

Amaravani Newsletter

An Official Newsletter from the Flower Mound Hindu Temple | Author: Communication Team

Monthly

Volume 1. January, 2025

Message from the Flower Mound Hindu Temple Management:

We are excited to share the latest updates, events, and spiritual insights with you through our temple newsletter. This platform helps foster a deeper connection to our faith, community, and cultural heritage.

As we welcome the New Year with open hearts and a renewed spirit, let us embrace the blessings of peace, prosperity, and unity. May the divine grace of our deities guide you and your loved ones toward health, happiness, and spiritual growth.

This New Year, let us recommit ourselves to dharma, service, and compassion, spreading light and love in all that we do. Join us in offering prayers and seeking divine blessings for a year filled with auspicious beginnings and endless joy.

We wish you and your families a happy and prosperous New Year!



Fundraising Goal

\$3,000,000



◀ Raised
\$1.3 Million
as of Jan 2025

FMHTCC is a non-profit exempt organization
Section 501(c)(3) of the IRS Code 1986.

New Temple Progress

"With the tremendous support of our volunteers, we are making great progress toward realizing our vision for the new temple.

Here are some key updates:

Based on community feedback, our design team is revising the temple's interior design in alignment with Agama Sastra, guided by our Stapathi. Following the AGM resolution to proceed with a one-story plan, we have engaged KREA Management, LLC as the general development contractor. KREA will provide comprehensive services, including design, architectural, mechanical, electrical, plumbing (MEP), structural engineering, and construction administration.

In collaboration with KREA and our Civil Engineer, we are preparing to submit the site plan for approval to the City of Flower Mound in February. Once approved, we will move forward with land development. Additionally, consultations with the management team from the Fort Worth Temple have provided valuable insights into best practices, helping refine our designs.

Thank you for your continued support in bringing this vision to life!"



Chairperson's Message

I wish you a Happy, healthy, and prosperous New Year 2025.

The Flower Mound Temple Management team would like to extend its heartfelt gratitude to you, your family, and your friends for supporting the Flower Mound Hindu Temple.

Your presence deeply humbles us during our daily pujas, festive celebrations, and important cultural events, which strengthen the bonds that unite us all.

2025 is certainly shaping up to be eventful for the Flower Mound Hindu temple.

We at Flower Mound Hindu Temple are committed to preserving our rich Hindu culture and traditions while creating a welcoming and inclusive space for all.

We are actively working to enhance our temple facilities, expand our educational programs, and foster a stronger sense of belonging within our community.

We are well aware that to meet the needs of a new generation of Hindu Americans, our temple, while preserving the traditional role of being a place of worship, must also become a center of learning.

As you all know, we are building a permanent building for our temple on our fully paid land at 3131 Old Settlers Road, Flower Mound, TX 75022. Currently, building design is proceeding as planned under the watchful eyes of the design committee, which has also started the city Approval process.

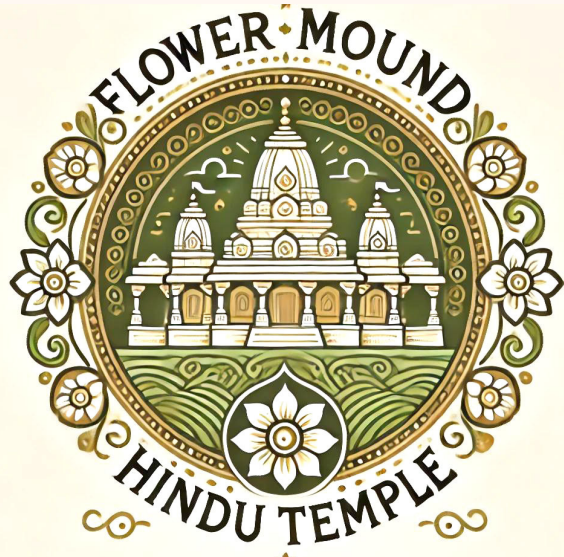
The fundraising committee is on the front lines, conducting community meetings to gather support, while the accounting team is on the backend, steaming statements for nonprofit tax deduction benefits to donors. The communication team started this new monthly letter, another step toward informing the community about our progress. As we get closer to the groundbreaking and construction, it is exciting. However, we must remember that to realize our goal, the new building requires a lot of hard work, dedication, and financial support from each of us.

