



Sri Siva Vishnu Temple

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Newsletter Vol 33, No. 1

January 2024

Sri Siva Vishnu Temple wishes all devotees and volunteers a happy, healthy and prosperous New Year!

2024 New Year's Day Celebration

Monday, January 1, 2024

The temple will be open from 7:00 am to 9:00 pm. To minimize the waiting time for all devotees all archanas will be done in batches. Due to the heavy traffic expected that day devotees are encouraged to do the car puja the day before or the day after the New Year's day. Special archanas to all Utsava Deities will be performed every hour for a special sponsorship of \$51.

Devotees may also sponsor all the Abhishekams that day, Utsava Deity archana and archana to any two Ishta Devatas (Deities of their choice) for a sponsorship of \$151.

7:00 am Suprabhatam, Subrahmanya Abhisheka - Shashti

7:30 am Ananthapadmanabha and Ayyappa Abhisheka

8:00 am Siva Abhisheka

10:30 am - Onwards - Archanas for Moolava deities in batches

11:00 am - Onwards - Sarva Devata Archana for all Utsava Deities every hour until 8:00 pm (last Archana will start at 7:00 pm)

6:00 pm Vishnu Sahasranama Parayanam for Loka Kalyanam

Sponsorship: \$151 - All Day Puja including all Abhishekas, Archana to all Utsava Deities and two archanas to any two (moolava) deities; \$51 - Sarva Devata Archana (to all Utsava Deities); \$31 - Any one Abhisheka

Thiruppaavai & Thiruvempaavai

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

Thiruppaavai, 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.

Hanumat Jayanti Celebration

Wednesday, January 10, 2024

Hanumat Jayanti falls on Wednesday, January 10. As in the past, on the Hanumat Jayanti day there will be Sahasranama Archana and a special Vada Alankaram

9:30 am Anjaneya Moola Mantra Homa

6:00 pm Anjaneya Abhisheka, Special Vada Alanakara, Sahasranama, Astavadana seva, Hanuman Chaleesa chanting Satumurai, Mangalaarathi, Deeparadhana

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

Makara Sankranti / Thai Pongal

Sunday, January 14, 2024

9:30 am Ganesha Puja, Navagraha Homa

10:30 am Lord Suryanarayana and Navagraha Abhisheka, Aaditya Hridaya Stotra Parayanam, Archana, Deeparadhana

Sponsorship: \$51

Andal Kalyanam

Sunday, January 14, 2024



SSVT will continue the yearly "Margazhi" tradition of performing Andal Kalyanam on Sunday, January 14, 2024. Goddess Andal, after observing the Paavai Nombu (vows) during the Dhanur month, merged with Lord Ranganatha in Srirangam and their union is celebrated as Andal Kalyanam

8:00 am Suprabhatam

8:30 am Andal Abhisheka, Tiruppavai recitation, Archana, and Deeparadhana

3:00 pm Divine Kalyanam Utsavam of Goddess Andal with Lord Ranganatha

4:30 pm Annadaanam

Sponsorship: \$51

Makara Vilakku / Ayyappa Puja

Monday, January 15, 2024

8:00 am Irumudi Preparation and Climbing of the Holy Steps

10:00 am Makara Sankramabhisheka, Ayyappa Puja, Archana, Deeparadhana

6:00 pm Thiruvabharanam, Deeparadhana, Sahasranama Stotram, Seeveli with Thalapoli, Acharya Sambhavana, Bhasmabhishekam, Harivarasanam, Annadanam by Devotees

