

Amaravani Newsletter

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

Monthly

Volume 3. March, 2025



Fundraising Goal

\$3,000,000

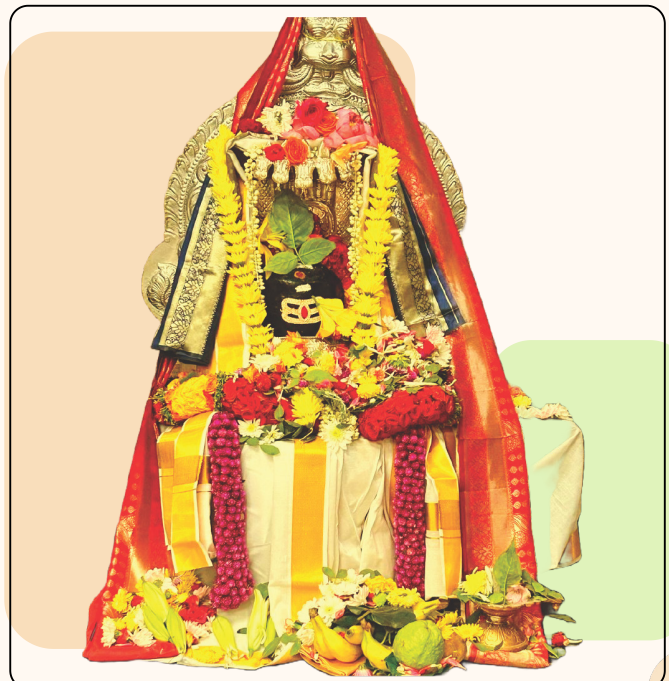
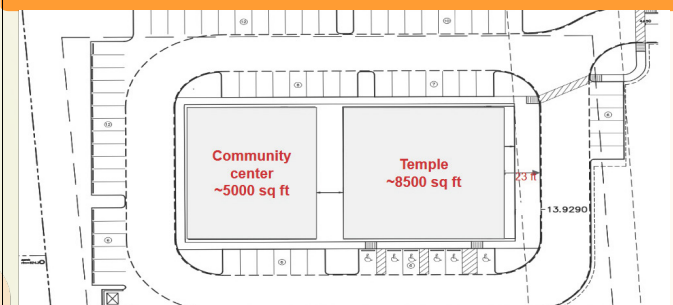


◀ Raised
\$1.58 Million
as of Mar 2025

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

New Temple Progress

To date, we have received \$ 1.58 million in pledges, and we are thrilled to share that our site plan was submitted to the Town of Flower Mound on February 19, 2025. Once approved, the temple will schedule a community event to move forward with the Groundbreaking and Land Development. You can view the proposed New Temple Site Plan in the newsletter's New Temple Site Plan section.



Message From Temple Management

Namaste!

We are delighted to share the latest temple updates, upcoming events, and spiritual insights with you through this newsletter. This platform serves as a bridge, strengthening our connection to faith, community, and cultural heritage.

Maha Shivaratri – A Grand Success!

Our Maha Shivaratri celebration on February 25th was a remarkable event! Approximately 92 devotees sponsored the Rudrabhishekam, while around 700 devotees attended, making it a truly divine experience.

A heartfelt thank you to our dedicated volunteers who stepped in during our priest's absence, ensuring the event was seamless—from cleaning, decorations, performing Mahanaysa and 11 rounds of Maha Rudrabhisheka for our Moola Moorthy, to preparing and serving food for devotees. The event was celebrated with devotion from 10:30 AM until midnight and was also livestreamed on our Flower Mound Hindu Temple YouTube channel.

We are also grateful to our community for their generous support, raising \$63,000 in new temple pledges during the event and adding \$10,000 to our operating income.

Blessings for Our Priest's Family!

We are overjoyed to announce that our priest's family has been blessed with a baby boy on February 18, 2025! Please join us in congratulating them on this joyous occasion.

Volunteer Efforts & Community Engagement

We are blessed to have a record number of volunteers contributing their time and efforts across various initiatives, including Behind the Bell, Gurukulam, New Temple Design, Fundraising, Communications, Accounting, and other Sub-Committees. If you would like to get involved, please email contactus@fmhtcc.org.

Our volunteers also hosted 3 February community outreach events for the New Temple and planned more outreach events in March. If you are interested in leading a community outreach event, please reach out to contactus@fmhtcc.org.

We deeply appreciate your ongoing support, participation, and dedication to our temple and community. Together, we continue to build a spiritually enriching and thriving Hindu temple in Flower Mound.

With Gratitude,
Flower Mound Hindu Temple Management



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

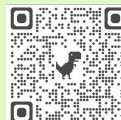
WhatsApp Group! Receive temple announcements including upcoming religious, cultural, and educational events! Open the camera on your phone, point to this QR code on the left, and click on the WhatsApp link to join!