We couldn't have achieved these milestones without the community's unwavering support, enthusiastic participation, and generous donations. I must mention our priest, Pandit Shri Sairam Sathyanarayanan ji, for his dedicated efforts in guiding us on religious and spiritual path. I sincerely appreciate and thank all volunteers, my colleagues on the management team, the Governing board of trustees, and the Executive committee members for helping us reach this stage. Our Executive committee constantly strives to provide the community with better programs and services so that we and future generations can be proud of this organization.

As we move into 2025, I encourage your active participation in our upcoming events, volunteer opportunities, and charitable initiatives. Together, we can ensure that Flower Mound Hindu Temple remains a beacon of spirituality and cultural heritage for generations.

With blessings and gratitude,

Dr. Ravi Siripurapu, MD
Chairperson, Governing board of trustees
Flower Mound Hindu temple



About FMHTCC

Welcome to the Flower Mound Hindu Temple! Established in 2009 to preserve Sanatana Dharma, commonly known as Hinduism, the Flower Mound Hindu Temple has been a cornerstone of the community. Since its inception, the temple has offered a wide range of religious and language classes, while joyfully celebrating various festivals and special events that are significant in Hinduism. With the expansion of the community and the development of new neighborhoods in and around Flower Mound, the current temple space has outgrown its capacity to accommodate the growing needs of our community. Recognizing this need, the community and the temple committee have united to construct a new temple at 3131 Old Settlers Road, Flower Mound, to better serve the spiritual and cultural needs of our community.

Join Flower Mound Hindu Temple's WhatsApp Group!

Receive temple announcements including upcoming religious, cultural, and educational events! Open the camera on your phone, point to this QR code on the left, and click on the WhatsApp link to join!



Temple Hours

Monday - Friday	9:30 AM - 12:30 PM & 5:30 PM - 8:30 PM
Saturday-Sunday	9:30 AM - 1:30 PM & 4:30 PM - 8:30 PM

The one God, in His/Her infinite compassion, takes on several forms (*Ishta Devata* – personal God) to fulfill the needs and aspirations of His/Her devotees. Flower Mound Hindu Temple Community Center was founded on this principle of having several *Ishta Devatas* to meet the needs of a wide range of devotees. Worship of *Ishta Devata* and *Kula Devata* (Family Deity) is a special tradition to all Hindus. Supporting the rituals to various Deities according to one's choice and ability not only helps in maintaining this tradition, but it is recommended by the scriptures as one's duty. By supporting such activities in the temple, benefits accrue to the masses, and it sets a good example for future generations to follow.



The Annual Puja/Ishta Devata Puja
Please scan this QR code

Significance of the Month of January in Hinduism

Month of January is very significant as per astronomy in Hinduism. As per Hindu Calendar the number of years are 60, months are 12, rakshas 2, days are 7. Each of these are named as per the planet movement. The Hindu calendar is based on the movement of Sun and Moon (Solar and Lunar). When we talk about the month of PUSHYA (English month January) the sun travel starts from South to North. Exact time of start of sun towards North is called Uttarayana Punyakalam.

As per the Hindu calendar, Uttarayanam and Dakshinayanam represent the six-month periods when the sun travels northwards (Uttarayanam) and southwards (Dakshinayanam) respectively, with Uttarayanam considered highly auspicious as it is associated with enlightenment and positive energy, while Dakshinayanam is seen as a time for introspection and purification, often signifying a period of "divine sleep" for the deities; essentially, Uttarayanam is considered the "day" of the Gods and Dakshinayanam their "night" according to Hindu scriptures like the Bhagavad Gita.

Key points about Uttarayanam and Dakshinayanam:
Movement of the Sun: Uttarayanam marks the period when the sun moves from south to north, beginning on Makar Sankranti (usually around January 14th), while Dakshinayanam is when the sun moves from north to south, starting on Karka Sankranti (around July 16th).

Auspiciousness: Uttarayanam is considered the more auspicious period, with many Hindus performing important rituals and celebrating festivals during this time as it is believed to bring prosperity and positive energy.

Spiritual Significance: In spiritual practices, Uttarayanam is often seen as a time for focused spiritual practice and attaining enlightenment, while Dakshinayanam is considered a time for inner reflection and cleansing.

Mythological Interpretation: According to Hindu mythology, during Dakshinayanam, Lord Vishnu is said to go into a state of "yoga nidra" (divine sleep).