Sponsorship: \$91 - Irumudi and Ayyappa Puja; \$31 - Ayyappa Abhisheka

Thai Pooam

Thursday, January 25, 2024

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RELIGIOUS CALENDAR

January 2024

Mon 1		NEW YEAR'S DAY - SEE DETAILS
	7:00 AM	Subrahmanya Abhisheka - Shashti
Tue 2	10:00 AM	Ayyappa Puja - Uttara Phalguni
Fri 5	10:00 AM	Mahalakshmi Abhisheka
Sat 6		SPECIAL AYYAPPA PUJA / IRUMUDI ABHISHEKA
	9:30 AM	Sudarshana /Yoga Narasimha Homa - Swathi
	5:00 PM	Sudarshana /Yoga Narasimha Abhisheka - Swathi
	6:00 PM	Srinivasa Kalyanam
Sun 7		SPECIAL AYYAPPA PUJA / IRUMUDI ABHISHEKA
	10:00 AM	Utsava Subrahmanya Abhisheka - Vishakha
	6:00 PM	Ananthapadmanabha Abhisheka - Ekadashi
Mon 8	7:00 PM	Siva Abhisheka - Pradosham
Wed 10		HANUMAT JAYANTHI - SEE DETAILS
Fri 12	10:00 AM	Sarada Abhisheka
	10:00 AM	Utsava Srinivasa Abhisheka - Shrivana
Sat 13	6:00 PM	SPECIAL AYYAPPA PUJA / IRUMUDI ABHISHEKA
Sun 14		SPECIAL AYYAPPA PUJA / IRUMUDI ABHISHEKA
	3:00 PM	ANDAL KALYANAM - SEE DETAILS
	9:30 AM	Ganesha Homa - Chaturthi
	10:30 AM	Ganesha Abhisheka - Chaturthi
Mon 15		MAKARA VILAKKU - SEE DETAILS
Tue 16	10:00 AM	Subrahmanya Abhisheka - Shashti
	7:30 PM	Mallikapurathamma Puja
Wed 17	7:30 PM	Mallikapurathamma Puja
Thu 18	7:30 PM	Mallikapurathamma Puja
Fri 19	9:30 AM	Ayyappa Kalabha Puja
	10:00 AM	Parvathi Abhisheka
	10:00 AM	Utsava Subrahmanya Abhisheka - Kritika
	7:15 PM	Bhagavati Seva
Sat 20	6:30 PM	Guruthi Puja
Sun 21	10:00 AM	Sri Krishna Abhisheka - Rohini
	6:00 PM	Ananthapadmanabha Abhisheka - Ekadashi
Mon 22	7:00 PM	Siva Abhisheka - Pradosham
Thu 25		THAI POOSAM - SEE DETAILS
Fri 26	10:00 AM	Durga Abhisheka
	7:15 PM	Bhagavati Seva

January 2024

Sat 27		THAI POOSAM CELEBRATION - SEE DETAILS
Sun 28	9:30 AM	Navagraha Homa
	10:00 AM	Andal Abhisheka - Poorva Phalguni
	10:30 AM	Navagraha Abhisheka
Mon 29	9:30 AM	Ganesha Homa - Sankatahara Chaturthi
	7:00 PM	Ganesha Abhisheka - Sankatahara Chaturthi
Tue 30	10:00 AM	Ayyappa Puja - Uttara Phalguni
Wed 31	10:00 AM	Subrahmanya Abhisheka - Shashti

February 2024

Fri 2	9:30 AM	Sudarshana /Yoga Narasimha Homa - Swathi
	10:00 AM	Mahalakshmi Abhisheka
	10:30 AM	Sudarshana /Yoga Narasimha Abhisheka - Swathi
	7:15 PM	Bhagavati Seva
Sat 3	10:00 AM	Utsava Subrahmanya Abhisheka - Vishakha
	6:00 PM	Srinivasa Kalyanam
Tue 6	10:00 AM	Anjaneya Abhisheka - Mula
	6:30 PM	Ananthapadmanabha Abhisheka - Ekadashi
Wed 7	7:00 PM	Siva Abhisheka - Pradosham
Fri 9	10:00 AM	Utsava Srinivasa Abhisheka - Shrivana
	10:00 AM	Sarada Abhisheka
	7:15 PM	Bhagavati Seva
Mon 12	9:30 AM	Ganesha Homa - Chaturthi
	10:30 AM	Ganesha Abhisheka - Chaturthi
Tue 13	10:00 AM	Sarada Abhisheka - Vasant Panchami
	7:00 PM	Vidyarambham for Children

Rest of February in February Newsletter

WEEKLY ABHISHEKAS

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

DAILY ABHISHEKAS

Daily:	9:30 AM	Ayyappa, Ananthapadmanabha
	10:00 AM	Siva

Annual and Lifetime Puja Sponsorship

एकं सद्दिप्रा 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 or by phone at

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

2024 Board of Trustees

Executive Committee

Chairperson	Mahesh Kukata (410) 300-6379; chairperson@ssvt.org
Vice Chairperson - Operations	Padma Tipirneni (240) 604-5981; vc-ops@ssvt.org
Vice Chairperson - Human Resources & Policy	Krishnaswamy S.V. (412) 443-2151; vc-policy@ssvt.org
Treasurer	Thenappa Meyyappan (443) 756-4466; treasurer@ssvt.org
Secretary	Nalini Iyer (703) 620-6695; secretary@ssvt.org

Trustees

Bangalore Ravindra (410) 227-7576	Gunda Reddy (410) 652-1657
Haridas Nambiar (703) 999-3215	Jaishri Shankar (240) 994-2597
Krishna Reddy (443) 900-5542	Manju Shivacharan (240) 678-7752
Raghuram Tumkur (240) 476-5411	Raji Ramesh (630) 337-3814
Ramanathan Narayanan (301) 440-9258	Swaminatha Reddy (301) 236-5319
Umeshkumar Bangalore (240) 602-7537	Vijay Kumar (202) 997-0791

2024 Governance Board

Uma Potarazu, President - *Trustee Emeritus (TE)*

Ramaswamy Chandramouli - <i>TE</i>	Mahesh Kukata, <i>Chairperson-BOT</i>
Prabhakar Thyagarajan - <i>TE</i>	Raji Ramesh, <i>Trustee-BOT</i>
Vasu Murthy - <i>TE</i>	Gunda Reddy, <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 online or by calling (301) 552-3335.	

