



PUTHUPALLY PERUNNAL

ST. GEORGE ORTHODOX CHURCH



LOCATION

**Panchayat/
Municipality/
Corporation**

Manarcaud Panchayat

District

Kottayam



ACCESSIBILITY

**Nearest Town/
Landmark/ Junction**

Puthupally Junction – 1Km

Nearest Bus station

Angadi Bus Stop – 5 m

**Nearest Railway
station**

Kottayam Railway Station – 8 Km

Nearest Airport

Cochin International Airport – 88.4 Km



CONTACT

St. George Orthodox Church
Manarcadu Thenganal Rd,
Near SBI ATM, Puthuppally - 686011
Website: puthuppallypally.in
Phone number: +91-481-2352404



TIME

DATES

April-May

FREQUENCY

Annual

DURATION

10 Days



ABOUT THE FESTIVAL (Legend/History/Myth)

This ancient church, known as Puthuppally Pally or Puthuppally Valiyapally, situated on the eastern bank of the rivulet Kodoorar and beside the Puthuppally-Changancherry road about a kilometre away from Puthuppally junction was rebuilt, expanded or renovated five times during its four and a half century existence. It was originally built as a Kochu Pally (chapel) in the name of St. Mary in AD 1557 near Vazhakulam Hindu temple on a hillock which later came to be known as Kochupallikunnu. Eight decades later in AD 1640 it was shifted and rebuilt in the name of Mar Bahanan Sahada at Elamthuruthi Kunnu, the present location. 110 years afterwards, in AD 1750, the church was rebuilt in the name of St. George, retaining the main portions of Mar Bahanan Church. The church was rebuilt and consecrated in AD 2003 transforming it into a composite shrine of three churches. The church of St. George was retained and the verandas on either side of it were replaced by a chapel in the name of St. Mary on the north side and a chapel in the name of St. Bahanan on the south side. The St. Mary's chapel of 1557 and St. Bahanan's church of 1640 were revived and rebuilt on either side of St. George's church of 1750. The festival is conducted to celebrate the Thirunal of St. George.



RELEVANCE- (Local / National / International)

Local



NO. OF PEOPLE PARTICIPATED

10000

EVENTS/PROGRAMS

Flag hoisting
Feast
Raza
Procession

DESCRIPTION *(How festival is celebrated)*

The festivities here begin with the hoisting of the festival flag-mast, ten days prior to the festival. *Virakideel* (bringing of firewood to the church) *Vechoottu* (a ceremonial feast), *Adya Choroonu* (a ritual in which children get their first feed of rice by priests) etc. are some of the rituals associated with the festival here. The grand festival procession *Raza*, witnesses the holy golden cross from the church being carried to the nearby Puthuppally junction. Brightly coloured ceremonial umbrellas, orchestra and the Holy crosses in wood, silver and gold make the procession a visual splendour.