Temple Hours

Monday - Friday	9:30 AM - 12:30 PM & 5:30 PM - 8:30 PM
Saturday-Sunday	9:30 AM - 02:00 PM & 5:30 PM - 9:00 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

Significant Hindu Festivas in the month of March

Holi: This festival is celebrated on the Full Moon Day of lunar Phalguni, the last Month of Srikrodhi Nama Samvatsaram. This year, it falls on March 13, 2025.

UGADI: (Sri Viswavasuhu Nama Samvatsaram) Ugadi, or Yugadi, is celebrated as the first day of the year by the people of Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, and Karnataka.

On this day, the new Samvatsara, which is a cycle of sixty years, starts. All sixty Samvatsara are identified by unique names in the Hindu calendar. This Year name is Sri Viswavasuhu. Ugadi is celebrated as Gudi Padwa by the people of Maharashtra. Both Ugadi and Gudi Padwa are celebrated on the same day. Ugadi is the new year according to the Luni-Solar calendar. Luni-Solar calendars consider the position of the Moon and the position of the Sun to divide the year into months and days. Some regions follow the Lunar system, and Some regions follow the Solar system. Because of that, the Hindu New Year is celebrated twice a year, with different names and at two different times of the year. Based on the Solar calendar, the Hindu new year is known as Puthandu in Tamil Nadu, Bihu in Assam, Vaisakhi in Punjab, Pana Sankranti in Orissa, and Naba Barsha in West Bengal. **IMPORTANCE:** The day begins with ritual oil-bath followed by prayers.

- New beginnings: Ugadi symbolizes the start of a new era and the promise of a better tomorrow.
- Spring: Ugadi marks spring's arrival and the harvest season's start.
- Religious significance: Ugadi is a day of great religious importance for Hindus.
- Accepting life's experiences: The festive food ugadi pachadi (a mix of tender leaves of Neem, raw Mango, Joggery, Sugarcane, and green chili) reminds us to accept all the flavors of life's experiences.
- The Hindu calendar releases a new Panchangam indicating Tithi, Vara, Nakshatra, Karanam, and Yogam. Predictions as per the birth stars, the Speculative time of Makara Sankranti, Lunar and Solar eclipses, and the khumbhamelas of important rivers in India in the new year are also indicated in the Pachangam, along with dates and times for all regions in the world.

Devotees attend temples to offer puja and to hear Panchanga Sravanam, which helps them plan their year according to the indications in Panchangam.

North Indians start the nine-day Chaitra Navratri Puja on the same day and also eat Neem with mishri on the very first day of Navratri.

The summary of a significant Hindu festival celebrated as the Festival of Colors, Love, and Spring. It celebrates the eternal and divine love of the deities Radha and Krishna. Additionally, the day signifies the triumph of good over evil, as it commemorates the victory of Vishnu as Narasimha over Hiranyakashipu

Lunar Eclipse in Dallas:

The Lunar Eclipse is on the 14th of March, 2025. This starts at 12:11 AM (Night of the 13th) and goes on to 03:47 AM for 3 hours, 36 minutes, and 23 seconds. The duration of the eclipse is mainly for meditation and Mantra Japa for fruitful results. As per Shastra, one should take a head bath at the start of the eclipse, do Meditation or Mantra Japa, and again take a head bath after the completion of the eclipse. The duration of the eclipse is not auspicious; temples and puja rooms in the house are well-cleaned before starting the next day's prayers. Devotees can obtain the birth stars and Zodiac signs effected by the eclipse and can do the needful rituals

Author
Veerabhardra Rao Ivaturi

Youth Voice – Teen Reporter

Ugadi, celebrated in March or April, marks the New Year in Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, and Karnataka. I love this holiday because when I was a kid, I remember the picnics, fun games, and dances we would do with our whole community. It always felt like we were welcoming a new chapter of our lives together. Families would decorate homes with mango leaves, prepare Idli and Ugadi Pachadi—a dish that represents the different flavors of life—and listen to the reading of the new year's astrological predictions. The festival brings everyone together in celebration, reminding us of the importance of hope, renewal, and community.