According to the Hindu tradition the six month period of Uttarayana is equivalent to a single day of the Gods, while the six month period of Dakshinayana is equal to a single night of the Gods. Thus a year of twelve months is single day of the Gods.

This month is very auspicious for all Hindus. This festival is called on the name of Makara Sankranti, Pongal, Magh Bihu, Makara Chaula, Makara Vilaku etc., in various states of India.

Author
Veerabhardra Rao Ivaturi



Youth Voice – Teen Reporter



To mark the beginning of the new year and give heartfelt wishes to the community, Flower Mound Hindu Temple conducted Ganesha Abhishekam in the morning. Praying to Lord Ganesha is important, as he removes obstacles and blesses us with a prosperous, obstacle-less year ahead. Thus, with the wake of the new year, FMHT conducted this event to receive Lord Ganesha's blessings for a bright year for all. The temple was filled with devotees, whose presence and participation helped make the event successful. The slight hum of prayers—bhajans and slokas—filled the temple, not only in the morning but throughout the day, (as the temple was open throughout the day) as devotees came to offer their prayers and wishes for a prosperous new year. Therefore, with Lord Ganesha's blessings in hand, we look forward to 2025 with optimism that the year will be full of peace, prosperity, and joy for all

Flower Mound High School Student
Srividya Siripurapu

To publish articles, please send an email to: contactus@fmhtcc.org

2025 Governing Board of Trustees

Dr. Ravi Siripurapu - Chairperson

Dr. Srirang Neurgaonkar – Vice Chairperson

Bala Ganapavarapu – Secretary

Venkat Bomma – Joint Secretary

Deepak Chebbi – Member

Mohan Medepalli – Member

Ajay Jadeja – Member

Bindu Gujjalapudi – Member

2025 Executive Committee

Pradeep Rangachar - President

Venkat Gunda – Vice President

Ravi Kommera - Secretary

Adarsh Rustagi - Joint Secretary

Ram Yalamanchili - Treasurer

Pradha Botcha - Joint Treasurer

Subbarao Ponnuru - Member

Satyanarayana (Satya) Vasireddy - Member

Srinivas Pindi - Member

Rajan Arun - Member

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**The Annual Puja/Ishta Devata Puja
Please scan this QR code**



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RELIGIOUS CALENDAR

January 2025

- Wed 1 **GANESHA ABHISHEKAM**
10:00 AM Ganesha Abhishekam
11:00 AM Vishnu Sahasranama Parayanam
- Thu 9 **VAIKUNTA EKADASI**
06:30 AM Temple Opens
06:45 AM Balaji Abhishekam
09:00 AM Vishnu Sahasranama Parayanam
- Sun 12 **PURNIMA/SATYANARAYANA PUJA**
06:30 PM Satyanarayana Puja
- Mon 13 **BHOGI/LODHI**
06:30 PM Godha Kalayanam
- Tue 14 **MAKARA SANKRANTI**
- Thu 16 **SHANKATA HARA CHATURDHI**
06:30 PM Ganesha Abhishekam

February 2025

- Sun 2 **VASANT PANCHAMI**
09:30 AM Saraswati Puja
- Tue 4 **RATHA SAPHAMI**
09:30 AM Surya Puja & Navagraha
- Tue 25 **MAHASHIVARATRI**
09:30 AM Shiva Abhishekam
05:30 PM Shiva Abhishekam and Bhajans

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TEMPLE HOURS

Monday through Friday: 09:30 AM - 12:30 PM & 05:30 PM - 08:30 PM
Saturday and Sunday: 09:30 AM - 01:30 PM & 04:30 PM - 08:30 PM

WEEKLY ABHISHEKAM

Monday: 06:45 PM Sri Siva Abhishekam
Tuesday: 07:30 PM Sri Hanuman Chalisa & Bhajan
2nd Thursday: 06:45 PM Sri Shiridi Saibaba Abhishekam
Saturday: 10:30 AM Sri Balaji Abhishekam

MONTHLY PUJA

Purnima 06:30 PM Samuhika Satyanarayana Vratam
Sankatahara Chaturthi 07:00PM Sri Ganesh Abhishekam
Krittika: 07:00 PM Murgugan Abhishekam
Nagara Abhishekam: 05:30 PM Last Sunday of every Month

Annual and Lifetime Puja Sponsorship

एकं सद्विप्रा बहुधा वदन्ति (Ekam Sat Vipraha Bahuda Vadanti)
-Rig Veda (1.164.46)

The truth is one; but the wise, talk of many.

