



GANEŠĀNJALI



Temple Newsletter

June 2022



ŚRI MAHA VALLABHA GANAPATI

THE HINDU TEMPLE SOCIETY OF NORTH AMERICA, NY

Śri Mahā Vallabha Ganapati Devasthānam

45-57 Bowne Street, Flushing, New York 11355-2202

Tel: (718) 460-8484 ext.112 • Fax: (718) 461-8055

<https://nyganeshtemple.org> • email: hts@nyganeshtemple.org

June 2022 • Vol 45-22 • No. 1N • 2 Issues per Year

CANTEEN & CATERING SERVICES of The Hindu Temple Society of NA

143-09 Holly Ave. Flushing, NY 11355



Temple Canteen is currently offering the following dining options
Daily from 8:30 AM to 9:00 PM

Take-Out - for info see: canteen.nyganesh temple.org

Indoor Dining - Facemask recommended.

Temple Canteen also offers **delivery services** with
UberEats, Grubhub and DoorDash from 8:30 AM to 8:00 PM all days

With the grace and blessings of Sri Maha Vallabha Ganapati, the Temple canteen was started in 1993 - mainly to prepare "naivedyam" (food offering) to the deities in accordance with agama sastras. The authentic South Indian food at the canteen was a great appeal to devotees as well, who enjoyed the traditional flavor and taste of idli, dosa, pongal, upma, sambar, chutney, etc., Thanks to the encouragement of devotees, the canteen grew rapidly and moved in 1998 to the current, spacious location in the community center.

Please visit our dedicated canteen website for more information

Please visit the Temple Canteen's website: canteen.nyganesh temple.org

email: canteen@nyganesh temple.org

Tel: (718) 460-8493 or (718) 460-8484 ext.123

A Letter From the President

Dear Fellow Devotees,

Namaste & Greetings!

By the Grace of God, year 2022 has begun well, following the COVID19 pandemic for almost two years. Our sincere prayers to Sri Maha Vallabha Ganapati and all the Devatas of the Temple to shower their grace and blessings for a safe 2022 and beyond. Temple has been fully open for the devotees for darshan and are also able to participate in all the festivals. All the nitya poojas and festivals continue to be performed by the Priests. Several of the religious services are being live-streamed including Sarva Devata Hārati. All these have become quite popular.

As many of you are already aware, by the Grace of Lord Ganesa, the presiding Deity and all other Deities along with the support of devotees, many elected officials, community leaders and interfaith leaders, Bowne St. was co-named as 'Ganesh Temple St.' on Saturday, April 2, 2022. Co-naming ceremony was unique and filled with pride by all the devotees who witnessed the ceremony. The whole event was live-streamed and many people in India were also able to watch and feel proud. The street name plate along with silver pot containing sacred water and other pooja materials were carried by Temple priests around the Temple and accompanied by the auspicious sound of drums to the pole outside at the corner where the unveiling of the name plate took place. The unveiling was done by the Consul General of India, Mr. Randhir Jaiswal. Among other dignitaries who participated and witnessed the event included Queens Borough President Donovan Richards, Senator John Liu, former Councilman Peter Koo, and the current councilwoman Sandra Ung, several other community leaders and hundreds of devotees. This was a moment of great pride and accomplishment for all Hindus.

This year will be very special as we will be celebrating the long-awaited Kumbhabhishekam postponed since 2020 due to the pandemic. All the preparations for this special event are underway and dates for the Kumbhabhishekam and all other details are already announced. (see page - 6). We appeal to all of you for your support and participation in this very special event.

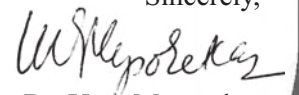
There were several interfaith and community events in the last six months. Cultural events included 73rd Republic Day Celebrations, Madhwa Navami weekend celebrations, Annual Holi Festival and Earth Day and Music program for Sri Rama Navami Celebrations, Health & Wellness during the Pandemic - Session #5, Acharya Day and Interfaith Service for Ukraine. All these events were held virtually. Patasala continued online and the online Summer Camp is scheduled again this year in July. (see page - 4) Temple Canteen continues to function normally, following all the city guidelines.

