD

  - BHAGAVAD GITA

- RAMAYANAM & BHAGAVATHAM

OPEN TO PUBLIC | FREE OF CHARGE

Email: [education@ssvt.org](mailto:education@ssvt.org)



**Deepavali Celebrations: Sunday Family Dharma Class** recently held Deepavali celebrations at the temple. Dr. Vivek Murthy, U.S. Surgeon General, shared a message to the students reminding them to look for the Divine light within each of them





## UPCOMING CULTURAL EVENTS

Date & Time	Event / Artist	Venue & Admission Fee
November 11, 2023; 5:00 PM	Akkarai Sisters (Vocal); Vid Kamalakiran Vinjamuri (Violin); Vid R Sankaranarayanan (Mridangam)	Auditorium/\$20
November 11 - 12, 2023;	Muthuswamy Dikshitar/Shyama Sastry Day	Auditorium/Free



6905, Cipriano Rd,  
Lanham, MD 20706

# GRAND VOCAL DUET

in coordination with

GEETHAMRUTHA MUSIC SCHOOL



## AKKARAI SISTERS

Vid Akkarai Subhalakshmi (Vocal)  
Vid Akkarai Sornalatha (Vocal)  
Vid Kamalakiran Vinjamuri (Violin)  
Vid R Sankaranarayanan (Mridangam)

Saturday Nov 11, 2023 5:00 pm



Tickets: \$20 (\$15 for children under 18 and adults over 65)





6905, Cipriano Rd,  
Lanham, MD 20706

# SSVT in coordination with Geethamrutha Music School

presents

## Muthuswamy Dikshitar/Shyama Sastry Day

Individual Singing/Mini-Concerts

Special Kritis of Dikshitar and Shyama Sastry

(For Swarajathi practice, please contact Smt Nirmala Ramaswamy)  
nirmalaramaswamy@yahoo.com

Nov 11, 2023 (all-day)

Nov 12, 2023 (half-day)

Nov 11, 2023 main concert at 5 pm by:

Akkarai Sisters (Vocal)

(more details will follow)

[cultural@ssvt.org](mailto:cultural@ssvt.org)





## SRI SIVA VISHNU TEMPLE

6905 Cipriano Road, Lanham MD 20706  
Tel: (301)552-3335 Fax: (301)552-1204  
E-Mail: [ssvt@ssvt.org](mailto:ssvt@ssvt.org) Web Site: <http://www.ssvt.org>



### India- a Knowledge Civilization

A workshop for young adults and adults by Dr. Raj Vedam  
on Indic knowledge traditions and heritage

An evidence based approach on facts about Indian civilization



**Saturday Nov 18th  
10:30 AM - 1:30 PM**

**Vedavyasa Room  
(Education Room),  
SSVT**

**Free event  
Donations accepted  
Registration Required**

**Register at:**

**<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/738268189027?aff=oddtcreator>**

Dr. Raj Vedam obtained his Ph.D. in Electrical from Oregon State University, Corvallis, USA. He has over 26 years of professional experience in Power, Electronic Design Automation, and Oil and Gas industries

Working at the confluence of applied mathematics, engineering, algorithms, and computer science, and using tools of [Archeo-Genetics](#), Archeo-astronomy, Archaeology, Dr. Raj Vedam has put forward a strong thesis with verifiable facts, on the antiquity of the Indian Civilization, and the many discoveries made in ancient India.

FB Event: <https://fb.me/e/1hNA003BK>

More information: Gopal Gopinath [gopal.gopinath@gmail.com](mailto:gopal.gopinath@gmail.com) 240-994-4774;

Vasu Murthy [ssvt.stotras@gmail.com](mailto:ssvt.stotras@gmail.com) 703-785-5137;