



ETTU NOMBU FEAST

ST. ALPHONSA SHRINE CHURCH AND PILGRIM CENTRE



LOCATION

**Panchayat/
Municipality/
Corporation**

Kuravilangad Panchayat

District

Kottayam



ACCESSIBILITY

**Nearest Town/
Landmark/ Junction**

Pala Town– 5 Km

Nearest Bus station

Mary Giri Bus Stop – 600 m

**Nearest Railway
station**

Ettumanoor Railway Station – 11.9 Km

Nearest Airport

Cochin International Airport – 65.3 Km



CONTACT

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TIME

DATES

September 1 - 8

FREQUENCY

Annual

DURATION

8 Days

ABOUT THE FESTIVAL (Legend/History/Myth)

Traditional beliefs, some legendary factors and historical associations contribute to the actual history of the church. It is believed that four Christian families - viz. Palli (Kalli), Kaliyakal (kalikavu), Sankarapuri and Pakalomattam from Palayur arrived at Ettumanoor and they moved to Kalikavu near Kuravilangad in the beginning of the second century. It is also believed that Our Lady appeared to a few children at Kuravilangad, who were tending their flock in the bushes. Our Lady asked them to build a church at the place from where a miraculous perpetual spring sprouted, a spring (Kuruvilangad Church's Altar Fountain) which exists even today. The children reported this matter to the elders and a church was built there. The present church was completed in 1960 when Rev. Fr. Thomas Manakattu was the parish priest. September 1 to 8 represents the historic eight day lent. During this time, the church celebrate the Feast in the Remembrance of the birth of St. Mary (Nativity of Mary) and the eight days Lent is rigorously observed with charitable activities, evangelical Conventions and special prayers to honor St. Mary. Praying Rosary in groups is an important custom these days.



RELEVANCE-
(Local / National / International)

Local



NO. OF PEOPLE PARTICIPATED

Approximately 10000

EVENTS/PROGRAMS

Flag Hoisting Ceremony
Special Prayers
Holy Mass
Novena
Candle Lit Procession
Umbrella Procession
Free Food Serving

DESCRIPTION *(How festival is celebrated)*

The festival starts with Flag Hoisting Ceremony on September 1st. then Special Prayers, Holy Mass, Novena etc will be conducted in all the following days. Candle Lit Procession is very beautiful which is conducted in the night of St. Mary's birthday. Umbrella Procession will be conducted in the morning which starts from the Church Altar. Free Food Serving will also be conducted.