My sincere thanks and gratitude to you all for your support of the Temple by your generous contributions in this difficult time. We look forward to your continued support in coming months and years as well. We thank our dedicated volunteers and our staff for their excellent and devoted service even in stressful conditions. May God bless them all.

May the blessings of *Śri Mahā Vallabha Ganapati* be always with you and your families.

Sarve Jana Sukhino Bhavanth

Sincerely,



Dr. Uma Mysorekar
President



THE HINDU TEMPLE SOCIETY OF NORTH AMERICA
Śri Mahā Vallabha Ganapati Devasthānam
45-57 Bowne Street, Flushing, NY 11355



ONLINE SUMMER CAMP 2022

July 18th - July 22nd, 2022

5 DAY - ONLINE CAMP SESSIONS

AGES: 7 YRS & Above

MONDAY - FRIDAY : 9:00 AM - 2:00 PM

Theme:

HINDU HERITAGE

The online summer camp will be conducted this year with a focus on the Yoga, Hindu culture and heritage.

Activities include : Yoga, Hindu culture, heritage, fun and games.

Fee for the online Camp is \$50.00 per child

Those interested may please register online at

<http://nyganeshtemple.org/summer>

...DEADLINE for Registration July 8, 2022...

Early Registration Recommended -

Accepted on "First Come" basis.



For further information please email: patasala@nyganeshtemple.org
or Prema Desai : pdesai82@aol.com

MAHĀ KUMBHĀBHISHEKAM 2022

By: M.R. Ravi Vaidyanaat Šivāchāriar

Kumbhābhishekam (consecration) of deities in and of a temple is a holy but complex ritual of ceremonies which is essentially religious in significance and meant to secure the divine presence of the deities installed at the sanctum sanctorum and to maintain the sanctity of the shrines and the temple as a whole

The word *Kumbhābhishekam* could be split into two namely *Kumbha + Abhishekam*. 'Kumbha' is an abbreviation of *Kumbhaka* meaning holding or retention of *prānaśakthi* or life source of energy. *Abhishekam* refers to the ceremonial act of sprinkling ablution on an object for ritualistic purification. It is also referred as *Thirumanjanam* in *Tamizh* and *Divyābhishekam* in some text. Other applications of this word are *Snapanā-abhishekam*, *Suddhikara abhishekam*, *Samprokshanam*, *Pattābhishekam* and *Kumbhābhishekam*.

Purpose of consecration

Consecration signifies dedicating an object and place solemnly recognizing the particular object and place as sacred and worthy of devotion. The deity becomes a worthy object of worship only when it is ritually installed in a temple and a temple is transformed into a fit place for worship when duly consecrated. This ritual also infuses into the deity a new power, at once spiritual and occult, so that when a devotee worships he absorbs this power, of course, according to his own capacity, predisposition or understanding. To summarize, this ritual is believed to homogenize, synergize and unite deities' mystic powers.

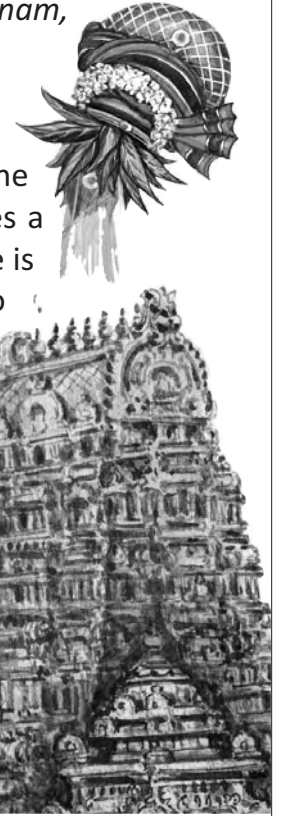
Consecration rituals are performed when a newly built shrine, prayer hall, towers, domes and enclosures. Re-consecration rituals are performed if any structural modifications or renovation, restoration, repair, maintenance, rejuvenation or such other reasons, else normally once in twelve calendar years.

Process involved in consecration

If the ritual is in perfect accord with the Agamic prescriptions with all the details meticulously followed, it facilitates the presence of supreme or transcendental elements in the deity worshipped. This ritual infuses vitality into the limbs of the icon conceived as a living person and invokes divine aspects in each of them.