Chairperson's Corner

Namaste Devotees!

On behalf of the Board of Trustees (BOT), I wish you and your family a happy, healthy and prosperous New Year 2024! As we make a fresh start in the new year full of hope for what is to come and also reflect on the year we left behind. We had a very successful 2023 at SSVT. Thanks to the Murali Elambilan, retiring Chairperson, Jayaraman, Prabha Pippala & BT Nivas, retiring trustees, and the EC members.

In 2023, we made significant progress in moving forward on major capital projects, and completing pending projects – our focus was always on devotee satisfaction and all of our projects were aimed at devotee service. The much awaited granite flooring project is in the final stages of completion. We still have more to do, including completing the SSVT Sai Mandir construction and HVAC Replacement projects. The prakaram roof repairs and flooring upgrades will be the highest priority for the BOT in the New Year.

2024 marks the 40th year since the start of SSVT operation at the “Balalaya” (located on the left as soon as you turn into our driveway and temple grounds). This will be the site of our new SSVT Sai Mandir. From this humble beginning the temple has grown to the current architectural marvel by the vision of Founding Members / Trustees, sheer hard work and dedication of several thousands of volunteers and our staff members. I take this opportunity to applaud all our volunteers and staff including our founder trustees; without their initiative, our temple wouldn't be what it is today.

SSVT through its four pillars (Religious, Cultural, Education, Charity & Seva) serves the needs of its 25,000 plus congregation. While it serves the needs of religious services for some, it's a cultural center that promotes the rich and varied Indian culture an integral part of Hindu religion for others. For a few, SSVT provides an opportunity to orient their children and adults to enhance their spiritual learning. With the new Panchaloha “Pathinettam Padi” installed two years ago for the Holy Steps, for many of our Ayyappa devotees, SSVT is the “Sabarimala of the West” as most of the services provided at Sabarimala are replicated here.

Our focus is to make sure that SSVT is a temple for today and for the future generations. To achieve this goal, the BOT has planned to contribute 10% of gross receipts to the endowment and established an endowment committee under the leadership of Dr. Siva Subramanian, one of our Founder Trustees and a long-term volunteer. Please contribute generously to this cause so that SSVT will be self-sufficient in the future.

We have grand plans for this year with a grand Mahotsavam for Lord Anantha Padmanabha to be celebrated for the first time. Please pick up a copy of the 2024 Calendar during your next visit to the temple for all special events during the year.

As always, may the deities of Sri Siva Vishnu Temple bless you, and your family with good health and prosperity. Please feel free to contact me by email at chairperson@ssvt.org or by phone at (410) 300-6379 if I can be of any assistance or if you have any suggestions.

Respectfully,



Mahesh Kukata
2024 Chairperson, Board of Trustees
Sri Siva Vishnu Temple

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10:00 am Subrahmanya Abhisheka, group bhajans during alankaram

12:30 pm Archana, Deeparadhana, Prasadam distribution and Annadhanam

6:00 pm Subrahmanya Sahasranama Archana, Vishesha Aarati

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

Thai Poosam Celebration

Saturday, January 27, 2024

10:00 am Kavadi and Paal Kudam procession within the temple

Sponsorship: \$31

Vasanta Panchami

Tuesday, February 13, 2024

10:00 am Sri Sharada Abhisheka

7:00 pm Vidyarambham

Sponsorship: \$31

Ratha Saptami

Thursday, February 15, 2024

9:30 am Ganesha Puja, Navagraha Homa and Abhisheka, Aruna Parayanam (Surya Namaskaaram), Archana, Deeparadhana

Sponsorship: \$51

Madhva Navami

Saturday, February 17, 2024

10:00 am Purvanga Puja, Abhishekam to Sri Krishna, Anjaneya and Madhwacharya (in Shrine), Archana, Deeparadhana

Sponsorship: \$41

Sarpabali

Thursday, February 22, 2024

Sarpabali is the worship of 54 divine snakes (including Siva's Vasuki and Vishnu's Adishesha) to ward off the bad effects of Sarpadosha, to help mitigate and eradicate the problems of skin diseases, to help people in search of life partners find suitable spouses, for progeny (Putra Bhaagyam) and for the overall wellbeing of all. (Sarpa Dosha may be present due to harm done to snakes and other reptiles in the past births and due to other causes. Sarpa Dosha is recognized when all the other grahas in one's horoscope lie between Raahu and Kethu. Sarpa Dosha is often a reason for late marriages). Turmeric powder, rice, milk, coconuts, fruits and flowers are the ingredients generally brought by devotees for Sarpabali. For the ingredients to be included in the Puja, they must be given to the priest before the Puja starts. Sankalpam for the Puja (when devotees can mention to the priest the problems to be overcome or desires to be fulfilled) will begin at 6:30 pm. Sarpabali Puja will be performed in the Kerala Tantric style from 7:00 to 8:30 pm.

