



## SRI VENKATESWARA TEMPLE

Location: 1230 S. McCully Dr., Penn Hills, PA 15235

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 17280, Pittsburgh, PA 15235

Phone: 412-373-3380 Fax: 412-373-7650 email: [svtemple.org](mailto:svtemple.org)

### Guidelines for Devotee darshan during COVID-19

- 1) If you or anyone in your group has the following symptoms of fever ( 100.4° F or above), persistent cough, shortness of breath, chills, body pains, sore throat or contact with someone diagnosed with COVID-19, please refrain from coming to the Temple as you will not be allowed entry. If you have developed loss of smell or taste this could indicate COVID -19 and we encourage you to isolate yourself and seek medical help immediately.
- 2) If you or your family member visited (with in last 14 days)a COVID- 19 hotspot either within USA or outside USA please isolate yourself, seek medical help and refrain from coming to the temple.
- 3) Darshan is strictly by appointment ONLY.
- 4) You are mandated to wear a face mask to gain entry into the temple premises and continue to wear it appropriately until you exit the temple. **NO MASKS NO ENTRANCE rule** will be strictly enforced (Kids under 2 years are excluded). Temple will not provide masks for safety reasons.
  - a) Avoid touching the face mask while in the Temple and DONOT remove during your entire visit to the temple. Your patience and cooperation is appreciated as it helps prevent spread of COVID -19 and keep the temple open for ardent devotees like you.
- 5) Please DO NOT bring any offerings (flowers, milk, home-cooked food, fruits, dry fruits etc.)
- 6) Follow **SV Temple Dress code** policy – No shorts and No sleeveless. Knee and shoulders should be covered.

### At the Temple:

1. Please arrive at least 15 minutes ahead of your appointment time to park and complete the sign in process.

2. Backpacks, bags, cell phones and other accessories not allowed in the temple. We highly recommend leaving footwear in your vehicle.
3. Follow the posted signs for Entrance, Darshan line and Exit. Access to most parts of the temple are restricted other than the marked route.
4. At the security entrance temperature check will be undertaken. If you or anyone in your group record a temperature of 100.4° F or more entry will be denied to you and your family/group and will be requested to leave the Temple premises immediately.
5. Please arrive on time to ensure seamless flow and darshan for both you and your fellow devotees. Volunteers will be positioned in strategic spots to help guide you during your visit to the temple.
6. Always follow social distancing (6ft apart).
7. Please follow the marked path as indicated by arrows from the entrance to the exit. Do not tamper with markings or items in the temple as they are placed to enforce social distancing.
8. The darshan path has several flights of stairs to negotiate, some of which are steep and can be challenging. We encourage you to call ahead for accommodating your needs.
9. There will be NO Harathi. Theertham, Shathari and prasadam until further notice.
10. Please wash your hands or use hand sanitizer before entering into the temple. Please refrain from touching anything in the temple premises.
11. Please keep young children under your watch at all times.
12. Pradakshanams will not be allowed and the barricades should not be touched.
13. There will be no access to Dhawaja Sthambam. No Sashtanga namaskaram at this time.
14. For your convenience there are markings on the floor 6 feet apart and you are encouraged to wait until the devotee ahead of you clears the space before you move. Families can stay together in one spot.

15. We will not accept cash payments for services at this time. Touchless donations will be accepted at the allocated space.
16. Only 5 families (maximum 25 people) will be allowed in Mahamandapam at any given time. Other devotees are encouraged to stay in their vehicle while waiting for their turn.
17. Daily on-line Archana and poojas will continue.
18. Kitchen is temporarily closed and there will be no food available at this time .
19. No devotees will be allowed in inner sanctum (Mukha Mandapam).
20. These guidelines are not intended to infringe on rights protected by the First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution or any other federal law, including the Religious Freedom Restoration Act of 1993 (RFRA). Please know that above guidelines are being instituted for everyone's safety. We respectfully ask the devotees for their help in following the above guidelines.
21. You and your family are visiting the temple at your own will and temple is not responsible for any COVID-19 related adverse outcomes.

**NOTE:** Your **appointment is subject to terms and conditions** and **Sri Venkateswara Temple** reserve full rights to cancel it anytime for any improper use.

**Sri Venkateswara Temple** reserve all rights to change the guidelines anytime as applicable without any prior notice.

Last updated: 07/26/2020