Earthen clay or metallic water pots are wound with three-stranded cotton threads in a systematic way. Mango leaves, coconut, bunch of halfa grass are tied with three prongs are placed over the water pots. Arrays of such decorated pots are filled with sacred water, perfumes, gems and such other recommended valuable substances. The power and energy of the presiding deities at the temple are invoked in these water pots through a ritual and placed on rice grains in a raised square platform at a designated place.

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MAHĀ KUMBHĀBHISHEKAM 2022

The invoked deity in the water pots are conceived to be the nature of consciousness as it holds the cosmic energy. According to the procedure prescribed, one or more distinctive geometrically designed fire pits are built. Sacramental rituals and oblations are offered both at the fire pits and array of water pots with simultaneous chanting from the holy text pertaining to each deity. The rituals are continued for even number of times both in the morning and evening.

At an appropriate auspicious moment, with the energizing chanting of divine names from the holy text, playing of musical instruments, blowing the conch, echoing sound of the bells, the main ritual of sprinkling the sacred water on towers and domes, showering of the deities and shrines in a ceremonial way the consecration thus performed. Priests then offer prayers to the deity for the energy to dwell in the icon for ever (till the existence of Sun and Moon) to confer benefits on mankind. The deities and shrines thus get new power. The consecrated water is then sprinkled on all the devotees present as a token of blessing and grace of God. Worshipping the newly energized, fully manifested form of all-pervading supreme being would yield the desired results. The deity worshipped in the temple is in reality the supreme principle beyond our reach or comprehension, but the worship rituals necessitate a concrete representation of the transcendental principles in the form of an icon or deity.

Agitāgama states, “*Pratibimbastitam mantram, pratishteti prakeertitam*” meaning every ritual gets naturally glorified and energized with the chanting from the holy text during consecration. The rituals are meant to secure a divine presence in the deity installed at the sanctum sanctorum and to maintain continued sanctity of the shrine

SAVE THE DATE

Jeernoddhārana Punarāvartana Swarnabandhana

Mahā Kumbhābhishekam (5th Consecration)

August 31, (Wednesday) - September 7, 2022 (Wednesday)

SCHEDULE HIGHLIGHTS

August 31, 2022 (Wednesday)

Śri Śiva, Śri Pārvati, Śri Shanmukha-Valli-Devasenā, Śri Venkateśwara, Śri Mahā Lakshmi, Śri Hanuman, and Śri Kāmākshi - Balasthāpanam, Swarna & Rajata Bandhana.

September 1st thru September 7th, 2022

Mahā Kumbhābhisheka Kriyās

September 7, 2022 (Wednesday)

All Gopurams & Vimanās, Śri Maha Ganapati, Śri Śiva, Śri Pārvati, Śri Shanmukha-Valli-Devasenā, Śri Venkateśwara, Śri Mahā Lakshmi and Śri Hanuman - Mahā Kumbhābhishekam

FESTIVALS



*New Year's Day
Saturday, January 1st, 2022*



*Śri Hanumān Jayanti
Saturday, January 1st, 2022*



*Vaikuntha Ekādaśi
Wednesday, January 12th - Thursday, January 13th, 2022*



*Makara Sankrānti - Śri Ayyappa Pooja
Friday, January 14th, 2022*



*Śri Dhanvantari Mantra Japam
Wednesday, January 26th - Tuesday, February 1st, 2022*



*Mahā Śivarātri Celebrations
Friday, February 25th - Tuesday, March 1st, 2022*

FESTIVALS



Mahā Śivarātri Celebrations
Friday, February 25th - Tuesday, March 1st, 2022



Śri Rāma Navami Utsavam
Friday, April 1st - Sunday, April 10th, 2022



Sri Dakshinamoorthy Mantra Japam
Tuesday, April 26th - Thursday, April 28th, 2022