6:30 pm Sankalpam

7:00 pm Sarpabali Puja

Sponsorship: \$51

2023 Chairperson's Report

Murali Elambilan, Chairperson

Started as the Balalaya in 1984, our temple will be celebrating the 40th year of its consecration in 2024. Since then, SSVT stood as the beacon of hope and solace for several thousands of its devotees and has become an iconic name among Hindu devotees across the world. The temple has earned the trust and respect of devotees by providing them with the most authentic religious services in addition to cultural programs by acclaimed artists. Our educational and humanitarian activities by far are some of the best of any other Hindu temples in the area. All of this is possible because of our priests, staff, volunteers, and a strongly supportive congregation.

In 2023, apart from focusing on the devotee services, our focus was on transparency and accountability. We wanted to make sure that every penny we earned was accounted for and spent as authorized. Transparency often builds trust and makes sure that there is honest communication among all stakeholders.

2023 was a very productive and memorable year for our temple. With the support of our congregation, our priests, staff, and volunteers worked above and beyond to make sure that no devotee was left out. Here are some of the highlights of 2023.

Sri Guha Ghoshanam Mahotsavam: "Sri Guha Ghoshanam" celebrations celebrating Lord Muthukumaraswamy were conducted from Friday, August 4th through Sunday, August 13, 2023. Several religious, educational, and cultural events were conducted as part of the Mahotsavam. Pujas on all ten days were performed under the guidance of our Pradhana Saiva Acharya Sri (Dr.) Shanmukha Sivacharyar, Chief Priest, Kalikambal Temple, Chennai. He was supported by priests Sri. Chellappa Battar and Sri Ashwatthama from India along with our temple Acharyas.

The Mahotsavam included daily Skandha Yagnam, Subrahmanya Sahasranama Archana, and Laksharchana throughout all 10 days. Subrahmanya Bhujangam / Tiruppugaz / Kanda Sashti Kavacham was chanted every day by the devotees, and lectures by Sri Shanmukha Sivacharyar for youth and adults as well. Kumara Poojanam was celebrated on Saturday, August 5th with children under age of 14 worshiped as Lord Muruga/Iccha Sakthi and Kria Sakthi. On August 6th, devotees walked from Sri Murugan Temple carrying kavadi and palkudam. The Valli Kalyanam was celebrated on the concluding day of August 13th. Celebrations also included several cultural and educational programs. A beautiful commemorative souvenir was published by the organizers as part of this Mahotsavam. [Click Here to see photos of the Mahotsavam](#)

Capital Projects - Granite Flooring: This has been one of our dream projects for the many years and it came to fruition in 2023. This nearly 20,000 square ft flooring upgrade along the main/upper level of the temple cost half a million dollars. The contractor, led by Sri. Shishir Agarwal was successfully able to complete the project without disruption of the temple's daily activities. His wealth of experience in this type of work across many temples was evident throughout the entire bid-to-install process. I acknowledge the contribution from our Engineering Committee, and my fellow Trustees, Mahesh, Nivas, Krishnaswamy Mama, and Theo for overseeing this project. I will be failing if I don't mention the substantial donation from our Trustee Emeritus, Sri. Prakash Hosadurga and family. Thanks to all other donors who contributed to this project. Please continue your support as we extend the granite flooring to both stairwell as well in the new year.

Capital Projects - HVAC: This is another long-pending project to replace some of our ailing infrastructure. Unfortunately, due to supply chain issues from the COVID-19 pandemic, this contract was awarded in 2022 to ProTec Construction, but the new equipment only started arriving this past Fall. We anticipate the decommissioning of the old HVAC equipment and supporting infrastructure to begin this Spring, and the installation of the new equipment by Summer 2024. I think everyone will notice the

improved air quality and comfort throughout the inside of the temple with the installation of the new equipment.

Capital Projects - SSVT Sai Mandir: With Baba Ji's blessing, we finally received the Building Permit from Prince George's County to start the construction. The project is expected to take off in early 2024 and is expected to be complete by October 2024. This two-story, 2,100 sq. ft facility will house the Sai Mandir on the first level and a meditation hall on the second level. The estimated cost is about \$1.27 million, and we have awarded the build contract to Peak General Contracting.

Capital Projects - Children's Playground: After the immense positive feedback we received about the new children's playground for 5-12 year olds, the BOT decided to install a complimentary playground equipment for 2 to 5 year olds as well this year. Located in the front of our temple, under the green canopy of our mature trees, we hope many families enjoy this space when they visit the temple.

