



SRI VARASITHTHI VINAAYAGAR HINDU TEMPLE - TORONTO

Newsletter July-December 2022



“LET LOVE BIND US ALL TOGETHER”

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Thiruvung Kalvium Seerum Sirappum Un
Thiruvadip Pugazh Paadundh Thiramum Nal
Uruvunj Seelamum Ookkamundh Thaazhvuraa
Unarvundh Thandhu Yenadhullath Thamarndhdhavaa
Guruvundh Dheivamu Maagi Anbaalarthang
Kuraithavirkung Gunapperum Kundramae
Veruvunj Sindhai Vilagak Gajaanam Vilangum
Toronto Sri Varasiththi Vinaayagar Vallale
-Sri Vallalar, Thiruvarutpa.

SRI VARASITHTHI VINAAYAGAR YOUTH TEAM

As the Sri Varasiththi Vinaayagar Youth Team we are taking our first step in creating a newsletter, which will hopefully help everyone understand about the temple services, poojas and special festivals. We encourage everyone to read and share the newsletter with everyone. As a youth team we look forward to working alongside Sri Varasiththi Vinaayagar Hindu Temple and its devotees in welcoming more young generation. With your feedback and support, we can promote the understanding of the social, ethical, and philosophical practice of Hinduism, and be able to provide spiritual assistance to the community.

Full Newsletter available at our
website go to

www.vinaayagar.com/newsletter

or JUST SCAN the QR CODE





SRI VARASITHTHI VINAAYAGAR FESTIVAL

JULY 10- JULY 24, 2022

The Mahotsava Festival is an annual (fifteen days) festival celebrated for Lord Ganesha at Sri Varasiththi Vinaayagar Hindu Temple. Each day of the festival there are homams, poojas and procession of Lord Ganesha which take place both morning and evening.

The fifteen days festival starts with the flag hoisting. Flags generally represent raising, uplifting hope, and triumph. Throughout the fifteen days, Lord Ganesha appears in different decorative forms every day. The Chariot Festival (14th day) is one of the most important days of the Mahotsavam. It is intended to re-establish and rejuvenate the solidarity of the people of all divisions, reactivate welfare and harmony among all living beings and invoke the unhindered flow of essential natural resources, such as timely rainfall, adequate sunlight and more. Finally, the Theerthotsavam (15th day) a special Homam takes place in which devotees take part and seek blessings. Theerthotsavam is the day devotees receive the complete blessings from this festival. Finally, to mark the end of the festival, on the night of the 15th day the flag is lowered.

This year the Mahotsavam festival had taken place very successfully with the grace of Lord Ganesha. Every day, hundreds of devotees were blessed to watch the special poojas, take part in the prayers and procession and also watch the special performances. Special music & dance performances by local artists and teachers were taking place every evening.

Each year we aspire to lift the Mahotsavam to greater heights and with a great support of our devotees and volunteers.





AADI AMAVASAI VIRATHAM JULY 27, 2022

Aadi Amavasai is the new moon day in the Tamil month of Aadi (mid-July to mid-August). During this fast, devotees perform rituals (Pithir Tharpanam) to honor their deceased forefathers' (ancestors) and help their souls obtain moksha (liberation) and for their families to receive their ancestor's blessings.

At Varasiththi Vinaayagar temple, every Amavasai is performed with special rituals and poojas. But Aadi Amavasai is observed with special "Moksha Archana" and other important poojas and rituals. Aadi means July in Tamil. Aadi Amavasai is the Amavasai that occurs during the month of July in the Tamil calendar.

This year at Varasiththi Vinaayagar temple hundreds of devotees performed rituals to honour their ancestor's souls.



VARALUXMI VIRATHAM AUGUST 5, 2022

Varaluxmi Viratham is observed on the Friday before the full moon, this is coinciding with the star Thiruvonam within the Tamil months of Aadi or Aavani (mid-July to mid-August). Many women observe this fast by praying to Goddess Mahaluxmi for her blessings.

Sri Varasiththi Vinaayagar temple is one of the most popular temples amongst devotees that celebrate this special pooja. Our temple priests make sure every devotee who takes part, understands the rituals behind this pooja for Goddess Mahaluxmi, as well as the pooja for the lamp (kuththuvilakku).

At the end of the pooja all of the women who participated were tied the nonbu saradu by the priests.

