

# <u>Sri Prasanna Venkatesa Perumal</u>

Thirupparkadal

Prasanna Venkatesa Swamy Temple, Thirupparkadal, Kaveripakkam (Via), Walajah Taluk, Vellore District -632 508. Bus Route: On the Chennai- Vellore Highway (NH46) alight at Kaveripakkam, and travel three kilometers south to reach the temple.

Note: A request to patrons and devotees. Please contribute generously towards the temple activities and earn the blessings of the Lord.

#### **Temple Timings:**

Morning 7.30 am to 12 pm Evening 4.30 pm to 7.30 pm

# **V.S.Rajagopala Bhattar**

# Sri Prasanna Venkatesa Perumal Temple Sthanika Archakar

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#### Kshetra Puraanam

"इनो इतेहहन्वविष्ठो त्रविविष्ठ त्रोप्तेषुव इतेहहन्वलविशेष्ट्रन्वल त्रव्यविष्ठ thathaलइवड्पव इतितरण्यतेहण्य एस्त्रिस्वहट्य रोल्ववोब्रासिट

#### History of Thirupparkadal:

Lord Brahma who was born out of a lotus from Lord Vishnu's navel lost the ability to witness him and worship him due to his vanity. Because of this, he came down to Bhooloka, and reached Kanchipuram which was called Satyavratha in those days, and performed the Ashwamedha Yaga.

There were seven Rishis (Saptharishis) who participated in this Ashwamedha Yagna and worshipped Lord Vishnu and then proceeded to Kadikaachalam (known today as Sholinghur) to meditate. One among these Rishis, was Sage Pundareeka, a Vaishnavite devotee who went to Thirupparkadal (Abode of Lord Vishnu) and worshipped him every day.

On one such day, on his way to Thirupparkadal, he stopped by to worship the Perumal at a village temple. The village was then called, Vijaya Kanda Gopalapuram and Avani Narayana Chaturvedi Mangalam as well as Thirukkaraipuram. Having heard of the village, Sage Pundareeka decided to worship at the temple there.

He looked here and there and could not find the temple. Assuming that there had to be atleast one Perumal Shrine in the village he kept looking. He suddenly saw a small grove, with a temple and a tank ahead. Deciding that it was the temple he had been looking for, he bathed in the temple tank and went inside to worship. On reaching the shrine, he found a Shivalinga (Dooseshwara) with Avudaiyaar (Base) and was disappointed.

It was Vaikunda Ekadasi day and Sage Pundareeka felt very sad that the auspicious time of Ekadasi was about to end and he had not had an opportunity to worship Lord Vishnu. He was saddened by the fact that it was too late for him to go to Thirupparkadal also to worship. With a heavy heart, he walked out of the shrine.

Immediately, Lord Vishnu wanted to relieve Sage Pundareeka from his misery. Appearing before him as an old man, he asked him why he was looking so forlorn. When Sage Pundareeka explained, the old man said "Oh wise sage, what you saw was indeed a Perumal Shrine!". The Maharishi denied it and said that he had actually found a Shiva shrine. The old man invited the Sage to accompany him into the shrine and verify for himself that it was indeed a Perumal Shrine.

On reaching the shrine, the old man disappeared and appeared over the shivalinga as Perumal for the Sage to worship.

He said, "From today onwards, let this shrine that you witness be a Perumal Shrine. I will stand here as a Swayambu from this auspicious Vaikunda Ekadasi time and this place will come to be known as Thirupparkadal after my heavenly abode." So, for Sage Pundareeka the Lord appeared both in the standing and reclining postures (Ninraan, Kidandhaan) and as the Trinity (Brahma, Vishnu and Shiva) in the twin temples of Thirupparkadal.

Since the Lord had appeared for Pundareeka Maharishi on top of the Shivalingam, he is called Prasanna Venkatesa Perumal and Pundareeka Varadhan. The temple tank in which the Rishi bathed is called Pundareeka Theertham and the Kshethra is called Pundareeka Kshethram. It is here on the auspicious Thiruvona Nakshatra and Vaikunda Ekadasi Day that the Lord appeared as a swayambu before Sage Pundareeka.

The history of the temple accounts for four sages who worshipped Lord Vishnu at this Kshethra, namely,

Gowthama

Bharadwaja

Kashyapa

Agasthya

Swamy Desikan has performed Mangalasasanam (sung holy hymns) about the twin Lords of Thirupparkadal in his "Meiveega Maanmigam" (Verses 13, 14)

By worshipping the twin Lords of Thirupparkadal, one gets the benefit of worshipping the Trinity. Also they get the benefit of worshipping at Thirupparkadal, the heavenly abode of Lord Vishnu, where any person in Bhooloka cannot worship. Moreover, it is also believed that worshipping here can acquit a person of all sins accounted for by Chitragupta.