Śri Śiva Mahotsavam
Friday, May 6th - Sunday, May 15th, 2022



Śri Śiva Mahotsavam
Friday, May 6th - Sunday, May 15th, 2022

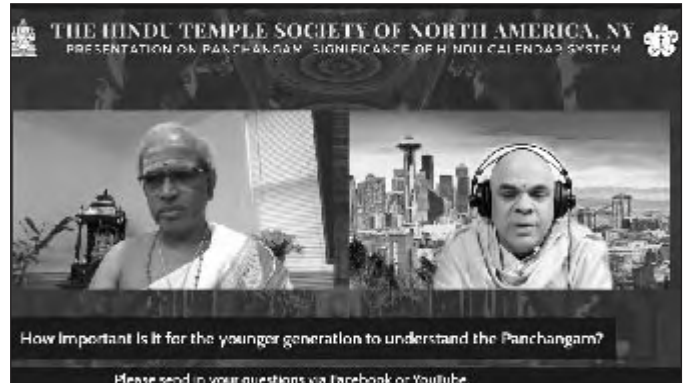


Śri Satyanārāyana Kalyāna Utsavam
Wednesday, May 11th, 2022

VIRTUAL CULTURAL & OUTREACH ACTIVITIES



*Learning Series - Session #46
"Worship at Home versus Temple - Part 2"
Sunday, December 12th, 2021*



*Webinar Presentation on Panchangam:
"Significance of Hindu Calendar System"
Saturday, December 18, 2021*



*Virtual Ganesha Patasala Celebrations
Sunday, December 19, 2021*



*Republic Day Celebrations
Sunday, January 30, 2022*



*Health & Wellness during the Pandemic - Session #5
Saturday, February 5th, 2022*



*Virtual Interfaith Service for Ukraine
Saturday, March 12, 2022*

VIRTUAL CULTURAL & OUTREACH ACTIVITIES



*Co-naming Ceremony Bowne St. / Ganesh Temple St
Saturday, April 2nd, 2022*



*Annual Holi Festival and Earth Day
Saturday, March 26, 2022*



*'Significance Sri Rama Navami & Śri Rāma Bhajans
(Śri Rāma Navami Celebrations)
Sunday, April 10, 2022*



*Archarya Day
Sunday, May 8th, 2022*



Acharya Day - A Tribute to all the great Acharyas - Presented by Patashala Students, Shruthi &

SUGGESTED HOMAMS / POOJAS FOR PARIHARA,

GENERAL WELFARE & DURING OTHER

AUSPICIOUS EVENTS

Mahā Ganapati Homam	
Sudaršana Homam	<i>Removal of all obstacles</i>
Sankata Hara Chaturthi Pooja	
.....	
Mahā Lakshmi Homam	
Šankhābhishekam	<i>Success in all endeavors</i>
.....	
Mrityunjaya Homam	
Dhanvantari Homam	<i>Recover from ill-health</i>
Āditya Hrudaya Pārāyanam/Homam	
.....	
Nāga Śanti Homam	
Subrahmanya Homam	
Kāla Rāhu Śanti Homam	<i>Removal of Sarpa Dosha</i>
Nāga Pratishtha	
Āślesha Homam	
Garuda Homam	
.....	
Chandi Homam	
Sudaršana Homam	<i>Recovery from difficult times</i>
Navagraha Homam	
.....	
Navagraha Homam	<i>Overcoming problems</i>
Sudaršana Homam	
.....	
Santāna Gopala Krishna Homam	
Purusha Sookta Homam	<i>Praying for child</i>
.....	
Swayamvara Pārvasī Pooja	
Durga Deepa Namaskaram	<i>Praying for marriage</i>
Srinivāsa Kalyānam	
Pārvasī Kalyānam	
.....	
Bāla Mārkaṇḍeya Homam	
Āyushya Homam	<i>Protecting child</i>
.....	
Mahā Ganapati Homam	
Sudaršana Homam	<i>Moving into new house</i>
Vishnu Homam, Vastu Homam	
Rakshoghna Homam	
.....	
Āyushya Homam	<i>First and subsequent birthdays</i>
.....	
Āyushya Homam	
Rudra Homam	<i>60th, 70th, & 80th birthdays</i>
Navagraha Homam	<i>and Longevity</i>
Mrityunjaya Homam	
Sarva Devata Homam	
Sudaršana Homam	
Dhanvantari Homam	
.....	
Saraswati Homam	<i>Initiating into studies</i>
.....	
Sudaršana Homam	<i>Business Development</i>
.....	
Chandi Pātha Samputi	
Pārāyanam / Homam	<i>Career Advancement</i>
.....	
Sandhi Śanti Homam	<i>Graha Śanti</i>
.....	
Lakshmi Nārāyana Hrudaya	
Pārāyanam / Homam	<i>Prosperity</i>
.....	
Satyanārāyana Pooja	
Budha Graha Śanti Pooja	<i>Wisdom</i>
.....	
Tila Homam, Prāyaschitta	
Pavamāna Homam	<i>Repentance</i>
.....	
Satyanārāyana Pooja	<i>General Welfare (Loka Kshemam)</i>
.....	
Sundara Khānda Pārāyanam	<i>For success in all efforts</i>
.....	

