

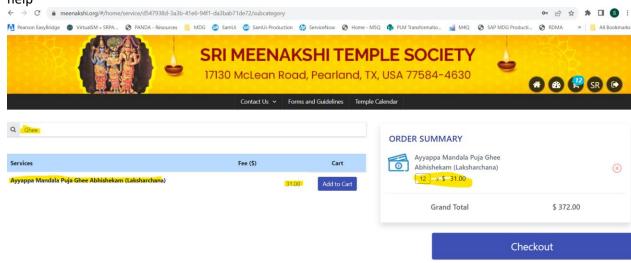
Ayyappa Mandala Pooja - Guidance for Out of station group coming with Irumudi

Irumudi Pooja Scheduling (if needed)

- Work with Temple admin/facilities to identify the right location for Irumudi Pooja
- Book the facility through https://facility.meenakshi.org/
- Please cleanup after the Irumudi Pooja as needed.

Pooja Services/Payments

- Ayyappa Mandala Pooja services list link here.
- https://www.meenakshi.org/#/home/service/d547938d-3a3b-41e6-94f1-da3bab71de72/subcategory
- Payments can be made online via Temple Website https://www.meenakshi.org/
- > Search for Ayyappa Ghee Abhishekam for Ayyappa Cost: \$31 per individual. Batch Collective payments are also accepted. Just add the number of the Ghee Abhishekams in the
- Payment in person can be done at Kiosk in Ayyappa corner temple OR Temple Admin can also help



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- Irumudi/Ghee Abhishekam payment is per Person/Irumudi
- Kanikkai collected from all the Irumudis can be collected and paid via the same web site under the category "Ayyappa Mandala Puja – Donation"

Accommodations

- Please work with the Priest on the Padi yetram time.
- Based on the Padi Yetram time please book the accommodations.
- Book the rooms OR stay at a nearby hotel and come next morning for Padi Yetram\Abhishekam.
- For an overnight stay at temple, devotees are requested to bring their own possessions.



Devotees are requested to clean up after their overnight stay or use of the shower. This assists us in keeping the Temple property clean.

Things to bring

- Flowers, Fruits, Garlands (optional), Prasadham(optional),
- Vessels for Ghee, Honey, Rice, Kumkum, Viboothi and so forth (One bowl for each item to be handed over to Priest for abhishekam)
- Large Knife for Opening Ghee Coconut
- One Large Tarp(8x10) for Irumudi Opening. Please don't Spill on the Jammukkalam("traditional cotton floor mat")

Ayyappa Dharshan with Irumudi /Padi Yetram

- The yatra begins with the devotees circumnavigating the Ganesh temple compound, Arasamara Pillayar and then break the coconut in the pit next to it.
- To get to the Ayyappan Sannidhanam, go around the exterior prakaram, then the corner and main temples and finally enter the Ayyappa Sannidhanam through Nayanmargal entrance
- Map of the path mentioned below.
- Climb the holy Steps (Padi Yetram)
 - Before proceeding to the Holy 18 steps, please ensure that all devotees have the Irumudi. Please do not wear shirts when climbing the holy stairs, adults or boys.
 - Swamies ascending first, please halt in the middle and let the other swamies climb.(1
 Swamy every 5 steps, support the hand or back of the swami who may need assistance climbing the stairs)
 - Enjoy a lovely dharshan before making your way to the Ganesha temple and do pradakshanam around Ganesha, Ayyappa and subsequently out of the Sannidhanam.

Ketu Opening and Ghee Abhishekam

- Please clean up the area utilized for Irumudi opening in order to accommodate the next group of Devotees.
- ➤ Ghee Abhishekam will be commencing around 9:30am on Saturdays. Please confirm the time in advance with Priest Parameswaran and provide the ghee for abhishekam before time.
- Perform Bhajans during the pooja and abhishekam
- ➤ Please collect the ghee Prasadham from the Priest after the abhishekam.
 - Share all the Ghee from the Abhishekam among the Swamis who have taken the Irumudi, ensuring there are no leftovers.
 - o Present Camphor, Incense sticks, Honey, and Rosewater to the Priest.
 - O Distribute Prasadam (including Aval, Puffed rice, Sugar Cubes, etc.) to the devotees at the Padi Erakam.
 - Collect and donate all the rice from the Irumudi bag to the cafeteria.
 - o Give Kumkum and Turmeric to the Ambal Sannithi Priest in the main temple.

Karpoora Aazhi

Safety comes first. Please be safe, stay alert and be focused on the task ahead. Make it a blissful experience for everyone. Swamyie Saranam Ayyappa

> Request Temple Maintenance/Admin for the Karpoora Aazhi (pail) to burn coconuts.



- Place all opened Mudra Coconuts in a metal container provided outside the temple complex.
- After the pooja, Thirumeni will provide a Diya for lighting the Karpoora Aazhi.
- Use the leftover ghee and wick (Thiri) to create a lamp on the coconuts.
- > Ignite the lamp using the Diya.
- Slowly build the fire and carefully position the remaining coconuts.
- Please make sure you stay at a safe distance when the coconuts are burning and always make sure at least one volunteer is at the Karpoora aazhi.
- Please certain that all of the coconuts are completely burnt before you leave, because this is an important component of the ceremony.

Padi Yerakkam

- After the Abhishekam and other formalities, Please work with the Priest for Padi Yerakkam formalities.
- > Break all the Pin Mudi Coconuts in the breaking area and bring it back to the temple.
- > The Swamis will form a line on the right side of the Ganesha/Ayyappan Sannidhi.
- Our Thirumeni will distribute Prasadam, and the Swamis will face Ayyappa, gradually descending the Padi.
- If you have children, please descend first, and your kids will follow.
- Exercise caution with each step, and once you pass the last step, kindly turn around and ascend normally.

Contact Meenakshi Temple for the following services

- Temple Admin/Facilities Booking hall for Irumudi Pooja by calling temple @ 281-489-0358. Can be done online @ https://facility.meenakshi.org/
- ➤ **Ghee Coconut opening location** Usual location is on the Nayanmargal side if the crowd is large or inside the corner temple next to Ganapathy sannidhanam. Please ensure thorough cleaning of the area after the Irumudi Opening to maintain the cleanliness of the temple for the next batch.
- ➤ Overnight Accommodations → https://facility.meenakshi.org/
- ➤ **Padi Opening** → Contact temple admin/Priest
- Annadhanam Food Committee Suseela Denduluri suseelakala@gmail.com , 713-791-8582
- Contacts for Ordering food near to the Temple:
 - o Kalyana Sundram Mama (832)670-2333, (281)692-9815
 - o Vani Catering (832)308-8364
 - o Rudhras (512)922-0823
 - o Tana Sekaran (832)725-7287
 - Veena Manikandan (832)833-1102
 - Please contact the temple administrator to determine the suitable location for serving the food.
- ➤ **Ghee Abishekam, Pooja** and related formalities Priest Parameswaran rkeparamesh@gmail.com, 281-489-0575

Meenakshi Amman Temple Yatra Map



