



# 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. 12

**December 2023**

## 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 "Dhanus" 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, Ankoorparanam, Kalasa Sthapanam, Aradhana, Archana, Saatumurai Mahamangalahaarati, Teerthaprasada Vinियogam

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

4:00 am Suprabatham, Sri Ashtakshari Moola Mantra Homam, Mahapoorahuti, 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 Vinियogam

10:00 am Prasadam Distribution, Continuous 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 Ekadashi 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 Darshanam, 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)

## 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



## Inside the December 2023 Newsletter

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- ▶ Vaikuntha Ekadashi Vastram Sponsorship - page 7
- ▶ 2nd Annual SSVTs Got Talent- page 12

# RELIGIOUS CALENDAR

## 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
	6:00 PM	Siva Abhisheka - Pradosham
Mon 11	7:00 PM	Siva Abhisheka - Kaartika Somvara
Wed 13	10:00 AM	Anjaneya Abhisheka - Mula
Fri 15	9:30 AM	Ganesha Homa - Chaturthi
	10:00 AM	Parvati Abhisheka
	10:30 AM	Ganesha Abhisheka - Chaturthi
	7:15 PM	Bhagavati Seva
Sat 16		<b>TIRUPPAVAI / TIRUVEPAVAI RECITATION BEGINS</b>
		<b>SPECIAL AYYAPPA PUJA / IRUMUDI ABHISHEKA</b>
	6:00 PM	Utsava Srinivasa Abhisheka - Shrivana
Sun 17		<b>SPECIAL AYYAPPA PUJA / IRUMUDI ABHISHEKA</b>
	10:00 AM	Subrahmanya Abhisheka - Shashti
Fri 22		<b>SPECIAL AYYAPPA PUJA / IRUMUDI ABHISHEKA</b>
	10:00 AM	Durga Abhisheka
Sat 23		<b>SPECIAL AYYAPPA PUJA / IRUMUDI ABHISHEKA</b>
	10:00 AM	Utsava Subrahmanya Abhisheka - Kritika
Sun 24		<b>SPECIAL AYYAPPA PUJA / IRUMUDI ABHISHEKA</b>
	9:30 AM	Navagraha Homa
	10:30 AM	Navagraha Abhisheka
	6:00 PM	Siva Abhisheka - Pradosham
Mon 25		<b>SPECIAL AYYAPPA PUJA / IRUMUDI ABHISHEKA</b>
	10:00 AM	Sri Krishna Abhisheka - Rohini

## December 2023

Tue 26		<b>SPECIAL AYYAPPA PUJA / IRUMUDI ABHISHEKA</b>
		<b>VEDA PARAYANAM CONCLUDES</b>
	7:00 PM	Satyanarayana Puja - Poomima
Wed 27		<b>AYYAPPA MANDALA PUJA</b>
	6:00 AM	Nataraja Abhisheka - ARUDRA DARSHANAM
Thu 28	10:00 AM	Sri Rama Abhisheka - Punarvasu
Fri 29	10:00 AM	Mahalakshmi Abhisheka
Sat 30		<b>SPECIAL AYYAPPA PUJA / IRUMUDI ABHISHEKA</b>
	9:30 AM	Ganesha Homa - Sankatahara Chaturthi
	6:00 PM	Ganesha Abhisheka - Sankatahara Chaturthi
Sun 31		<b>SPECIAL AYYAPPA PUJA / IRUMUDI ABHISHEKA</b>
	10:00 AM	Subrahmanya Abhisheka - Shashti

### 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 सद्भिर्बहुधा 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 Tipirneni</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

As another exciting year is coming to an end, I am also completing my tenure as the Chairperson of the Board of Trustees (BOT). It has been my honor and privilege to serve as the Chairperson of the BOT, and to address you all through this column for the past two years. 2023 has been an eventful year for our temple, and I hope we lived up to the expectation of being a premier temple in the United States.

I thank all our devotees, volunteers, priests, staff, and their families for their unwavering support and encouragement. I sincerely thank my fellow Trustees, for their hard work, and due diligence to make timely and wise decisions for our temple. We accomplished a lot in the last two years!

As I've shared previously, our temple stands out for its governing structure. We have a 17-member Board of Trustees, with a five-member Executive Committee (EC), ably supported by the volunteer-run Operations Committee (OC) - including Religious, Education, and Cultural Committees, among others. Our Trustees serve a 3-year term, renewable once (for six consecutive years). And as such, every year, we induct new Trustees in place of the retiring trustees. This year, four trustees - Sri B.T. Nivas, Sri Subramanyam Jayaraman, Smt. Prabhavathi Pippalla and I are retiring. The incoming Trustees are Sri. Raghuram Tumkur, Sri Ramanathan Narayanan, Sri Krishna Reddy, and Kum. Jaishri Shankar - they will be inducted into the Board of Trustees in January! I wish all incoming Trustees the best wishes, and good luck as they take on a truly humbling experience. I have no words to express my gratitude and love to B.T., Jayaraman, and Prabha for their service to our temple.

The BOT also elected a new EC for the next year. I am pleased to announce Sri. Mahesh Kukata as the Chairperson, Smt. Padma Tipirneni as the Vice Chairperson of Operations, Sri. Krishnaswamy S.V. as the Vice Chairperson of Human Resources and Policy, Sri. Thenappan Meyyappan as the Treasurer, and Smt. Nalini Iyer as the Secretary of the Board of Trustees. I have full confidence in the incoming EC and I wish Mahesh all the best in his role as Chairperson. I sincerely thank my EC colleagues for your support over the last two years - Smt. Raji Ramesh, Smt. Padma Tipirneni, Sri. Bangalore Ravindra, and Sri. Manju Shivacharan. Your exceptional hard work, leadership and insights made my job easier. I enjoyed working with each of you and couldn't have asked for a better team.

As part of our temple governance structure, we also have the Governance Board (GB). I congratulate Smt. Uma Potarazu and Sri Ramaswamy Chandramouli as the newly elected President and Secretary of the GB, respectively for the new year. I convey my best wishes and appreciation to outgoing GB President Sri. C.K. Dhananjayan and Secretary Smt. Jayaprada Valluripalli. I can't leave without sharing some exciting news - we received the building permit from the county for the much-awaited SSVT Sai Mandir. Construction will begin in January and we anticipate to have grand opening by Fall of 2024. We also have begun outsourcing some of our IT services and maintenance - you will see a newly enhanced SSVT website soon, and several new self-serve kiosks at the temple.

Our Annual Fundraising Gala was originally planned for December 2nd, is now postponed to December 16th. It's a virtual event, but we have arranged a watch party at the temple auditorium starting promptly at 5:30 PM. I invite everyone to join us and watch the program on a large screen. Please donate generously and support our temple as we take on several projects in the new year. 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 Trustees 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**  
2023 Chairperson, Board of Trustees  
Sri Siva Vishnu Temple



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

**Sri Gurubhyo namaH**  
**Haraye NamaH, Shambhave namaH,**  
**Mahaalakshmyai namaH**



**Unni Menon**

**SSVT Cordially invites You and Your Family:**  
**Virtual Annual Fundraising Gala**  
**Saturday, December 16, 2023, 5:30 pm**

**Enjoy fabulous music, performances, and support your temple:**

**SSVT Sai Mandir - from Concept to Reality**



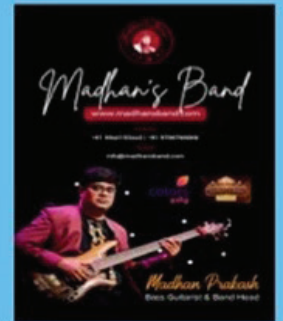
**Sai Vignesh**

**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 16)**  
**<https://www.youtube.com/c/SSVTstreaming>**



**Varsha Krishnan**

**Keynote Address by**  
**Arjun Pillai**  
**Cofounder and CEO, Docket Inc**



**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 [jaithm@gmail.com](mailto:jaithm@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).  
 The SSVT Sai Mandir 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; Srinu Tirumalasetti 443-540-4110; Rohini Homnappa 240-441-1266; Sujatha Badrinath 301-805-1943