#### **Details of the Temple:**

The Two Perumals in this Temple

Standing Posture : Sri Prasanna Venkatesa Perumal

(Ninra Thirukkolam) (Mahavishnu, Shiva)

Reclining Posture : Sri Ranganatha Perumal (Sayana Thirukkolam) (Mahavishnu, Brahma)

Name of the Main Deity Goddess

Prasanna Venkatesan Alarmelmangai

Pundareeka Varadhan Padmavathi

Srinivasan

Thirumalai Azhagan Kadalmagal Naayaki

Vaikundanathan

Prathyaksham Vimaanam

Pundareeka Maharishi Pundareeka Vimaanam

Krishnadevaraya Sathveeka Vimanam,

Ananda Nilaya Vimaanam

Theertham Sthala Vriksham

Pundareeka Theertham Vilvam

Vegavathi

(Saraswathi Theertham) Thulasi

**Note:** By worshipping the Perumal in this Kshetram on Ekadasi, Thiruvonam, Pradosham, Sani Pradhosham, Full Moon Day, New Moon Day, and Vishnu Pathi Punyakaalam, donating Gingelly oil and Ghee for the lamps in the Sanctum Sanctorum and worshipping the lord with Vilvam and Thulsi leaves, all sins accounted for by Chitragupta, Doshas, physical ailments and ancestral curses will be removed and prayers granted. This is the speciality of this temple.

Since the Lord here appeared before the Vijayanagara Emperor, Krishna Deva Raya in the handsome form of Tirupathi Venkatachalapathy, he is called Thirumalai Azhagar. The Perumal in this shrine is believed to be the younger brother of Tirupathi Venkatachalapathy and hence any offerings that were intended for Tirupathi but could not be offered there can be offered to this Lord and he would accept them graciously.

The idols of King Krishnadevaraya who was instrumental in the expansion of this temple is seen along with Venkatapathirayulu, Dhanwan Nayakar, Rani Mangamma, Mangai and Ranganayaki in the inner mandapa of the sanctum sanctorum.

A snake about to catch a frog is seen carved on the footstep of the main shrine. Worshipping this is said to rid one of all ailments.

# Importance of the Pundareeka Vimaana/Anandha Nilaya Vimaana:

Here the Moolavar Sir Alarmelmangai Samedha Sri Prasanna Venkatesa Perumal stands on the Shivalingam in the Sanctum Sanctorum. This is a very ancient temple where daily poojas are performed based on the Vaikanasa Agama.

The Vimaana of the Moolavar Shrine is called Pundareeka Vimaana or Ananda Nilaya Vimaana.

On the east side we find Sri Gajendra Varadhan, astride an elephant.

On the South we find Sri Dhakshinamoorthy

On the West is Sri Lakshmi Narasimha and

On the North we find Sri Brahma.

This is a special feature of this temple which cannot be found anywhere else. Worshipping the Ananda Nilaya Vimaana is very powerful.

# Auspicious Days and how Celebrated Importance of Full Moon and New Moon Days:

There is a special beejaakshara called Sarathsarangam in Omkara. Saranga Birds who are said to be experts in Sama Veda Gana are said to be the proponents of the Sarathsarangam. By Worshipping the Vimaana, one's oratory capacities will be improved. Those involved in offering discourses, recitation, teaching, and stage speakers will benefit largely by worshipping here on Full Moon Day.

In a Yuga, the Saptha Rishis were caught in a cyclone and were unable to reach the shore. As they struggled for survival and could not fulfill their Veda Mantra chores, they heard the Sarathsaranga Beejaksharas emanating from this Ananda

Nilaya Vimaana and safely reached the shore. As this Vimaana was instrumental in the Saptharishis reaching the shore safely, this Kshetra came to be known as Thirukaraipuram.

From that day on, it is believed that the Saptharishis visit here and worship the Perumal on Sapthami Day through chanting of Vedas.

By worshipping Sri Prasanna Venkatesa Perumal here on Ekadasi, New Moon, and Full Moon Days and well as on Sapthami, one will be relieved of blame, slander, black magic, physical ailments, ancestral curse and all Doshas.

By performing ancestral rites here on Mahalaya Amavasya Day and offering raw rice to the temple, ancestral curses are relieved.

#### Importance of Pradhosham:

Here Sri Prasanna Venkatesa Perumal stands on Shivalingam and offers darshan to devotees. This is an example for the Tamil proverb which says "Hariyum Shivanum Onnu, Ariya Vayila Mannu" (Vishnu and Shiva are one and the same). Since the Lord stands on the Shivalingam, Pradhosham days are special here. By offering a combination of Gingelly Oil and Ghee and performing archana with Vilvam and Thulasi, it is believed that one can be relieved of Naga Dosha, Brahma Dosha, Navagraha Dosha, Nakshatra Dosha, Gruha Dosha, & Sareera Dosha.

