



Sanatan Hindu Cultural Society



Your Questions Answered!

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General – Applies to both Pooja Booking and Darshan Only Registrations

When and where is SHCS Mahā Shivarātri Mahotsava?

Date: SHCS Mahā Shivarātri Mahotsava is on 18 February 2023.

Time: between 5pm and 9pm

Location: Thomas Wall Centre, SM1 4DP

More details on the Mahotsava programme

Below are the approximate timings and the draft programme.

- 5:00pm: pooja start; Sankalpa will follow
- 5:45pm: Rudrabhisheka start
- 6:30pm: Abhisheka finishes and pooja continues; Bhajans and cultural events start
- 7:30pm: Aarti
- 7:50pm onwards: those who booked Pooja can collect Pooja Prasad; all devotees will be served Prasad
- 8:00pm: Sahasranama pooja; Bhajans and cultural events resume
- 8:45pm: final aarti
- 9:00pm: Visarjan/close

I have not registered; can I still come?

Registration is required to attend. Due to hall capacity limits, entry will be prioritised to those who have already registered. Unregistered devotees may have to wait outside the hall long time or may not get entry.

What is the difference between Pooja booking and Darshan booking?

Pooja booking allows you to sit and be part of the Pooja, bhajans and other activities; you can arrive any time between 5pm and 9pm.

With Darshan booking, you will need to arrive at the pre-registered time. You will join a queue for Bhagawan's Darshan, will have option to perform the Abhisheka and collect Prasad; this will be a walkthrough and you will not have seating option.

Will you do pooja all night?

No. We are closing at 9pm.

Can I arrive at any time between 5pm and 9pm?

If you have booked for Pooja, you can arrive at any time between 5pm and 9pm; however we recommend you arrive early for Pooja Sankalpa and stay for the entire duration.

If you have booked for Darshan only, you need to arrive at the registered timing. We will may not be able to allow you inside other times due to hall capacity limits or you may need to wait outside for considerable time.

Is there Car Parking facility?

Thomas Wall Centre has limited number of car parking spaces. We expect these to be filled up quickly. Please check nearby car parking options if you are arriving by car.

Can I eat Prasad/food if I am fasting?

We are serving fasting food/prasad on the day. Alternatively you may collect only the Prasad which is acceptable during fasting. We will have an alternative option for young children.



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Can I bring food/prasad for distribution?

We are serving fasting food only. If you are planning to bring cooked food/prasad, please contact us in advance.

Can I bring milk, flowers or fruits?

Yes. Please deliver the Abhisheka milk before 5:45pm.

You can bring flowers, flower garlands and fruits at any time during the pooja.

Will I be able to do Abhisheka to Shiva?

Yes. we will have option for you to do Abhisheka.

Can I bring my own Shiva Linga and can you perform Abhisheka?

Due to logistics and other challenges, we will not be able to accept Shiva Linga you may bring.

I will not be able to attend the Mahotsava; how do I cancel my registration?

We appreciate if you can inform via email. We have huge demand and it will help us in allocating the space to someone else.

Pooja Bookings

Can I change the names provided for pooja Sankalpa?

Yes. Please reply to the confirmation email you have received from us with updated details.

Please note we will not be able to accept the changes on the day—either via email or at the venue.

What details I need to provide for Sankalpa?

Names of the family members and, if known, gotra, nakshatra and rashi.

I will not be able to attend the Pooja; will you still perform Pooja I booked?

Yes. We will use the names and details you have provided for Sankalpa and perform the pooja.

I will not be able to attend the Pooja; can I still collect the Prasad?

Yes. Prasad can be collected from the venue from around 7:50pm. You can ask someone else, who already registered for the event, to collect the Prasad. We will not be able to deliver the Prasad.

I want to change the Pooja I have booked

Please contact us via email with the details of the pooja you wish to perform.

How can make donations towards Pooja?

Please visit <https://www.sanatan-hcs.org/donate.html> for payment methods.

Can I make pooja payment at the hall?

We recommend making online payment in advance to avoid delays at registration desk at the hall. Payments at registration design can slow-down everyone entering via the same queue.

Can I do vocal or dance performances?

Yes, Shivaratri themed vocal and dance performances is possible. Please contact Sevaks in advance with more details to reserve. Reservation is required.

Which Bhajan/songs will be sung on the day?

Please refer to the list here: <to be added>



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Darshan Only Registrations

Will I be able to sit and watch the pooja or sing bhajans?

Darshan booking allows you to Bhagawan darshan (viewing), perform Abhisheka and collect Prasad. Due to hall capacity limits, seating is reserved for those who book Pooja.

Can I change my arrival time?

We are expecting all the slots to be fully booked. Hence changing to another slot may not be feasible.

What happens if I arrive early or late?

Priority will be given to those who arrive at the registered times. You may be asked to wait outside the venue while the queue inside is cleared.

Can I book Pooja on the day at the venue?

Pooja slots are limited in number and if they are fully booked, you will not be able to book at the venue. Also, you may not be able to book certain poojas if rituals are already complete. For example: if you are arriving after the Abhisheka, you will not be able to book Rudrabhisheka.

We recommend you booking in advance at <https://tinyurl.com/SHCS-Shivaratri>.

Do I need to pay for Darshan?

Darshan registrations do not have a mandatory donation requirement.

We welcome your support and donations which will contribute towards our objective of establishing a temple in/around Sutton.

About SHCS

More details about SHCS

Please visit our website: www.sanatan-hcs.org

SHCS contact details if any other queries

Email: info@sanatan-hcs.org

Whatsapp: 07443 801223, 07434 698224, 07747 268002

How do I stay in touch with SHCS events?

You can follow SHCS on Facebook, or join our Whatsapp group by contacting one of the numbers provided above.

How do I make donations to SHCS?

Please visit [Donations](#) page on our website for payment options.

How can I make complaint, provide feedback or send my comments?

Please send your complaints or comments to info@sanatan-hcs.org or fill in the [feedback form](#) online.