IT Experience Upgrades/Outsourcing: To better serve our devotees, we have outsourced our IT services to the vendor VAAP Technologies. This will bring several self-service kiosks, workstations, and a new enhanced website for the temple. We hope this new service experience will help you as you sponsor pujas and programs, sign up for personal puja services, and help you maintain your digital connection to our temple.

Endowment: While we focused a lot on improving the devotee services at the temple, we always have the future of the temple in our minds. The temple was founded by a few selfless volunteers with their sweat equity. It's the management's responsibility to make sure that the temple is maintained and preserved well for future generations. For this sole purpose, a special drive for strengthening the endowment fund was initiated by contributing 10% of our monthly gross revenue to the endowment fund. With multiple contributions, we aim to grow our endowment quickly in the coming years.

Resident Nadaswaram Artists: For the first time in our temple history, we have resident Nadaswaram and Taval artists' service available at the temple. The melam is an integral part of temple rituals, especially during the Utsavam. This Mangala vadyam is inseparably woven into our socio-cultural fabric so much so that no auspicious event is complete without melam.

Audit Committee / Internal Auditor: The BOT established a three-member audit committee headed by Smt. Jayashree Sekaran and appointed an Internal Auditor in consultation with the audit committee. These measures will help improve financial reporting, increase accountability, and enhance internal controls.

New Executive Committee and Trustees for 2024: The Board of Trustees elected a new Executive Committee (EC) led by Chairperson, Sri. Mahesh Kukata for 2024. Smt. Padma Tipirneni is the Vice Chairperson of Operations, Sri. Krishnaswamy Vice Chairperson of Human Resources and Policy, Sri. Thenappan (Theo) Meyyappan as Treasurer, and Smt. Nalini Iyer as Secretary. Additionally, with the retirement of four Trustees, including Sri. B.T. Nivas, Sri. Subramanyam Jayaraman, Smt. Prabha Pippalla, and myself, the BOT selected Sri. Raghuram Tumkur, Sri. Ramathan Narayanan, Selvi. Jaishri Shankar, and Sri. Krishna Reddy to the 2024 Board of Trustees - my heartfelt congratulations and best wishes to the BOT as they embark on another new year of service to others, community building, and leadership for our Sri Siva Vishnu Temple.

Acknowledgments: I am thankful to many for a successful 2023. Our temple is blessed with thousands of faithful devotees who offer their best to sustain and support the growth of this temple. We also have hundreds of selfless and committed volunteers who

always go above and beyond to support the temple's needs. Our Pradhana Acharyas and priests help us to provide the best and most authentic religious services for the devotees. I am grateful as well for the administrative staff members and cooks who are invaluable in keeping our temple and kitchen running every day. Lastly, I would like to express my immense gratitude to the tireless Executive Committee (EC), Board of Trustees (BOT) and the General Council (GC) members for their unflinching support and guidance throughout the year.

2023 Operations Report

Raji Ramesh, Vice Chairperson of Operations

This year has been a successful year in welcoming devotees to the temple through various religious, cultural, and educational programs! All the events were well attended and several projects were completed to accommodate devotees' comfort and safety.

All religious pujas and festivals including Vaikuntha Ekadashi, Sivarathri, Rama Navami, Ugadi, Vishu, Navarathri and the Mandalam were celebrated with fervor and divinity throughout the year. Devotees actively participated in monthly religious programs, like Ekadashi pradoshams, with annadanam as part of some of these auspicious days.

Several religious leaders, including Sri Sri Ravi Shankarji, leaders from BAPS visited our temple on numerous occasions, as well as JK Yog's Mukundananda Swami.

Sri Guha Ghoshanam Mahotsavam for Lord Muthukumaraswamy led by our Pradhana Acharya was celebrated for 10 days, bringing together devotees of all ages in various programs. The sankalpam to complete 10 crores chanting of Om Kumaraya Namaha was completed with enthusiastic participation from across the country.

The Cultural Committee had a very active year - hosting multiple international artists in our temple for Carnatic concerts, Kathakali, bhajans, Namasankeerthanam, almost every weekend. The temple encouraged and welcomed local talents to present dance and music through several Aradhana days. Our resident Nadaswaram and Taval artists, apart from performing daily for religious pujas, also held a few stand alone concerts for special occasions. Prominent musicians were featured during the Sri Guha Ghoshanam Mahotsavam including Vid. Raji Gopalakrishnan, and Padma Shri Vid. A Kanyakumari.

The Education Committee held several programs including SSVT Got Talent - talent show, a program celebrating Holi, and held the Sunday Family Dharma Class and weekly Yoga sessions. A major accomplishment of the committee was opening up our library - all books were cataloged, and a check-out/check-in system was established for devotees to reserve any book in our library. Several devotees have taken advantage of this unique service, and we hope devotee participation and membership in our library continues to increase in the years to come.