#### Importance of Ekadasi:

There is no other Vratha as significant as Ekadasi Vratha. It is believed that those who meditate on Lord Vishnu and observe Ekadasi Vratha during waxing time (Valarpirai) attain Sri Vaikundam. This is based on the Ekadasi Vratha observed by Pundareeka Maharishi in this Kshetra on account which Lord Vishnu appeared before him and gave him Moksha. For having

sincere prayers answered, one should observe Ekadasi Vratham on Vaikunda Ekadasi day and worship at this shrine, and complete it by taking thulasi water prasadam here. Sincere and heartfelt prayers offered here on Vaikunda Ekadasi day by those who observe the Ekadasi Vratha will relieve them of all the sins that had accumulated in the account maintained by Chitraguptha. Therefore, Thirupparkadal is a temple that is capable of changing one's fate to the better.

#### Importance as rendered by Sage Agasthya:

Those who worship here on Thiruvonam star day, Ekadasi, Pradhosham, Vishnu Pathi Punyakaalam will be relieved from Naga Dosha, Chevvai Dosha, Nakshatra Dosha, Navagraha Dosha, Marriage hurdles, problems in childbirth, and Physical ailments.

#### Importance of Thiruvona Nakshatram:

Sri Alarmelmangai Samedha Sri Prasanna Venkatesa Perumal temple is a temple for those born on Thiruvonam star. Here one can witness the Lord in the rare form of standing over a Shiva Lingam. It is special because the forms of Vishnu and Shiva are united and found in the same Moorthy. Here the compassion of the Lord can be experienced through the incident of Sage Pundareeka Maharishi's life.

It is here that Lord Vishnu showed Pundareeka Maharishi how he can be seen at Thirupparkadal, the 107<sup>th</sup> Divya Desam, that no Bhoolakavasi can see. It was on Vaikunda Ekadasi and Thiruvonam Day that he appeared before the Sage. Which is why, this Kshetram came to be known as Thirupparkadal.

The milky ocean in Thirupparkadal is called Ksheeram. It is believed that the essence of this ocean is found under the ground in this Kshetram.

Thiruvonam is the star of Lord Vishnu." **Onathil Konamillai**" is a famous Tamil proverb. (There is nothing twisted for those born on Thiruvonam day). Worshipping the Lord here on Thiruvonam day will relieve one of all doshas.

For those working in the fields of ENT, Medicine, Law, Students, those suffering from Nakshatra Doshas, those desirous of improving their business, worshipping here on Thiruvonam, Pradhosham, and Sapthami days will answer their sincere prayers. Out of the 27 stars, only Thiruvonam (star of Mahavishnu) and Thiruvathirai (Star of Lord Shiva) come with the prefix of Thiru (Holy). Those born on these two stars can be relieved of Nakshatra Dosha, Navagraha Dosha and Chevvai Dosha by worshipping this unique Moorthy which is a combination of both Vishnu and Shiva.

#### List of shrines at the temple

#### A shrine where Damodharan willingly appeared:

This is the shrine where Perumal willingly appeared to solve the misery of his ardent devotee Sage Pundareeka. This is also the only shrine which has the unique name of Thirupparkadal, named after the heavenly abode of Lord Vishnu. By observing Ekadasi Vratham here and worshipping the twin temples of Sri Prasanna Venkatesa Perumal and Sri Ranganathar, one can be relieved of all sins.

#### Sri Chandra Bhagavan:

In a Yuga, Chandra (Moon) once lost his shine and glory. To regain his lost glory, he came to the banks of Vegavathi River (Paalaaru) and meditated on this Lord on Thiruvonam day with Thiruvona Devi. On the third day after New Moon, (Moonram Pirai) he regained his glory and powers. Since this is a temple where Chandra got back his glory, those who are dull in studies can become sharp by worshipping here. Rohini, Hastham and

Thiruvonam days are ideal for Chandra. By worshipping at this temple on those days, and obtaining Chandra Darisanam, one can gain knowledge and wisdom.

To reiterate, worshipping the Thirupparkadal Sri Prasanna Venkatesa Perumal on Thiruvonam, Thiruvadhirai, Ekadasi, Full Moon, New Moon, Pradhosham, and Vishnu Pathi Punyakaalam, one can be relieved of all sins, doshas and diseases.

