

*28th Annual
InterFaith Concert:
A Celebration of the Sacred
in Song, Dance and Chant*



*Honoring Marie and Wendell Johns
for their leadership and community service*

*Combined Choir Director: J. Reilly Lewis
(Cathedral Choral Society)*

*Mistress of Ceremonies: Dr. JC Hayward
(Vice-President for Media Outreach, W*USA-TV 9)*



Tuesday, November 13, 2007 at 7:30 PM

**Basilica of the National Shrine
of the Immaculate Conception**





HINDU / JAIN Pushpanjali Dance Group

Pushpanjali group will present two invocations to Lord Ganesha and Lord Shiva in Bharat Natyam styles.

Bharat Natyam is the most popular form of Indian classical dance and has received universal approbation as one of the most subtle expressions of Indian culture. Its origins are more than 2000 years old and originated in the temples of South India.

Bharat-Natyam is an art combining rhythmic patterns of the feet, sculpturesque poses of the body and limbs, intricate gestures of the hands and varied expressions of the face.

Tonight's first dance "Ganesh Stuthi" praises Lord Ganesh. Lord Ganesh is the Lord of Wisdom, music and dance and every important event in Hinduism begins with the chants of Lord Ganesh.

The second segment of this presentation is a "Shiva Tandav". According to Hindu mythology, the supreme lord of dance is Shiva, the third of the Hindu trinity. Brahma is the Creator and Vishnu the merciful and preserver of mankind. Shiva represents that aspect of God who creates good (true knowledge) and destroys evil (ignorance). He is the source of cosmic harmony and peace. In this dance the three aspects of Destructive, Yogic and Gift giving are shown. Dancers pray for their souls to be purified and ask for Salvation on Earth.

These dances are choreographed by Renuka Sahay, who is the director of Pushpanjali Dance Group.

Dancers: Swati More, Jessica Lyman, Shreya Gheewala, Nikita Kohli, Amrita Smith, Tejeshwari Peesay and Arundhati Acharyya.



ISLAMIC Native Deen

The *Adhan* (Call to Prayer) begins our celebration this evening. In English, the *Adhan* is translated as follows (the number beside each proclamation denotes how many times it is said):
Allah (God) is great (4)! I bear witness that there is no God but Allah (2)! I bear witness that Muhammad is the messenger of Allah (2)!
Come to prayer (2)! Come to prosperity (2)! God is Great (2)!
There is none worthy of worship except God (1)!

