

Andal (Goda) Kalyanotsav

on the occasion of

MAKARA SANKRANTI (PONGAL)

At

Bharatiya Temple Inc.

1612 County Line Road, Chalfont, PA 18914

Phone: (215) 997-1181, Web Site: www.b-temple.org



Sunday, January 11th, 2009

9:00 AM	Suprabhatam followed by Andal Thiruppaavai.
10:00 AM	Sri Lakshmi Narayana Abhishekam
10:30 AM	Vishnu Sahasranamam
11:00 AM	Andal (Goda) Kalyanam
12:30 PM	Sarva Devata Aarti followed by prasadam

Suggested donation: Kalyanam- \$21

Andal (Goda) is one of the most extraordinary personalities in religious history. She is known in her native tongue of Tamil as an **Alvar**, one who is "immersed" in the depths of enjoyment of God, the omnipresent mysterious One. Tradition reckons 12 Alvars, of which Andal is the only female. Between the fifth and ninth centuries, in the Tamil-speaking region of South India, these saints revitalized the Indian religious milieu, sparking a renewal of devotional worship throughout the subcontinent. Traveling from place to place, from temple to temple, from holy site to holy site, they composed exceedingly beautiful poetry to their Divine Beloved, Vishnu, as an expression of their love for Him. Anyone can see why their poetry was so attractive; at once both impassioned and philosophical, their words cut across all barriers of caste and class, attracting all to their faith. In doing so, they sculpted a new religious heritage of intensely emotional **bhakti**, or love of the Divine, whose impact is still felt today in the Indian religious life.

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