To have sincere prayers answered and desires fulfilled, chanting this mantra 13 times and circumambulating the temple will be very helpful

"venkateşa venkateşa venkateşa pahimam, venkateşa venkateşa venkateşa rakşhamam | "

Note: Those born on Thiruvonam and Thiruvathirai stars will have all their sincere prayers answered by worshipping here on Thiruvonam day. By worshipping here on Thiruvonam, Ekadasi, Pradhosham, and Vishnu Pathi Punyakaalam by offering a combination of Gingelly Oil and Ghee, and performing archana with vilvam and thulasi one will be relieved of all sins accounted for by Chitragupta, Nakshatra Dosha, Navagraha Dosha and Marriage hurdles as per the Sthalapuranam of this temple.

#### Importance of Sri Alarmel Mangai Thayar Shrine:

Sri Alarmel Mangai Thayar, over five feet high can be found in the western corner of the temple, seated on Sri Chakram, with Emerald green costume, holding Lotus and Nilotpalam flowers. Those who face hurdles in getting married due to problems in their horoscope, offer garlands of 108 turmeric sticks to Sri Alarmel Mangai Thaayar on Fridays and Panguni Uthiram Days, light lamps of ghee, and perform archana with 108 lotus flowers or vilvam. After performing poojas, they

circumambulate the shrine 108 times to have their prayers fulfilled.

Those seeking childbirth, mop the steps of the shrine with ghee, draw Hridaya Kamalam Kolam with sugar on it and offer Sahasranama Archana with 1008 lotus flowers and perform "Angapradhakshina" to have their prayers answered.

#### Sri Andal Shrine:

The shrine of Sri Andal who sang the Thiruppavai has a separate shrine in this temple. The Moorthy is about 5 feet high and came be found in a separate shrine to the left of the Moolavar shrine.

#### Periya Thiruvadi (Sri Garudan):

In all Vaishnavite temples, a shrine for Sri Garudalwar, the Vahana of Sri Vishnu is sure to find its place. Here, Garuda can be seen in a mandapam opposite to the Moolavar shrine. Made of out of a single stone, this Garuda is about 3 feet high and is found with the nine serpents playing over his body.

The Garuda in this shrine is unique. He is found wearing the nine serpents including Adisesha as ornaments. Those seeking childbirth can have their prayers answered by worshipping this Garudalwar on Sukra paksha Panchami and Swathi Nakshatram days.

On Swathi day, the birth star of Garudalwar, every month, worshipping Garudalwar with Honey Abhishekam, lighting of 9 lamps with Gingelly oil, offering yellow silk Vastra, performing Archana and circumambulating the shrine 9 times will relieve one of chronic ailments. This shrine will also relieve one of family feuds and enmity, as well as Naga Dosha.

#### Siriya Thiruvadi (Sri Bhaktha Anjaneyar):

Sri Hanuman can be found with Anjali Hastham (Hands Joined

in prayer) facing the Moolavar shrine. Hanuman here can be seen with a knife in his thigh just like he is found in Namakkal. To have prayers answered, enemies defeated and navagraha dosha removed, one can light 9 lamps with gingelly oil every Sunday at Rahu Kalam (4.30 to 6 pm) for nine weeks, offer garland made of betel leaves or tulsi leaves, perform archana and circumambulate the shrine nine times.

#### Sri Nagaraja:

In this temple, we can find the idol of Kalinga Nardhana Krishna – Seven serpents with Krishna dancing on the central serpent – Kalinga. Those suffering from Chevvai Dosha or marriage hurdles due to problems in horoscope, can light 9 lamps with lemon rind, for 9 Tuesdays and perform 9 circumambulations around the shrine to be relieved of Chevvai Dosha and get successful marriage alliances.

#### Sri Navaneetha Krishnan:

Sri Krishna is found in this temple as Navaneetha Krishnan as described in the pasuram –

# " Aala maa marathin mel oru balaganai, kondal vannanai Kovalanai Vennai unda vaayan".

The Moorthy found here is unique with a ball of butter in one hand, one foot rested on the ground and the other raised in a dance posture. Those seeking childbirth offer an idol of crawling Krishna at this shrine on Rohini Nakshatram day, with beaten rice (Aval), Jaggery and butter and perform archana to have their prayers answered by Sri Krishnan.

"इarve janaa şukino bhavanthu"

# MAY THE GRACE OF SRI PRASANNA VENKATESA PERUMAL, THIRUPPARKADAL FILL YOUR LIVES WITH JOY!

IN DIVINE SERVICE

# MRS. KAMALA MANI & FAMILY

**ABHIRAMAPURAM** 

**CHENNAI 600 018** 



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- → Identifying and creating awareness about ancient, lesser known temples through its blog.
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- ◆ Supporting translation and printing of Sthalapuranams in English and other Indian languages
- Collecting old books on temples, digitising and organizing them into a heritage library for public.
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- → Organizing tours to lesser known and unique temples to promote patronage.
- ◆ Create patrons for identified temples to enable upkeep, maintenance and repairs.
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- → By contributing towards the activities of Aalayam Kanden Trust
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