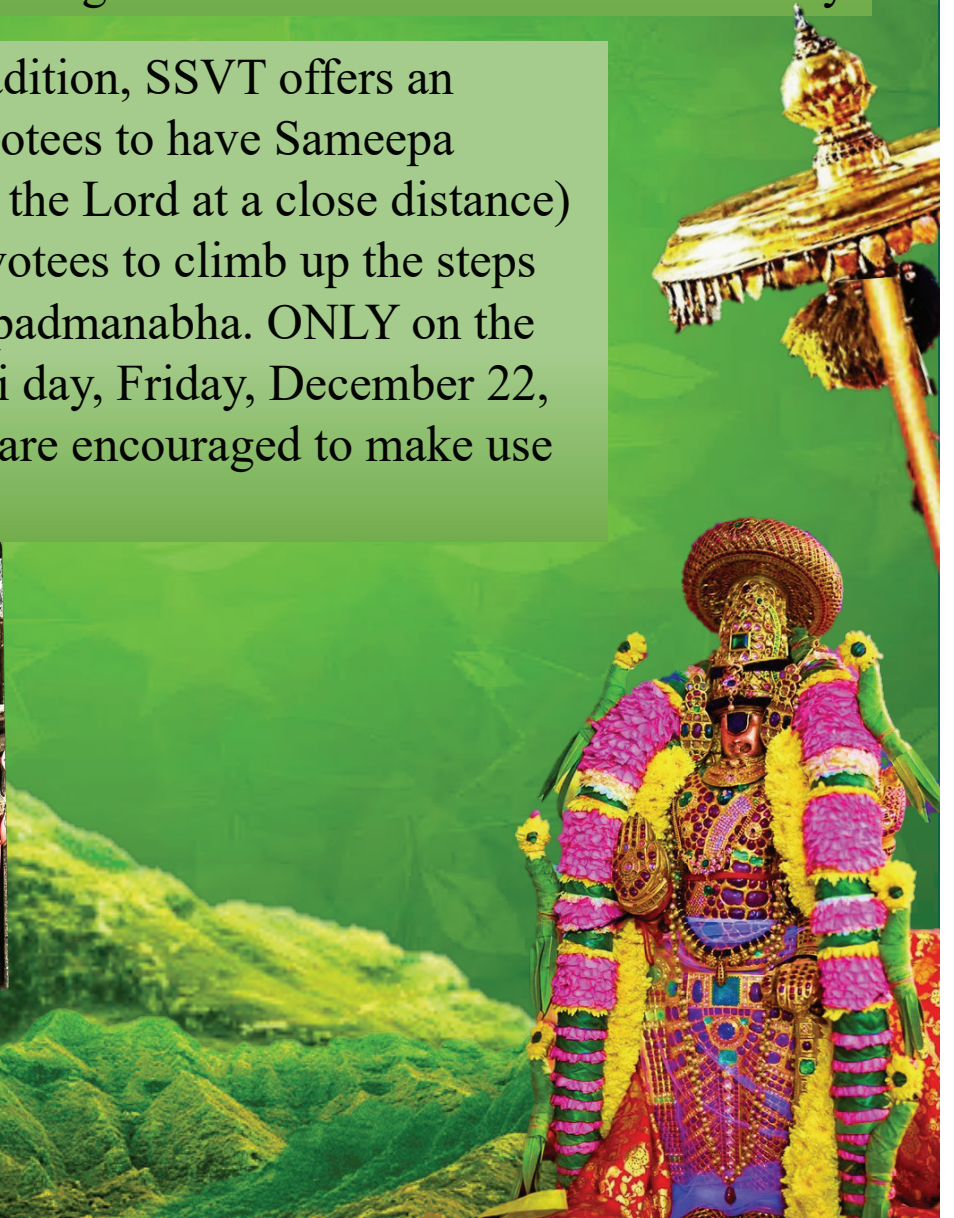
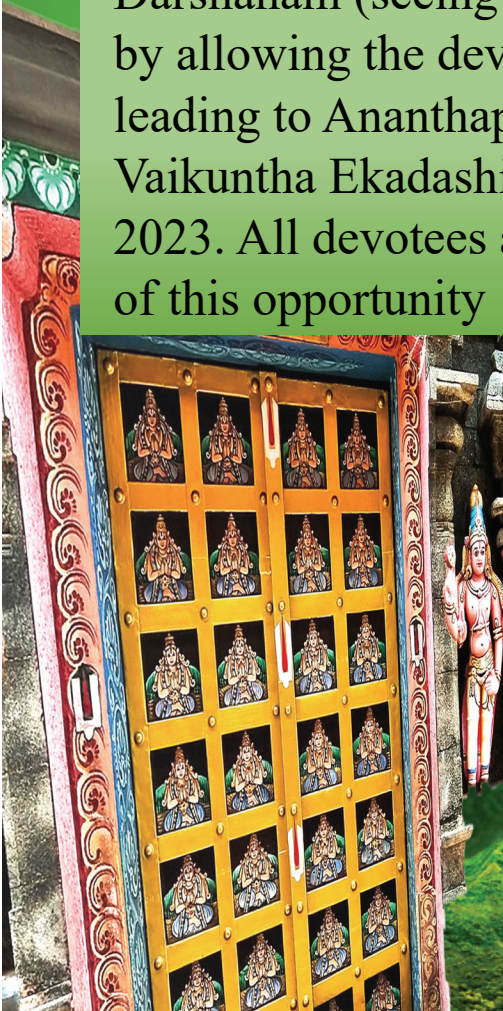