The Prasadam Kitchen served many devotees, and was open seven days a week. Recently, we have on-boarded part-time employees to meet the needs of our devotees during the weekends. Various new food items were introduced which were well received by the congregation. The cooks' culinary skills were experienced by all during Food Bazaars, Vishu, Onam Sadhya, and Annadanam during the Mahotsavam. Special prasadams were prepared daily for naivedhyam and distributed to devotees.

The Public Relations (PR) Committee assisted with recruiting volunteers for the front desk during the week and weekends, as well as for major events. They trained volunteers to use the front desk systems and keeping up with all upcoming programs. They were proactive with creating a welcoming space for all devotees visiting the temple.

Temple tours for school and colleges, other religious denominations and training chaplains by a group of volunteers were conducted regularly.

Senior Citizens Committee conducted monthly meetings and special programs representing their interests.

The Garden Committee spent countless hours over the last two years restoring our temple landscape and gardens. This year, we restored the fence along the front parking lot, and the team maintained the newly installed playgrounds, and flower beds. The team also planted a few fruit trees in the vegetable garden area located near the gravel parking lot.

Several maintenance projects were completed, including repainting the interior walls, restoring the education room, Homa Kunda room after rain water damage, cleaning the air ducts, as well as installing new flooring tile throughout the basement hallways. The priest/staff housing was addressed as well - including appliance upgrades, routine HVAC maintenance, roof replacement, gutter cleaning, air duct cleaning, etc - all with the aim to refresh the living quarters for our priests, staff and their families.

I would like to thank the congregation, the General Council members, my fellow Trustees, the volunteers, Priests, and staff for their unwavering support and encouragement over the last two years. It has been a privilege to serve as the Vice Chairperson of Operations, and to work with so many talented individuals for the betterment of our temple. I sincerely appreciate the Operations Committee members including the Devotee Committee Coordinators for their efforts and support in service to our temple. I wish everyone a Happy New Year!

2023 Human Resources & Policy Report

Padma Tipirneni, Vice Chairperson of Human Resources & Policy

As part of a revision to the Temple Bylaws (that was ratified by the General Council in 2021), the role of the Vice Chairperson of Policy was revised to include Human Resources (HR) and Policy. The reason behind this change was to accommodate the growing needs of employee related issues and streamline the process and procedures to address them delicately while maintaining high employee morale.

From a HR and Policy perspective, the last two years (2022-2023) have been very fruitful. Both HR related and Policy related topics were addressed. Any changes were discussed and deliberated among the BOT and staff at length, and consensus was made for these revisions. All staff members transitioned to Kaiser Permanente (KP) health insurance - which benefited the temple financially and the staff with increased coverage benefits. During Open Enrollment this year, the staff unanimously agreed to continue with KP. Overall, it has been a very positive experience working with our esteemed staff, and I would like to thank them for their insights and flexibility as these changes were made. I look forward to continue to working with the staff from an Operations perspective as the incoming Vice Chairperson of Operations.

Regarding the hiring of priests, the BOT approved a replacement for a Tamil Saiva Vaideeka priests and Telugu Vaishnava Priest. The Priest Selection Committee (PSC) was established to look for qualified individuals to fill these two priest vacancies. The PSC went through multiple interviews, and selected Priest Sattyannarayana Ghanapatigal to fill the Tamil Saiva Vaideeka priest position - he is currently awaiting his R1 Visa to go through in Chennai. The PSC was successfully able to recruit a Telugu Vaishnava Priest locally - he has since joined our temple. Additionally, the BOT approved the on-boarding of two Shilpis, as we look ahead towards our next Jeernodhara Kumbhabhishekam in 2027. We welcomed two Shilpis, at the recommendation of our

temple Stapathi, in October 2023.

Another successful HR accomplishment was the processing of P3 visas for our resident Nadaswaram Artists and subsequent extension of their P3 visa until October 2024. They have added a significant vibrancy to our temple, especially during the Sri Guha Ghoshanam Mahotsavam, and annual festivals. We look forward to their performance during the upcoming Mahotsavam for Sri Ananthapadmanabha in 2024.

In late December we signed a contract with Viji Krishnan making her a procurement manager, moving from a hourly contract worker to permanent employee status.

Other Policy accomplishments include limiting the number of Trustee Emeritus (TE) and amount of time TEs can serve in Operation Committees. Per our current Operations Manual, no devotee Committee shall contain more than 1/3 of its members as ex-Trustees (TE). However, some committees do not follow this guideline. To rectify this situation, and allow new members serve on various devotee committees and empower coordinators make some decisions on their own, a slight modification to the current rules was presented and approved by the BOT. These changes are documented below and will be reflected in the Operations Manual:

- All Devotee Committees shall contain no more than 2 ex-Trustees (TE) as its members.
- An ex-Trustee cannot be a member of more than one committee.
- Further, the term of ex-Trustees should be limited to three years allowing more ex-Trustees to participate in the committee activities.
- Ex-Trustees can join any committee as long as the above guidelines are met.
- There is no limitation on ex-Trustees from volunteering in any temple activity.