Texas A&M University
Varun Sai Vasireddy

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

RELIGIOUS CALENDAR

March 2025

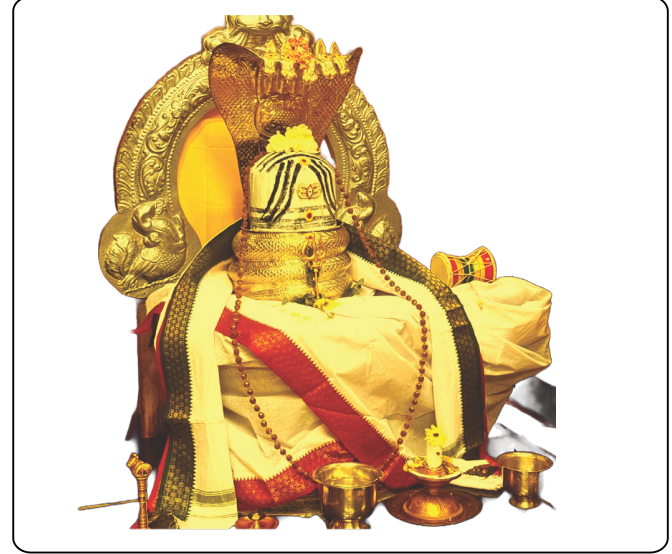
- Tue 4 **KRITHIKA/SUBRAMANYA SWAMI**
06:30 PM Subramanya Swami Abhishekam
- Wed 12 **SATYANARAYANA PUJA**
06:30 PM Satyanarayana Puja
- Thu 13 **PURNIMA/HOLIKA DAHAN**
06:30 PM Holika Dahna
00:00 PM Lunar Eclips - Temple closing
- Mon 17 **SHANKATA HARA CHATURDHI**
06:30 PM Ganesha Abhishekam Uthsava Murthy with Shiva Abhishekam
- Sat 29 **UGADI/GUDI PADAWA**
10:00 AM Balaji Mula murthy Abhishekam followed by Panchanga Sravanam

April 2025

- Tue 1 **KRITHIKA/SUBRAMANYA SWAMI**
06:30 PM Subramanya Swami Abhishekam
- Sat 5 **SRI RAMA NAVAMI**
10:00 AM Sita Rama Kalyanam at temple site
- Sat 12 **SATYANARAYANA PUJA**
06:30 PM Satyanarayana Puja
- Wed 16 **SHANKATA HARA CHATURDHI**
06:30 PM Ganesha Abhishekam Uthsava Murthy



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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 - 02:00 PM & 05:30 PM - 09:00 PM

WEEKLY ABHISHEKAM

Monday: 06:45 PM Rudrabhishekam

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!



Employer Matching Contributions

Employer contribution matches for religious or charitable organizations typically depend on the specific policies of the employer's matching gift program. Here's an overview of how it usually works:

1. Check Eligibility
 - Employers usually provide a list of eligible organizations or categories, such as religious, educational, or nonprofit organizations. Some employers exclude religious organizations unless the donation is for non-religious activities like community outreach or education.
2. Donation by the Employee
 - The employee makes a personal donation to a qualifying religious or charitable organization, like a Hindu temple.
 - The donation amount should meet the employer's minimum requirements (e.g., \$25).
3. Submit Matching Gift Request
 - The employee submits a matching gift request through the company's platform or by filling out a matching gift form.
 - This could include: The donation receipt.
 - Information about the organization (e.g., tax-exempt status like 501(c)(3) in the U.S.).
 - Some companies use platforms like Benevity or Double the Donation to manage these requests.
4. Employer Verification
 - The employer verifies whether the organization and donation meet their eligibility criteria.
 - If approved, the employer matches the donation, usually up to a specified limit (e.g., \$1,000 annually).
5. Funds Disbursed
 - Once approved, the matching amount is sent directly to the organization by the employer.

Important Considerations

- Tax-Exempt Status: Most employers require the organization to have a recognized charitable status, like 501(c)(3) in the U.S.
- Restrictions on Religious Use: Some employers restrict matching to non-religious purposes, like community services or educational programs offered by the religious organization.
- Annual Caps: Employers often have an annual maximum they will match per employee.

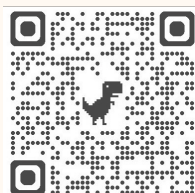
To ensure the temple qualifies and the match is successful, check with your HR or your employer's matching gift policy.

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!

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



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Sacred Sounds

In our Sacred Sounds classes for children, remarkable progress has been made this year: Bala Upāsaka – 21 children have learned 35 Ślokas and completed Saśkṛta Akarābhyaśa. Bala Sādhaka – 15 children have mastered 5 Stotras and are currently learning their 6th. Gītā Yajña Adhyāyī – 15 dedicated learners are on the verge of completing two chapters of the Bhagavad Gītā this academic year. Their dedication and perseverance shine through every recitation!



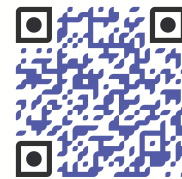
As we all receive the anugraha of Śrī Śiva on the occasion of Mahāśivarātri, our kids offered their special Śiva Śloka and Stotra recitations on Sunday. All the children began their recitation with the Pañcākṣarī Mantra – Om Namaḥ Śivāya. They recited these in the Flower Mound Hindu Temple, with the Śiva Sannidhi in the background.