# Vaikuntha Ekadashi

Thursday December 21<sup>st</sup> to  
Friday December 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2023

Vaikuntha Ekadashi is the most important Ekadashi of the year. On this day, devotees walk through the Vaikuntha Dwaaram (a special gate to Vaikuntha) of Temples. This is a symbolic event, that signifies the belief that devotee can be closer to the Lord by observing special sadhanas such as fasting and remembering the Lord 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. **ONLY** on the Vaikuntha Ekadashi day, Friday, December 22, 2023. All devotees are encouraged to make use of this opportunity





# Program Details

**Thursday, December 21, 2023, 6:00 pm**

Anugnay, Vishwaksena Aradhana, Vasudeva  
Punyahavachanam, Raksha Bandanam, Mritsangrahanam,  
Ankurarpanam, Kalasa Sthapanam, Aradhana, Archana,  
Saatumurai Mahamangalahaarati, Teerthaprasada Viniyogam

**Friday, December 22, 2023, 4:00 am**

**Vaikuntha Ekadashi Day**

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,  
Sameepa Darshanam, Teerthaprasada Viniyogam  
**10:00 am** Prasadam Distribution

Continuous Sahasranama Parayanam until the temple closes

## Sponsorships

One Day Puja - \$91

Homam - \$31

Abhishekam - \$31

[Click here to Sponsor Puja](#)



# Vastram Sponsorships



All Vastrams for Vaikuntha Ekadashi \$108

Ananthapadmanabha	\$51
Venkateswara	\$51
Utsava Vishnu Set	\$51
Utsava Srinivasa Set	\$51
Krishna	\$41

Mahalakshmi	\$41
Narasimha	\$41
Prakara & Utsava Narasimha	\$35
Sudarshana Narasimha	\$41

[Click here to Sponsor Vastrams](#)