I thank the Board of Trustees, our temple volunteers and our priests and staff for their continued support to help our temple serve all devotees. I look forward to what is to come in the coming year for our temple.

2023 Treasurer's Report

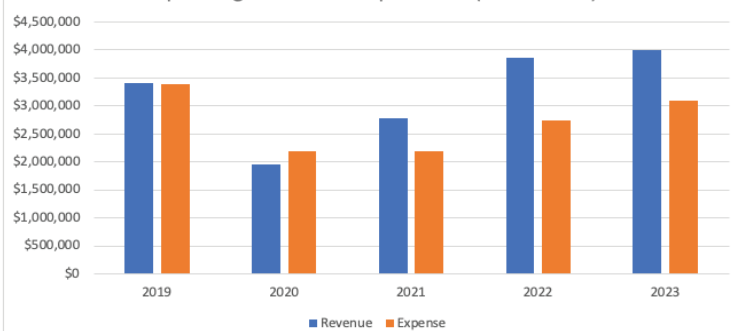
Bangalore Ravindra, Treasurer

Thanks to our devotees, the temple finances are in reasonably good state. Donations and request for religious services have continued at a steady pace. While we have continued to manage our expenses, we have continued to invest in our infrastructure with a focus towards increased devotee services and an enhanced devotee experience. I'm also happy to report the temple is completely debt-free; all congregation loans have been paid/reached maturity.

Revenue vs Expenditure:

Revenues have continued to increase steadily - it is up by 8% compared to 2022. Donations and religious services revenue remain comparable to 2022 and prasadam donation increased by 26%. While expenses continued to be strictly monitored, it did go up by about 14% compared to 2022.

Operating Revenue vs Expenditure (2019 - 2023)

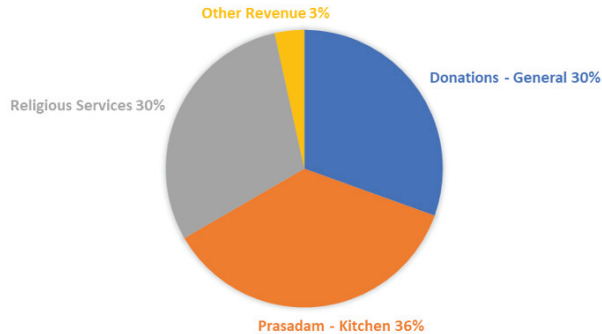


Temple Year End Report - 2023

Revenue Source:

Historically, our revenue sources are split across three categories - 1/3rd from Religious Services, 1/3rd from Donations, and 1/3rd from Prasadam (Kitchen) sales. The COVID-19 pandemic heavily skewed this breakdown from 2020 through 2022 towards donations as the main source of revenue. But this year, we nearly returned to the historical breakdown:

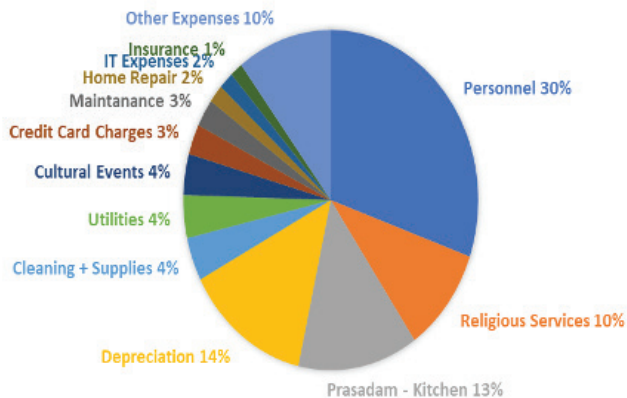
SOURCE OF FUNDS BY CATEGORY - DEC 2022 THRU NOV 2023



Use of Funds:

The main expense for the temple goes towards personnel expenses at 30%. Followed by prasadam-kitchen expenses and religious services expenses at 13% and 10% respectively. All other uses are predominantly towards temple operations - including maintenance, repairs, and cultural/education programs.

USES OF FUNDS BY CATEGORY - DEC 2022 THRU NOV 2023



Endowment:

During the current fiscal year, the BOT approved a monthly contribution of 10% of the gross operating revenue to our endowment, compared to a 5% monthly contribution during our last fiscal year. As with previous years, we have continued to contribute Lifetime Puja Sponsorships to the endowment. Thus far, during this calendar year, the total contributions we have made to the endowment are upwards of \$427k. As of November month-end, the endowment balance is upwards of \$4.2M. It is our goal to grow our endowment as aggressive as possible - we have set the goal to have an endowment of \$30M by year 2030. Our Vision 2030 also includes gross revenue at \$15M and net revenue at \$5M.

