



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

Tuesday, December 15, 2020 to
Wednesday, January 13, 2021

Andal Kalyanam

Saturday, January 16, 2021



Goddess Andal

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LIVE streaming

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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. Kudarai vellum day observed on January 10, 2021, 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 Saaroopyam.



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Event Schedule

Goddess Andal Abhishekam

Tuesday, December 15, 2020 – Wednesday, January 13, 2021
8:00 AM (Moola Moorthy) – NO Live Stream
5:00 PM (Ustava Moorthy) – Live Stream

Goddess Andal Kalyanotsavam - Saturday, January 16, 2021

11.00 AM	Edurkolu Utsavam
11.30 AM	Unjal Seva
12.00 PM	Kalyanotsavam
1.30 PM	Veda Aseervachanam

Sponsorship Information

Abhishekam only on One Day of choice during Dhanur Masa.	\$ 51
Goddess Andal Thiru Kalyana Utsavam on Saturday, January 16 th , 2021	\$ 51
Flowers sponsorship during Dhanur Masa puja	\$ 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 \$221 for devotees to offer to Goddess Andal during Abhishekams, during Dhanurmasam. Due to COVID 19 restrictions, this year devotees will not be able to select Vastrama

Devotees can take the saree back after Thiru Kalyana Utsavam Day (Saturday, January 16th, 2021), or any mutually convenient day.



For further details on the event, please contact event coordinators
or Temple Front Office at 925-449-6255



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