# Arudra Darshanam



**Wednesday, December 27,  
2023**

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

**Sponsorship: \$31**





# SRI SIVA VISHNU TEMPLE

6905 Cipriano Road, Lanham MD-20706  
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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 Dhaarayaamyaham  
 Chin Mudraam Khechari Mudraam Bhadra Mudraam Namaamyaham  
 Sabaryaachala Mudraayay Namasthubhyam Namoh 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

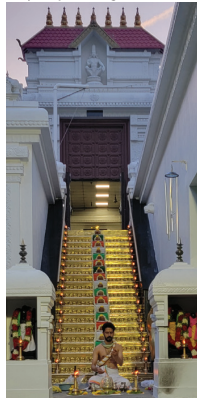
#### Irumudi Items

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.**



# 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:

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&  
SCIENCE**

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&  
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**GEOGRAPHY**

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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's Got Talent:** Envisioned, designed, and executed by the Dharma Class student TAs, the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual **SSVT's Got Talent** was held on Sunday, December 3<sup>rd</sup>. Intended to showcase student talent beyond shlokas and to foster community, the students displayed a diversity of talent that celebrated their creativity and skill. Highlights included Bharatanatyam and Kathak dances, a violin performance, painting, pottery, as well as reciting Pi to the the hundredth decimal, and solving a Rubik cube!

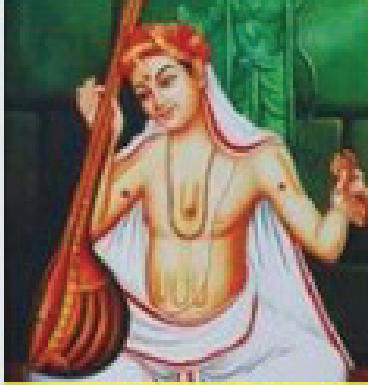


**SSVT Yoga Celebrates Diwali - November 28, 2023:** Under the guidance of Yoga Masters - Shrikant Sabins Ji, Atanasio Castro Ji and Pravin Dalsania Ji, the SSVT Yoga Community celebrated Diwali by practicing Yoga together at the temple. Held Tuesdays and Thursdays from 6:00 PM to 7:15 PM, all are welcome to join us - please email [education@ssvt.org](mailto:education@ssvt.org) for more info.



## UPCOMING CULTURAL EVENTS

Date & Time	Event / Artist	Venue & Admission Fee
February 3-4, 2024	41st Annual SSVT Thyagaraja Aaradhana	Auditorium/Free



# 41 ST SSVT TYAGARAJA AARADHANA



Admissions free. Donations are welcome

**Feb 3, 2024**

- Unchavrithi
- Pancharatna krithis rendition
- Individual Singing
- Mini concert
- Lecture - Demonstration
- Mini concerts
- Veena concert
- Quiz
- Main concert

**Feb 4, 2024**

- Teachers Programs
- Mini concerts
- Individual Singing
- Tala Vaadhya Concerts
- Dance performances
- Lecture - Demonstration
- Main concert

*Detailed program to follow. Registration for individual singing will open on January 1st. Email [ta.ssvt@gmail.com](mailto:ta.ssvt@gmail.com) for details on Pancharatnam practice.*

# India – a Knowledge Civilization - Dr. Raj Vedam

Dr. Raj Vedam's workshop on **India – a Knowledge Civilization** was successfully held on November 18<sup>th</sup>. Dr. Vedam went through incorrect narratives about Indian history found in Maryland school textbooks, including the Caste system, Aryan Invasion Theory, Indian Historical date and other topics. He discussed the correct information based on in-depth original analysis using evidence-based approaches to these topics.

Attendees felt that the workshop provided the information in a cohesive way, an enabled parents and children to correct the narrative commonly taught in our schools today. It was a hybrid event; recordings will be published on the SSVT YouTube channel soon.



## Scenes from Deepavali 2023 Celebrations