This year over 500 devotees participated in this pooja.





NAAGAPOOSHANA KARUMAARI AMMAN ANNUAL FESTIVAL

AUGUST 12 - AUGUST 21, 2022

Sri Naagapooshana Karumaari Amman's annual alankara thiruvizha took place this year from August 12th to August 21st.

Sri Naagapooshana Karumaari Amman's alankara thiruvizha is a festival celebrated for Goddess Karumaari Amman. Unlike Lord Ganesha's Mahotsavam this alankara thiruvizha has no flag hoisting and only takes place during the evenings. This alankara thiruvizha celebrates Goddess Amman as she is decorated to represent each of her forms to provide blessings to our temple devotees. During this festival we have special poojas and performances which take place.

Each day of the festival all devotees can participate in a special pooja called the "Kunguma Archana" this is specially to pray for their wishes come true to succeed in education, business and live a happy and healthy long life.

For those who wish to participate in the "Kunguma Archana" next year could register at the front office.





AAVANI CHATHURTHI (GANESH CHATHURTHI)

AUGUST 30, 2022

Aavani Chaturthi is observed as the birthday of Lord Ganesha, son of Lord Shivan and Goddess Parvathi. Even though Chaturthi is observed every month, the Aavani Chaturthi is most auspicious among all.

On the day of Aavani Chaturthi, devotees come to the temple and participate in the pooja and carry a paal kudam (milk) to do abishekam for Lord Ganesha. Devotees also have the option to participate in a mothakam pooja and do an Archana for Lord Ganesha.

Next year we encourage devotees to participate in Aavani Chaturthi and celebrate the birthday of Lord Ganesha. You can register for any of the following special offerings for Lord Ganesha: paal kudam (milk) abishekam, Archana, and Mothakam pooja.

There is also a special and grand procession of Ganesha both inside and outside of the temple on this day.



PURATTASI SANEESWARA VIRATHAM

EVERY SATURDAY OF THE MONTH OF PURATTASI - THIS YEAR: SEPTEMBER 17 TO OCTOBER 15

Purattasi Saneeswara Viratham is observed on each Saturday during the Tamil month of Purattasi (mid- September - mid-October). Lord Saneeswara (Saturn) is one of the planetary deities whose transit is believed to control the social and professional success in everyone's life. It is believed that Lord Saneeswara is most benevolent during the month of Purattasi. Lord Ganesha is known to have tactfully escaped the seven and a half year (Elarai Sane) period of Saturn's hold and was blessed that his devotees shall experience Saturn's hold less. You can receive the blessings of this fast by lighting a sesame seed oil lamp at the temple and circling the navagraha shrine. Devotees can also take part in the special homam to receive blessings and protection.



NAVARATHRI

SEPTEMBER 26, 2022 - OCTOBER 5, 2022

"Navarathri" is a conjunction of two words, "Nava" means nine and "Rathri" means night. Navarathri is celebrated over nine nights and ten days. During Navarathri, Hindus seek blessing from the three Goddesses, Durga, Lakshmi and Saraswathi. The first three days, devotees pray to Goddess Durga for strength and courage. The next three days are dedicated towards Goddess Lakshmi, the giver of wealth and prosperity. The last three days, devotees pray to Goddess Saraswathi for great knowledge and wisdom.

The tenth day is known as Vijayadasami, on this day Goddess Durga claimed victory over the evil demon, Mahishasooran.

Vijayadasami is a special day which marks new beginnings, especially for children who begin their new journeys in various fine art forms.

Preschool aged children will mark the beginning of their education with the ritual known as Edu Thodakkal, families will seeking blessings from Goddess Saraswathi and have the child trace their names in Tamil and English on a bed of uncooked rice. If interested, you can register your child for Edu Thodakkal at the temple office.

During Navarathri Hindus set up a Golu, a display of various decorations such as figures, statues, instruments, etc. This year Navarathri began on September 26th and ended on October 5th. Sri Varasiththi Vinaayagar Hindu Temple celebrates Navarathri with immaculate decorations, special poojas and spectacular performances.





KETHARA GOWRI VIRATHAM

OCTOBER 04 - OCTOBER 24, 2022

Kethara Gowri Viratham is the most celebrated religious observance in Southern India, especially in major parts of south India and Sri Lanka. It is mainly observed by the devotees of Lord Shiva.

