

**Save the Date: September 7, 2025**

## **Lady of Velankani Feast Day Celebration**

Christianity has thrived in India since Saint Thomas the Apostle arrived in 52 A.D. In the 16th century, the Blessed Mother Mary appeared three times in Velankani, a coastal village in southern India, sparking hundreds of reported miracles.

For over 400 years, the annual feast on September 8th has drawn nearly 3 million pilgrims. The celebrations begin with flag hoisting, followed by nine days of novena, and culminate in a procession of Our Lady of Velankani's statue.

On November 3, 1962, Pope John XXIII elevated the shrine to Basilica status, calling it the “Lourdes of the East.” Today, Velankani remains one of India’s most visited religious sites, where Hindus, Muslims, and Christians worship together—a powerful symbol of faith, unity, and healing.



To learn more about our Lady of Velankani watch the attached YouTube video <https://youtu.be/jP-jGUXwjf0>

**Join us for a multi-cultural celebration on Sunday, September 7 to honor our Blessed Mother and celebrate the feast day**

- |         |                                  |
|---------|----------------------------------|
| 10:30AM | Procession (lower parking lot)   |
| 10:45AM | Holy Rosary (main Church)        |
| 11:00AM | Mass (main Church)               |
| 12:30PM | Luncheon Reception (Parish Hall) |



**Contact Us:** The celebration is hosted by the Indian Community of St. Jude. For more information or to help organize the event contact: Deacon Reuben: [reuben@sthude-redmond.org](mailto:reuben@sthude-redmond.org) or Joan Chandran: [joan@stjude-redmond.org](mailto:joan@stjude-redmond.org)

**Donations:** we are accepting donations to offset the cost of hosting the event. You can donate directly to St. Jude Parish Events by scanning the QR code:

