

Navarathiri Festival at Sri Thendayuthapani Temple between Sunday, 15.10.2023 to Tuesday 24.10.2023

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Navarathiri and Vijayadasami are the festivals celebrated over a period of ten days. The first nine days constitute the Navarathiri festival. Navarathiri itself means nine nights (Nava means nine and rathiri means night). The "Dassera" or "Vijayadasami" is the last and tenth day festival.

In Sri Thendayuthapani Temple, the festival is celebrated with Lord Thendayuthapani (also called Murugan) as the main Hero. On the tenth day, Vijayadasami is celebrated by placing the God in a Silver Horse and going on a city procession. Before beginning the procession the chief priest sends arrows to all six directions around a banana tree from his bow, which symbolizes killing of the demon (Devil) by God.

Important Event Details / Timings

Event Details	Time
Temple Opening hours - Morning	5.30 AM
Main Sanctum Opening hours - Morning	7.00 AM - 12.00 Noon
Temple Opening hours - Evening	4.30 PM
Main Sanctum Opening hours - Evening	5.30 PM -10.00 PM
Alangara Mandapam Opening (first 9 days)	6.30 PM
Alangara Mandapam Opening (on 10 th day)	4.00 PM
Special Pooja & Swamy Ambu Poduthal (on 10 th day)	5.30 PM

During the first nine days concerts are organized in which Indian classical music (Carnatic, Tamil, Hindustani, etc.), dance and religious songs are played on the stage in front of the Alangara Mandapam. Everyday function and the cultural program details are briefly given below. Entry is free for all and Prasadam is distributed before the commencement of cultural program.

The side music (*thunai isai*) for all days will be played by

Vidhwan Mr. R. Srinath - Violin
Vidhwan Mr. Chidarth Aravindhan – Mridangam

Day 1 - Rajangam on 15.10.2023, Tuesday

Raja means king and angam means parts. So Rajangam means king and his government. This scene depicts the Lord Murugan who wore a saint look to be seen as a King holding scepter in his hand. He safeguards the humankind with the six parts of his government viz Army, Citizen, Finance, Ministry, Friendship and Defence.

Time	Performance	Artist
7.00 PM to 7.40 PM	Mangala Isai (Nathaswaram,Thavil)	Mr. K. Kannan, Mr. P. Natarajan (Sri Layan Sithi Vinayagar Temple) Mr. R. Kannan, Mr. K. Senthilkumar (Sri Thendayuthapani Temple)
7.40 PM to 8.15 PM	Thevaram	Thirumurai Kalanithi S.Vaidyanatha Desikar (Sri Thendayuthapani Temple)

8.15 PM to 8.20 PM	Alangara Vilakkam	Mr.Alagusundaram
8.20 PM to 9.00 PM	Vocal	SriVidya Krishna Priyadarshani Sai Sisters
9.00 PM to 9.45 PM	Dance	Mrs.Chitra Shankar Students (Chitrakala Arts Students)

Day 2 - VennaiThazhi on 16.10.2023, Monday

This scene portrays the Lord as a person who steals butter and cheese from the house of a shepherd. Cheese (white color) symbolizes our clean, pure heart, which the God likes from us.

Time	Performance	Artist
7.00 PM to 7.30 PM	Vocal	Mrs.Darshini Yoganathan
7.30 PM to 8.10 PM	Vocal	Beej Academy Students
8.10 PM to 8.15 PM	Alangara Vilakkam	Mrs.Meiyamai Periyannan
8.15 PM to 8.45 PM	Vocal	Mrs.Latha Ganapathi & Mrs.Yoganalini
8.45 PM to 9.30 PM	Dance	Mrs.Vasantha Kasinath Kala Nilayam Students

Day 3 - Markandeyar on 17.10.2023, Tuesday

This scene depicts Lord Murugan as Lord Siva, who kicks Yama (God of Death) to safeguard Markandeyar. This represents a story in which fate can be won by mind and devotion. The story is: Yama came in front of Markandeyar, when the later was performing Siva pooja (prayer). Seeing Yama, Markandeyar hugs the Siva Statue Lord Siva appeared in front of him and saved him. (The name of the holy place where this incident is stated to have happened is Thirukkadaiyur in Tamilnadu, India). It is believed that people who go to Thirukkadaiyur and worship Lord Siva get his blessings for longevity.

Time	Performance	Artist
7.00 PM to 7.35 PM	Vocal	Sangeetha Isai Kalaimani Mr.Vigneswaren Shanmuganathan
7.35 PM to 8.05 PM	Vocal	Selvi Meenakshi Ramanathan
8.05 PM to 8.10 PM	Alangara Vilakkam	Mr.Kanna Kannappan
8.10 PM to 8.50 PM	Vocal	Temple of Fine Arts Students
8.50 PM to 9.35 PM	Dance	Temple of Fine Arts Students

Day 4 - Venuganam on 18.10.2023, Wednesday

Lord Murugan is seen as Kannan who plays the flute. The flute is a musical instrument made up of thin bamboo stick. All living creatures (Men, women, cows, goats, birds and trees) are fascinated by the music played by Lord Murugan.