It is a 21 day long fasting observance which commences on Ashtami (eighth day) in the Tamil month of Purattasi and ends on Amavasya.

The most popular belief, this Viratham was performed by Goddess Parvati. A follower of Lord Shiva trusted and prayed to him excluding Parvati. This, in turn, infuriated the Goddess and she prayed to Rishi Gautama for a solution to become an integral part of Shiva's body who advised her to observe a strict Kedar Viratham for 21 days with complete devotion. Pleased by this, Lord Shiva granted Goddess Parvati with his left part and this form of his came to be known as 'Ardhanareeswara'. From that day onwards, this day was observed as Kedar Gowri Viratham as Goddess Gowri (Parvathi) herself observed the fast to please Lord Shiva.





SKANDA SHASTI VIRATHAM

OCTOBER 25 - OCTOBER 31, 2022

Skanda Shasti is a six day fast, where devotees pray to lord Muruga. Skanda Shasti is known for its story.

Muruga is known for eliminating demons named Soorapadman and his brothers Tarakasura and Simhamukha and Sashti Tithi marks his victory over them. It is said that Lord Muruga severed the head of Soorapadman using his Vel. Two birds emerged from the severed head, a peacock that became his vahana and a rooster that became an emblem on his flag. By keeping fast on Skanda Sashti day, devotees pay their tributes to the Lord for killing the demon and restoring peace.

Sri Varasithi Vinayagar Hindu Temple celebrates all six days of the fast very uniquely. Hundreds of devotees attend yearly and obtain the blessing of Muruga.





ஸ்ரீ வரசித்தி விநாயகர்
இந்துக் கல்லூரி

Sri Varasiththi Vinaayagar
Hindu College

SRI VARASITHTHI VINAAYAGAR HINDU COLLEGE

Children ages 4-14 (JK - Gr. 8) learn Tamil, Saivism, and Pannisai (Devotional Hymns) every Sunday during the school year (September-June). Over 300 students attend this school each year. Every year, our students showcase their skills through performances which take place on Sivaraththiri festival and our annual school program "Sivathamizh Vizha". Students will perform a variety such as drama, song, dance, speech, debate etc.

Our classes for this year started in person on September 11th. We look forward to an amazing year with our wonderful students, instructors, volunteers and families.

416.291.7900, 647.336.3333 - VARASITHTHI@GMAIL.COM - WWW.VARASITHTHI.COM



Sri Varasiththi Vinaayagar Youth Team

Vanakkam from the Varasiththi Vinaayagar Youth Team!! Throughout the last few years, we have formed a youth team to help spread the values and mission of Sri Varasiththi Vinaayagar Hindu Temple. Sri Varasiththi Vinaayagar Hindu Temple was founded by Dr. Sivasri Panchadchara Vijayakumar Kurukkal in November of 1999.

Since then, the temple has been determined to educate the youth on the Hindu religion, traditions and values. We have all grown up with the temple from a young age and we know the importance of educating the future generations about our tradition values.