RELIGIOUS SERVICES

ABHISHEKAMS:

Regular **Abhishekam** for all deities

Šankha Abhishekam for all deities (at Temple only)

Ekādaśavāra Rudrābhishekam

Kanaka Abhishekam for all deities (at the Temple only)

Sarva Devata Abhishekam

ARCHANAS:

Ashtottaram (108)

Sahasra Nāma (1,008)

Triśati (300)

HOMAMS:

Ganapati Homam

Śri Rudra Homam

Sarva Devata Homam

Sudaršana Homam

Chandi Homam

Dhanvantri Homam

Vishnu Homam

Saraswati Homam

Lakshmi Narasimha Homam

Navagraha Homam

Nāga Śanti Homam

Mrityunjaya Homam

Śri Subrahmanya Homam

Āyushya Homam

SAMSKĀRAS:

Nāma Karanam

Seemantham

Shashti Abda Poorthi

Šathābhishekam

Punyāhavāchanam

Griha Ārambham

Annaprāśanam

Griha Praveśam

Apara Kriyas

Vidyārambham

Upanayanam

Hiranya Śrāddham / Pitru Tarpanam

Hair Offering

Vivāham (Wedding)

SPECIAL POOJAS for Deities:

Śri Satyanārāyana Pooja

Navāvarana Pooja

Śri Guru Pāduka Pooja

Śree Mahā Meru

Kalyāna Utsavam

Navagraha Śanti

OTHER POOJAS / SERVICES:

New Business

Veda Pārāyana

Sundara Khānda Pārāyanam

Saptasati Pārāyanam

New Vehicle/ New House

Travel

**Book Religious Services over the
Phone at (718) 460-8484 ext.112
or online at nyganeshtemple.org**

THE HINDU TEMPLE SOCIETY OF NORTH AMERICA, NY

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Timings to visit the Temple are as follows:

Monday thru Friday: 8:00 AM - 8:30 PM

Saturdays & Sundays: 7:30 AM - 8:30 PM

Please note: ALL DEVOTEES visiting the Temple :

- Face Masks are mandatory to enter the Temple.
- Chanting or singing by anyone other than the Temple priests, is strictly prohibited while inside the Mahā Mantapam.
- Timings for admittance are subject to change at the discretion of the Temple Management, before visiting the Temple please contact the Counter directly (718) 460-8484 ext. 112 or visit the Temple website - nyganeshtemple.org/temple-timings

Pooja Schedules - nyganeshtemple.org/pooja-schedule

Join Online Chanting and Prayer on Festival days see - nyganeshtemple.org/prayer

Weekly live-streaming schedules see - nyganeshtemple.org/tv

Devotees may watch LIVE: [Facebook.com/nyganeshtemple](https://www.facebook.com/nyganeshtemple) or [YouTube.com/nyganeshtemple](https://www.youtube.com/nyganeshtemple)

Please support the Temple during these challenging times by donating online generously at - nyganeshtemple.org/donations-annadanam

Temple Canteen / Catering Services see - canteen.nyganeshtemple.org

Patasala Online Classes see - nyganeshtemple.org/patasala

Yoga Classes Online see - nyganeshtemple.org/yoga

Veda & Divya Prabhandha Classes Online - nyganeshtemple.org/divya-prabhandha-veda-classes

Akshayam (HTS Young Professionals Team)info see - nyganeshtemple.org/akshayam

Senior Center Activities Online see - nyganeshtemple.org/seniors

Thank you for your cooperation.

SUPPORT THE TEMPLE

Please join us celebrating the religious and cultural activities of the Temple with your family and receive the blessings of Śri Mahā Vallabha Ganapati.