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Certain pujas are not conducive to be performed at home on a regular basis (ex. Siva Abhisheka, Lord Balaji Abhisheka) but are easily possible in a temple setting. Our scriptures place an emphasis on doing Pujas for the various deities on important days at the appropriate time (thithis); but due to schedules and other responsibilities, devotees may not be able to personally participate in these activities.

Supporting the worship of your Ishta Devatas on important days during the year has been made easy through the *Annual Puja Sponsorship Program* at FMHtCC. Sponsorship of your favorite deities will ensure that Pujas are done on your behalf on special days regardless of if you are present on that day. These tax-deductible sponsorship donations are at a discount compared to sponsorship of individual programs during the course of the year. Annual sponsorships are valid for one year from the date of sponsorship. Lifetime sponsorships are valid in perpetuity and are deposited into the Flower Mound Hindu Temple Community Center.

You have helped build one of the largest temples in the United States; now consider extending the same generosity to ensure its future. Sponsor an Ishta Deity for a year, or in perpetuity and preserve Dharma today and for the future.

“धर्मो रक्षति रक्षितः” meaning *Dharma protects those who protect Dharma.*

For more information and sponsorship details – please contact contactus@fmhtcc.org or by phone at (214)513-2562. Thank you for your support!

Makara Sankranti



Makara Sankranti, also known as Uttarayan, Pongal, or Lohri in different regions of India, is a major Hindu festival that marks the transition of the Sun into the zodiac sign Capricorn (Makara). It usually falls on January 14 each year, and it is celebrated with great enthusiasm across India and among Hindu communities worldwide.

Significance:

- **Astronomical Importance:** It marks the beginning of longer days as the Sun starts its northward journey (Uttarayana).
- **Harvest Festival:** It is celebrated as a thanksgiving for a good harvest.
- **Spiritual Significance:** The day is considered auspicious for charity, prayers, and new beginnings.

Common Traditions:

- **Puja and Rituals:** Special prayers and rituals are conducted in temples and homes.
- **Flying Kites:** Particularly popular in Gujarat and Rajasthan.
- **Food:** Special dishes made from sesame seeds (til) and jaggery, like tilgul, puran poli, and pongal.
- **Bathing in Sacred Rivers:** Pilgrims take holy dips in rivers like the Ganga and Yamuna.

Regional Celebrations:

- Sankranti in Andhra Pradesh
- Sankranti in Telangana
- Pongal in Tamilnadu
- Lohri in Punjab
- Uttarayan in Gujarat
- Suggi in Karnataka

Flower Mound Hindu Temple
WhatsApp Group
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The Annual Puja/Ishta Devata Puja
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Please give a call to temple if you would like to be an
Event Sponsor or Puja Sponsor

Sunday, January 12th, 2025
Purnima Satyanarayana Puja at 6:30 PM

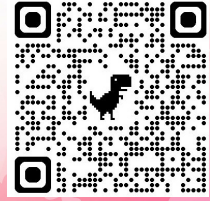
Monday, January 13th, 2025
Bhogi/Lodhi Puja at 6:30 PM

Tuesday, January 14th, 2025
Makara Sankranti Puja at 6:30 PM

Thursday, January 16th, 2025
Shankata Hara Chaturdhi. Ganesh Abhishekam at 6:30 PM

Contact: 214-513-2562 www.fmhtcc.org

Sunday 2nd February



Flower Mound Hindu Temple
WhatsApp Group
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Happy Vasant Panchami

Salutation to you, O Saraswathi, grantor of blessings
and embodiment of all wishes, I am getting inducted to
studies, may there be fulfilment for me forever.

Flower Mound Hindu Temple
WhatsApp Group
Please scan this QR code



MAHA SHIVRATRI

Tuesday 25th February

The Annual Puja/Ishta Devata Puja
Please scan this QR code



Temple opens at 9:30 AM

Lord Shiva Abhishekam : 05:30 PM

Sponsorships:

Abhishekam \$51.00
Mahaprasad \$101.00

Archana \$31.00
Flowers \$101.00

Contact: 214-513-2562 www.fmhtcc.org