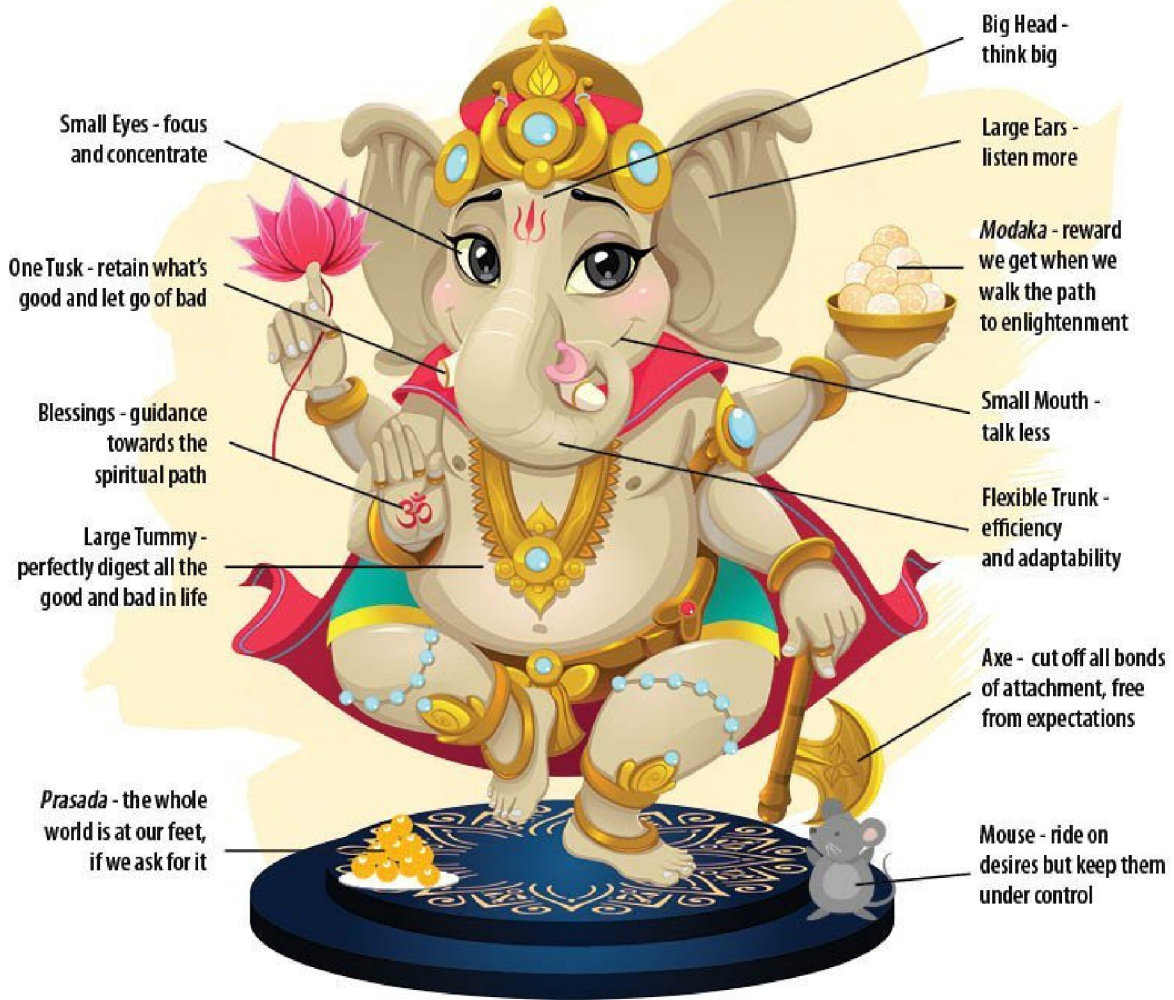
Our first venture as a team is a newsletter, which will hopefully educate readers about temple services, poojas and special festivals. We look forward to hearing feedback from the readers. We encourage everyone to read and share the newsletter with everyone. We as a team look forward to working more alongside and helping Sri Varasiththi Vinaayagar Hindu Temple and its devotees. We hope more youth join the team and volunteer along with us in the future.

We hope to hear from you, give us your feedback at newsletter@vinaayagar.com.

Thanking you Sri Varasiththi Vinaayagar Youth team: Asvin Vasuthevan, Ashwin Krishan, Danushkanth Yogeswaran, Dharrsanan Sakthitharan, Dulasi Yogeswaran, Dushaan Ketharan, Jenakan Senthuran, Kuberaka Kumareswaran, Mathusan Sivanewaran, Purushoth Thavendran, Ragulan Senthuran, Suevetha Ketharan, Syayandan Kaneshalingam.



Did you Know?



Match the words with the appropriate picture



GODDESS
PARVATHI

LORD
MURUGA

LORD
VINAAYAGAR

LORD
SHIVA



ஸ்ரீ வரசித்தி விநாயகர் தேவஸ்தானம்-ரொறன்ரோ

SRI VARASITHTHI VINAAYAGAR HINDU TEMPLE OF TORONTO

3025 KENNEDY ROAD, UNIT #10, SCARBOROUGH, ON. M1V 1S3 CANADA

☎ 416.291.8500 🌐 vinaayagar.com 📘 [vinaayagar](https://www.facebook.com/vinaayagar)

Vinaayagar Viratham (Pillaiyar Epic) Special 1 Lakhs (100,000) Nama Archana 08.12.2022 to 28.12.2022

Evening Prayers

4:00pm: Kumba pooja, Abishekam

6:00pm: Evening pooja, 6:40pm Vinaayagar epic reading

7:15pm: Vasantha mandapa pooja, Panchamuga archana
followed by **Procession of Lord Varasiththi Vinaayagar**

Gajamuga Surasamharam 27.12.2022 Tuesday

3:30pm: Kumba pooja, Abishekam

5:00pm: Evening pooja, 6:40pm Vinaayagar epic reading

6:15pm: Vasantha mandapa pooja, Panchamuga archana

7:00pm **Gajamuga Surasamharam** followed by abishekam



Those who wish to have arachana performed to Lord vinaayagar during the 21 days festival should register at the temple office 416-291-8500. We also made arrangements for donations and payment to be made through E-Transfer.