Time	Performance	Artist
7.00 PM to 7.30 PM	Veenai, Violin, Flute	Mr.Rajendran
7.30 PM to 8.05 PM	Vocal	Sapthaswara Fine Arts Students
8.05 PM to 8.10 PM	Alangara Vilakkam	Mrs.Meena Palaniappan
8.10 PM to 8.40 PM	Vocal	Master Nikil Karthikeyan & Master Mitul Karthikeyan
8.40 PM to 9.20 PM	Dance	Darshan Fine Arts Students

Day 5 - Kannappa Nayanar on 19.10.2023, Thursday

A true devotee of Lord Siva, Thinnappan, a hunter of the forest near Sri Kalahasti, prayed to him by preparing pork, tasted it and offered to God (Siva Lingam). On the sixth day he saw the God bleeding and he removed his eyeballs and pasted on the Siva Lingam (God Statue). Hence Thinnappan was given the name Kannappan (Kann in tamil means an eye) by Lord Siva. This illustrates the man's devotion to God. Here Lord Murugan represents Lord Siva (Murugan's Father)

Time	Performance	Artist
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7.00 PM to 7.35 PM	Vocal	Mrs. Gayathiri Sakthivel
7.35 PM to 8.05 PM	Vocal	Selvi Vinaya Senthilkumar & Selvi Sandhya Prasanna
8.05 PM to 8.10 PM	Alangara Vilakkam	Mr.M.Alagappan
8.10 PM to 8.50 PM	Vocal	Selvi Gayathri SankaraNarayanan
8.50 PM to 9.30 PM	Dance	Seetharam Arts Academy

Day 6 - Oonjal on 20.10.2023, Friday

Lord Murugan appears as Mother Goddess who swings in the heard of true devotees. This scene reflects Human beings who roam in between happiness and sorrow and obtain peace through prayer.

Time	Performance	Artist
7.00 PM to 7.35 PM	Violin	Selvi Sriranjani
7.35 PM to 8.10 PM	Thirumurai Isai	Singai Thirumurai Students
8.10 PM to 8.15 PM	Alangara Vilakkam	Mr.Saba Muthu Nadarajan
8.15 PM to 8.50 PM	Vocal	Mrs. Thenammai Palaniappan
8.50 PM to 9.30 PM	Dance	Swarna Kala Mandir Students

Day 7 - Pittuku Mann Sumandhal on 21.10.2023, Saturday

When the Vaigai river in Madurai was flooding the king ordered everyone to volunteer to bring sand (mann) to build a river bank to control the flood. Lord Siva became a coolie (manual worker) for an old woman called Vandhi who sells Pittu (sweet rice flour). Lord Siva got pittu as wage from the old woman for carrying out the orders from the king on behalf of the old woman. But, he slept after eating. The king saw him sleeping and gave him a canning punishment. Lord Siva gave a holistic appearance to the king. Here Lord Murugan represents Lord Siva.

Time	Performance	Artist
7.00 PM to 7.40 PM	Thevaram Isai	Sri Layan Sithi Vinayagar Students
7.40 PM to 8.15 PM	Vocal	Sathyalayam Music School Students
8.15 PM to 8.20 PM	Alangara Vilakkam	Mr.L.Sakthikumar
8.20 PM to 9.00 PM	Dance	Selvi Nivetha Subramanian
9.00 PM to 9.40 PM	Dance	Kalpavriksha Fine Arts (Meera Students)

Day 8 - Kalinga Narthanam on 22.10.2023, Sunday

This scene illustrates Lord Kannan, who killed a devil kalinga, which was a five-headed snake on the Yamuna River and danced on it. Here Lord Murugan represents Lord Kannan.

Time	Performance	Artist
7.00 PM to 7.30 PM	Veenai	Mrs.Manjula Surenthar
7.30 PM to 8.05 PM	Thevaram Isai	Sri Thendayuthapani Temple Students
8.05 PM to 8.10 PM	Alangara Vilakkam	Mr.VR.Palaniappan
8.10 PM to 8.45 PM	Flute	Mr.Ganesh Jeyaram
8.45 PM to 9.20 PM	Dance	Apsaras Arts Academy Students

Day 9 - Saraswathi Poojai on 23.10.2023, Monday

The scene depicts the Goddess of knowledge, Saraswathi who performs a prayer to Lord Siva.

Time	Performance	Artist
7.00 PM to 7.30 PM	Instrumental Music (Veenai)	Selvi Uma Gowri Ramanathan
7.30 PM to 8.00 PM	Vocal	Mrs. KV Gotha & Subaragam Music School Students

8.00 PM to 8.05 PM	Alangara Vilakkam	Mr.Subbu Adaikalavan
8.05 PM to 8.35 PM	Vocal	Kalamanjari Students
8.35 PM to 9.05 PM	Dance	Mandala Arts Students

Day 10 - Vijayadasami on 24.10.2023, Tuesday

Vijayadasami means a day of Victory. The Lord arrows a banana tree from his bow, which symbolizes killing the demon (Devil). Lord Muruga goes on a city procession in a silver horse, with bow and arrow. When he returns to the temple, a grand Deeparathanai is performed and the festivity comes to an end with a grand feast to all devotees.

To view the Navarathiri information in Tamil, please [Click Here.](#)

For your viewing pleasure photographs of all the 10 days function is available in Multimedia Gallery under Navarathiri Page. [Click here to view them.](#)

Devotees are kindly requested to observe the following guidelines:-

1. On the ambu poduthal day, devotees are requested not to push through the crowd. Please queue up in an orderly manner to perform the ceremony of ambu poduthal. As a custom, it is only for boys to perform the ambu poduthal and people from all ages are refrained to do so.
2. After ambu poduthal, devotees are requested not to peel the banana tree in order to facilitate others to perform their religious obligation.
3. When the god's procession takes place, devotees are requested not to follow through the procession route.

(The content herewith published is subject to change without notice)