Capital Projects:

The following projects were completed during this calendar year:

- Granite Flooring - Phase 1 - August 2023 - \$488k
- Children's Playground Addition - October 2023 - \$24k

The following projects are in different stages of planning and implementation. The BOT is committee to taking this projects to completion to meet the expectations from our devotees and congregation:

- HVAC Replacement (~\$1.65M) - waiting on equipment delivery. Anticipated completion by Summer 2024

- SSVT Sai Mandir (~\$1.27M) - finalized contract/work schedule is in-progress. Anticipated completion by Fall 2024
- Lot Line Adjustments (~\$200k) - projected FY25.

I sincerely thank the devotees for the pleasure to serve you as the Treasurer for our temple for the last two years. The temple has endured significant growth in many areas, and I'm proud of the support we received from the community as we moved past the financial decline the COVID-19 pandemic brought on many worthy non-profit organizations like our temple. Thank you!

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

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



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	All Puja for Season & Monthly Puja	\$ 501.00
11/16/2023 – 01/20/2024	All Puja for Entire Season	\$ 351.00
See Schedule	All Special Ayyappa Puja	\$ 251.00
11/17/2023	MANDALOTHSAVA AARAMBHAM	\$ 61.00
11/17/2023	PADI PUJA	\$ 31.00
11/26/2023	Pushpabhishekam	\$ 31.00
12/27/2023	MANDALA PUJA	\$ 61.00
01/15/2024	MAKARA SANKRANTHI	\$ 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	\$
TOTAL Sponsorship (Check/Cash Enclosed):		\$

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 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
I. MUNMUDI (FRONT)		
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
II. PINMUDI (BACK)		
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
April	Saturday, 4/13/2024	Sunday, 4/14/2024
May	Saturday, 5/18/2024	Sunday, 5/19/2024
June	Saturday, 6/15/2024	Sunday, 6/16/2024
July	Saturday, 7/20/2024	Sunday, 7/21/2024
Agust	Saturday, 8/17/2024	Sunday, 8/18/2024
September	Saturday, 9/21/2024	Sunday, 9/22/2024
October	Saturday, 10/19/2024	Sunday, 10/20/2024

Devotees can prepare Irumudi at the temple. Please email 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 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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UPANISHADS

**ARTS
&
SCIENCE**

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PEOPLE

**CHILDREN'S
COLLECTION**

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



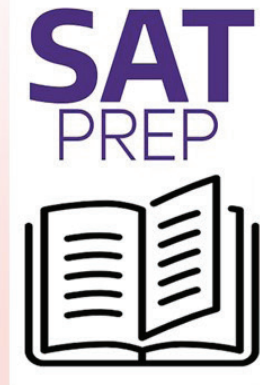
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OBITUARY

Celebrating Life of Manda Kulkarni (1926-2023)



On the morning of Tuesday, December 12, Mrs. Manda Kulkarni, affectionately known as “Aai” to many in the DC area, passed away peacefully at her home in Beltsville, MD, surrounded by her loving family. Born in Hidkal, India in 1926, Aai was one of eight siblings. She married Dr. Ramachandra Kulkarni, a scientist fondly referred to as “Mama”, and together they had four children: Chhaya, Vijay, Ravi, and Raj.

During Mama’s pursuit of his PhD in the USA, Aai single-handedly managed the household back in India. In 1961, she emigrated to the USA, a time when few Indians had made the journey, and she made this country her home. Aai instilled Indian values and traditions in her children and worked tirelessly throughout her life, her love serving as the glue that held her family, her extended family and the Indian community in the greater Washington DC area together.

Aai was renowned for her culinary skills, particularly her chutney and pickles, and her green thumb, having donated hundreds of Tulsi plants to SSVT. She was a founding member of the Kaveri Kannada Sangha in 1972 and had friends across various Indian communities, thanks to her fluency in Kannada, Marathi, Hindi, and English. A devout follower of Raghavendra Swami, she never missed a day of chanting the Rayara Stotra and Venkatesh Stotra. She actively participated in Chinmaya Mission programs and was awarded a Diamond award in Geeta chanting in 2011.

Aai’s strength, independence, adaptability, and rigorous routine served as an inspiration to all. She embraced technology at the age of 80, becoming proficient and maintaining an active presence on social media platforms such as Facebook and WhatsApp. Her flawless emails and texts reached countless individuals, touching their lives in profound ways. As we move forward, we will cherish her memories and the impact she had on our lives. Her legacy will continue to inspire us in the years to come.

UPCOMING CULTURAL EVENTS

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



41 ST SSVT THYAGARAJA ARADHANA



Admissions free. Donations are welcome

Feb 3, 2024

- Unchavrithi
- Pancharatna krithis rendition
- Individual Singing
- Mini concerts
- Lecture - Demonstration
- 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 for details on Pancharatnam practice.