Thiruvembavai Viratham Utsavam 28.12.2022 to 06.01.2023

5:00 a.m. Tirupalli Yehuchi (Wakening the Lord Shiva)

Kumba Puja, Kalasa Abhishekam, Thiruvasaka Parayanam

6:30 a.m Special Pooja and procession of Sri Manikavasaka Swami
along with Shivpurana chanting.

Followed by special vasanthamandapa pooja to Sivakami Ambal
Sametha Lord Chidambara Nataraja and chanting of Tiruvemba will
also take place

Pittuku Mannsumantha Perumaan 02.01.2023 Monday

Historical story, miracle of Loard Shiva will be

7:00am performed as a drama by Sri Varasiththi
Vinaayagar Hindu College Students.

Aruththira Abishekam/Tharisanam 06.01.2023 Friday starts at 3:00am



| DECEMBER - 2022 | | |
|------------------------|-----|----------------------------------|
| 02 | Fri | Manavalakolam-Kumbabiseka Day |
| 05 | Mon | Parani Viratham |
| 05 | Mon | Pradosha Viratham |
| 06 | Tue | Thiru Kriththikai Deepa Pooja |
| 07 | Wed | Pournami Viratham |
| 08 | Thu | Vinaayagar Viratham Start |
| 11 | Sun | Sankatahara Chathurthi Viratham |
| 20 | Tue | Pradosha Viratham |
| 22 | Thu | Amavasai Viratham |
| 26 | Mon | Chathurthi Viratham |
| 27 | Tue | Gajamuga Samharam |
| 28 | Wed | Vinaayagar Viratham Poorthi |
| 28 | Wed | Thiruvembavai Viratham Start |
| 31 | Sat | Mid Night English New Year Pooja |

| JANUARY - 2023 | | |
|-----------------------|-----|---------------------------------|
| 01 | Sun | English New Year Pooja |
| 01 | Sun | Parani Viratham |
| 02 | Mon | Pittuku mann Sumantha Utsavam |
| 02 | Mon | Kriththikai Viratham |
| 03 | Tue | Pradosha Viratham |
| 05 | Thu | Aruththira Abishekam |
| 06 | Fri | Aruththira Tharisanam |
| 06 | Fri | Pournami Viratham |
| 10 | Tue | Sankatahara Chathurthi Viratham |
| 14 | Sat | Thai Pongal |
| 19 | Thu | Pradosha Viratham |
| 21 | Sat | Thai Amavasai Viratham |
| 21 | Sat | Abirami Pattar Vizha |
| 24 | Tue | Chathurthi Viratham |
| 29 | Sat | Parani Viratham |
| 29 | Sat | Kriththikai Viratham |

SPECIAL SPONSORSHIP

Special Sponsorship Services Available at the Temple

Friday, Tuesday, Saturday Yearly Archana/Arthi prayers are available for the Deities (God/Goddess) of your choice. Chathurthi, Sankatahara Chathurthi, Pirathosham, Krithigai, Powrami, Barani Viratha yearly Archana/Arthi prayers are also available. Birthday, Wedding Anniversary, Sahasra nama (1008) Archana, are also available. Please pre-book at temple office by calling 416-291-8500 or by visiting www.vinaayagar.com.

For the above-mentioned prayer services, Archana/Aarthi will be performed and Pirasatham will be mailed out.

Material Donation for Regular Prayer

Flowers, Flower Garland, Oil, Ghee, Milk, Fruits, Vegetables, Rice, etc, can be donated to the Temple weekly or monthly: If you prefer you may take care one of the item's costs as well.

All Cash Donations are Tax-Deductible and Tax receipt

Sri Varasiththi Vinaayagar Hindu Temple of Toronto

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