- The Upāsakā recited the two Śiva Ślokas they learned this year.
- The Sādhakā recited the Nirvāṇa Ṣaṭkam, which they just completed learning.
- The Gītā Yajña Adhyāyī chanted the Liṅgāṣṭakam.



Do watch the Sacred Sounds performance of our children in beautiful Bhāratīya attire here,

**Click on the link to get more information.
FMHTCC Sacred Sounds FAQ**

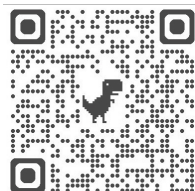


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February Fundraising Event -2025

Vickery at - Copper Canyon



Heritage West - Flower Mound



We are grateful for your hospitality. Meeting all of you was delightful. Your hard work in organizing this gathering is truly valued and inspiring. Thank you!

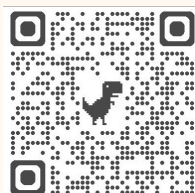
CALL TO HOST A FUNDRAISING EVENT!

Join Flower Mound Hindu Temple's WhatsApp Group!



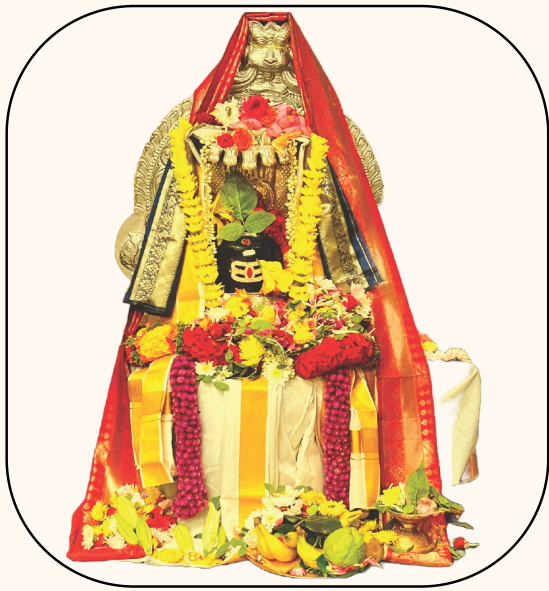
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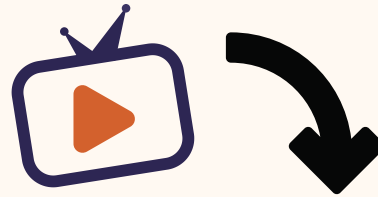
Devotee Support Community

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MAHA SHIVARATRI

Flower Mound Hindu Temple YouTube channel.



Embark on a spiritual journey this Maha Shivratri

MAHA Shivaratri Photo Gallery



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



**FLOWER MOUND HINDU TEMPLE
COMMUNITY CENTER**

HELP BUILD THE FUTURE: JOIN THE FLOWER MOUND HINDU TEMPLE MOVEMENT!

Bringing our community Together to Build a Sacred Space We are thrilled to announce the construction of the new Flower Mound Hindu Temple, a place of worship, cultural programs, and spiritual growth. Located next to the 9th Grade Flower Mound High School, this temple will be a center of devotion and unity for our community.

Why Get Involved? Strengthen our spiritual and cultural presence - Create a lasting legacy for future generations- Be a part of something truly divine

HOW YOU CAN HELP

Stay Connected: Get Updates!	Join the Devotee Support Community	Experience Divine Blessings!
<p>Temple WhatsApp Group</p> 	<p>Register to serve at the temple</p> 	<p>Register for Annual Puja</p> 



VOLUNTEER

Offer your time and skills in planning, outreach, and fundraising events.



RAISE AWARENESS

Help raise awareness by sharing our mission with family, friends, and social networks.

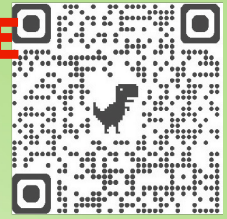


SUPPORT

Your generosity helps bring this sacred vision to life. Every contribution makes a difference.

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

FLOWER MOUND HINDU TEMPLE COMMUNITY CENTER



Saturday 29th March

HAPPY Ugadi

Common Traditions:



Flower Mound Hindu Temple
WhatsApp Group Please
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Contact: 214-513-2562 www.fmhtcc.org

FLOWER MOUND HINDU TEMPLE COMMUNITY CENTER

Sita Rama Kalyanam At Our New Temple Site

Saturday 5th April



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



Flower Mound Hindu Temple
WhatsApp Group Please
scan this QR code



श्रीरामनवमी