



UNNIMISHIHAYUDE DARSHANATHIRUNNAL MAR SLEEVA FORANE CHURCH ,CHERPUNKAL



LOCATION

**Panchayat/
Municipality/
Corporation**

Pala Municipality

District

Kottayam



ACCESSIBILITY

**Nearest Town/
Landmark/ Junction**

Holy Cross Higher Secondary School – 92 m

Nearest Bus Station

Kezhuvamkulam Kurishupalli Junction Bus Stop -
1.2 Km

**Nearest Railway
Station**

Kottayam Railway Station – 22 Km

Nearest Airport

Cochin International Airport – 73 Km



CONTACT

Mar Sleeva Forane Church
Cherpunkal

Kottayam – 686584

Phone 1: +91-4822-268400

Phone 2: +91-4822-267561

Email: cherpunkalchurch@gmail.com

Website: www.marsleevachurch.org



TIME

DATES

25 December – 2 January

FREQUENCY

Annual

DURATION

9 Days



ABOUT THE FESTIVAL (Legend/History/Myth)

Unnimishihayude Darshana Thirunal is one of the most important festivals at the Cherpunkal Church celebrated to commemorate the circumcision of Infant Jesus. The church also known as the Holy Cross Church, believed to have been established by Thomas the Apostle himself boasts of a historical cross. The cross is said to have been instrumental in working out numerous miracles. Devotees treat Jesus at the church as Infant Jesus or 'Kudathelunni' and the Novena and offerings of gingelly oil and gold at the shrine have transformed it into a very popular pilgrim destination.



RELEVANCE-
(Local / National / International)

Local



NO. OF PEOPLE PARTICIPATED

Above 5000

EVENTS/PROGRAMS

DESCRIPTION *(How festival is celebrated)*



Kurbana
Novena
Thirunal Rasa
Holy Mass and Rituals
Special Prayers
Spiritual Discourses
Community Meet
Holy Procession
Cultural Programmes

The Thirunal celebrations commence with the hoisting of the flag and subsequent nativity celebrations on 25 December. The event is in commemoration of the circumcision of Infant Jesus. During the festival days that follow there are devotional services and processions with due ceremonials from the parish, pyrotechnics and numerous artistic performances make the occasion spectacular. The church and its premises are filled to capacity by devotees during the prayers to welcome the new year as well as during the ceremonial Holy Mass. The celebrations also include cultural programs and stage shows.

