



PAVARATTY PERUNNAL

ST.JOSEPH'S PARISH SHRINE, PAVARATTY



LOCATION

Panchayath/
Municipality/
Corporation

Pavaratty Panchayat

District

Thrissur



ACCESSIBILITY

Nearest Town/
Landmark/ Junction

Pavaratty – 350 m

Nearest Bus station

Pavaratty Junction Bus Stop – 300 m

Nearest Railway
station

Guruvayur Railway Station – 5.5 km

Nearest Airport

Cochin International Airport – 73.9 km



CONTACT

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 TIME	 DATES April	 FREQUENCY Annually	 DURATION 3 days
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ABOUT THE FESTIVAL (Legend/History/Myth)

The area called Pavaratty was under the Chittattukara parish for a long time. The church officials of Chittattukara didn't pay any heed to the request of the people from Pavaratty regarding the time of ceremonies and they decided to build a church on their own at Pavaratty. The ancient Palayur Church was all in support of the venture of the Pavaratty people and allowed them to complete a church with thatched palm - splints and coconut tree-pillars. The simple structure was blessed on the 13th April 1876, on a Maundy Thursday. Without delay, they set out to construct a permanent structure and it was completed in 1880, and the miraculous statue was placed with honour on the main altar. The Annual Grand Feast of the Shrine falls on the third Sunday after Easter. The feast of St.Joseph, the Universal Patron is observed here. It is one of the most significant church festivals of Kerala.

 RELEVANCE- (Local / National / International)	 Local	 NO. OF PEOPLE PARTICIPATED	 Approximately 1000
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EVENTS/PROGRAMS

The Flag Hosting

Kooduthurakkal

Bangle procession

Nivedya Pooja

Fire Works

DESCRIPTION (*How festival is celebrated*)

The Novena starts with the feast at St. Antony's Chapel, just in front of the shrine. After the holy mass at the chapel, the flag having the holy picture of the St. Joseph is hoisted on the metal pillar (this is known as *kodimaram*) and it marks the beginning of the feast. Special ceremonies are observed on all Nine days. On the eve, the Saturday, special Holy Mass (known as *Naivedya Puja*) is said and together with it the "Holy food" of the feast is blessed. In the evening High Holy Mass is sung and the holy Statue is presented for public veneration (*Kooduthurakkal*) Following it, the first set of fireworks display gives solace and joy to the thousands of devotees gathered. Later at midnight, the grand competitive display of fire works (from the two sections of the parish) takes place and it lasts for three hours. From 3 o'clock to 9 o'clock Holy Masses are offered and at 10 am we have the Grand High Mass followed by the Novena and the Procession. One of the chief features of the Grand Feast is the Bangle procession (*Vala Ezhunnallippu*). The Holy statue of St. Joseph of Pavaratty church has having the legendary blossoming Lily in hand; the holy father is presented as a bridegroom with bracelets (bangles) on his arms.

