



Shiva-Vishnu Temple

Om Namah Shivaya Om Namo Narayanaya

Hindu Community and Cultural Center

1232 Arrowhead Ave, Livermore, CA 94551

A Non-Profit Organization since 1977
Tax ID# 94-2427126; Inc# D0821589
Tel: 925-449-6255; Fax: 925-455-0404
Web: <http://www.livermoretemple.org>

DHANUR MASA PUJA

Thursday, December 15, 2016
to Friday, January 13, 2017

Andal Kalyanam

Saturday, January 14, 2017



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The life of **Andal** is remarkable in its romantic simplicity. There was a devout Brahmin named **Vishnuchitta** in **Villiputtur**, a town near **Madurai**. His daily duties included procuring flowers for the worship of **Lord Ranganatha** at the local temple. One morning, he discovered a baby girl lying under a **Tulasi** plant in his flower garden. Having no family of his own, Vishnuchitta felt it was God's grace that gave him this child.

The child was named **Godhai** (meaning, a beautiful garland, in Tamil) and she was raised by Vishnuchitta. She is also known as **Andal, Goda Devi or Bhoo Devi** who grew up in an atmosphere of love and devotion.

Vishnuchitta always sang songs to her about his beloved Lord Ranganatha, teaching her all the stories and philosophy he knew, and sharing with her his love of Tamil poetry. Even as a child, Andal made up her mind to marry none but the Lord Ranganatha.

Unknown to her father, she adorned herself daily with the flower garland he prepared for the Lord at the temple, admiring her reflection and thinking of herself as the Lord's ideal bride. When Vishnuchitta noticed it, he was shocked and saddened by this desecration. That night, the Lord appeared to Vishnuchitta in his dream and told him that He missed the scent of Goda's body in the flowers, and that He preferred them only that way.

Andal imagines herself to be a **Gopi** or cowherd girl during the incarnation of Lord Krishna. She yearns to serve Him and achieve happiness not just in this birth, but for all eternity, and describes the religious vows (pavai) that she and her fellow cowherd girls will observe for this purpose. Andal observed the **Pavai Nonbu, (Vrat)** early in the mornings in the month of **Margazhi** (December - January). It is believed that if girls observe the 'nonbu' or 'vrat', the Lord will bless them with good husbands. Andal wrote and sang 30 verses in praise of Lord Ranganatha and these verses called **Thiruppavai** and will be sung in the **Shiva-Vishnu Temple** during Dhanurmasa.



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Kudurai vellum day observed on January 10, 2017, represents 27th paasuram in Tiruppavai. Govinda naama sankeerthanam starts in this paasuram. In this paasuram, the Gopis request the boon of Saayujyam that is a boon beyond Saalokyam, Saameepyam and Saaropyam.

Event Schedule

Goddess Andal Abhishekam	10:00 AM – Thursday, December 15, 2016 – Friday, January 13, 2017 7:30 AM – Sunday, January 01, 2017
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Goddess Andal Kalyanotsavam - Saturday, January 14, 2017

	3.00 PM	Edurkolu Utsavam
	3.30 PM	Unjal Seva
	4.00 PM	Kalyanotsavam
	5.30 PM	Theertha Prasadam followed by Thiru Kalyana Bhojanam

Sponsorship Information

Abhishekam only on One Day of choice during Dhanur Masa.	\$ 51
Goddess Andal Thiru Kalyana Utsavam on Saturday, January 14, 2017	\$ 51
Flowers sponsorship during Dhanur Masa puja	\$ 251
Dhanur Masa Thiru Kalyana Bhojanam	\$ 251
Abhishekam on one day during Dhanur Masa, Goddess Andal Thiru Kalyana Utsavam and Abhishekam to Andal once a Month for One Year	\$ 301
Abhishekam every day during Dhanur Masa, , Goddess Andal Thiru Kalyana Utsavam and Monthly Abhishekam for Goddess Andal for one year	\$ 501
Grand Sponsor - Abhishekam every day during Dhanur Masa, Goddess Andal Thiru Kalyana Utsavam, and Weekly Abhishekam for Goddess Andal for one year	\$ 1116

Dhanurmasa Vastra Sponsorship (Vasthra Samarpana) Details

Shiva Vishnu Temple will be providing traditional Kanchivaram Pure Silk Sarees for a suggested donation of \$201 for devotees to offer to Goddess Andal during Abhishekams, during Dhanurmasam. Devotees will be able to select the vastrams (Kanchivaram Pure Silk Sarees) at Front office and indicate preferred date for adorning the vastram on the deity.

Devotees can take the saree back either on Thiru Kalyana Utsavam Day (Saturday, January 14, 2017), or any mutually convenient day. Please sponsor for Vastra Samarpana as early as possible as there is limit of 10 sarees to be adorned on the deity per day.



For further details on the event, please contact event coordinators:

[Lalitha Krishnan \(510\) 301-9212](mailto:Lalitha_Krishnan@livermoretemple.org), [Padma Arumilli \(510\) 461-0904](mailto:Padma_Arumilli@livermoretemple.org), [Shashikala Potharaju \(925\) 290-7405](mailto:Shashikala_Potharaju@livermoretemple.org)

or Temple Front Office at 925-449-6255 select Option 3



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