



GAÑEŠĀNJALI



Temple Newsletter

December 2025



ŚRI DURGA 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

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 8:30 PM

Indoor Dining - open daily

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

Temple Canteen also offers **delivery services** with
UberEats from 8:30 AM to 7:00 PM all days

About the Temple Canteen - With the grace and blessings of Śrī Mahā Vallabha Ganapati, the Temple canteen was started in the Temple basement in 1993 and moved to the present location in 1998. The authentic South Indian food at the canteen is a great appeal to devotees, who enjoy the traditional flavor and taste of idli, dosa, pongal, upma, sambar, chutney, and much more. Thanks to the encouragement of devotees, the canteen continues to grow in its popularity.

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. Wish you all a very Happy Holidays and a very Happy New Year. The year 2025 was yet another successful year, celebrating of the 48th Anniversary of the Temple. As always *Ganesh Chaturthi* celebrations were grand and thousands of devotees participated in the daily festivities and the grand *Ratha Yātra*.

A Fundraising event towards constructing an Outreach Center was organized with music concert by Shruti Shekar (Vijay TV Super Singer) and live band in the Auditorium and this was very successful. Besides this, several cultural programs were organized during the last six months. Just to state a few of them were the Anniversary celebrations of the Senior Center program with variety entertainment program of music and dance in Saraswati Hall, 78th Independence Day of India celebrations with flag march, patriotic songs along with Swami Vivekananda's Life and his Influence. Besides these, several other cultural programs were organized.

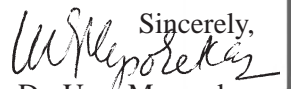
Youth group is active and our goal is to give them as many opportunities as possible to exhibit their talents. Youth participated in American Cancer Society's Breast Cancer walk in October "Making Strides Against Cancer" to fund breast cancer research. Temple raised \$8,700 towards this noble cause. Temple continues to play a significant role in promoting interfaith gatherings. For the first time our Temple and JCRC (Jewish Community Relations Council) had organized a combined event to share the cultural themes of Deepavali & Sukkot on October 26th at Queens College. The program was excellent and very well participated. A special presentation on Crime Prevention Education by Police Officer John Vlaovich, NYPD, Crime Prevention Unit, 109 Pct. was organized and this included jewelry scams, crimes targeting seniors, bank and financial scams. This was very informative and helpful.

The Pātaśāla enrollment continues to grow and classes for the 2025-26 academic year began in September as well as Dance, Vocal and Veena classes. We encourage parents to enroll their children in the Pātaśāla which focuses on education and fine arts. Yoga classes are conducted weekly in person, Veda & Divya Prabhandha classes for adults via zoom and devotees are encouraged to enroll and participate. Monthly Learning Series continues and devotees can visit the Temple website for details and schedules.

I am very thankful to the Temple staff, volunteers and security for their sincere services. My sincere thanks to all of you for your support and generous contributions so that our Temple can grow and prosper. I once again appeal to all of you to continue to extend your patronage.

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

Sarve Jana Sukhino Bhavanthu

Sincerely,

Dr. Uma Mysorekar
President



EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES of GANEŠA PĀTAŠĀLA (Academic Year: 2025 - 2026)

Every SATURDAY (IN-PERSON)

8:00 AM to 8:45 AM	MATH TUTORING (Grades K - 8)
8:30 AM to 9:25 AM	SANSKRIT for Children (All Levels)
9:30 AM to 9:55 AM	BHAJANS (All Grades)
10:00 AM to 10:25 AM	SLOKA CHANTING (All Grades)
10:30 AM to 11:25 AM	RELIGION (All Grades)
11:30 AM to 12:25 PM	Languages: HINDI
11:30 AM to 12:25 PM	Languages: TAMIL
11:30 AM to 12:25 PM	Languages: TELUGU
11:30 AM to 12:25 PM	Languages: KANNADA
1:00 PM to 1:55 PM	SCIENCE (3 rd - 8 th Grade)
COMPUTER SCIENCE (4 th - 12 th Grade) - For inquiries visit https://nyganeshtemple.org/pcig	

Please register and pay for any or all classes at: nyganeshtemple.org/patasala

Yoga Classes by Sanjay Attada. (Disciple Of Late Swamy Bua).

8:30 a.m. – Sundays – \$10 per class.
Age Restriction: 13 years and above only.

Followed by:

Pranayama & Meditation Classes.

9:30 a.m. – Sundays – \$5 per class.
Senior Center

For more info: see NYGaneshTemple.org

ORGAN DONATION - HINDU PERSPECTIVE

by: Šivašri M.R. Ravi Vaidyanaat Šivāchāriar



Organ donation is a lifeline for people suffering from life-threatening organ failure, giving them another chance at a healthy life. It also provides donors an opportunity to leave behind a lasting, positive legacy.

For Hindus, the donation of organs, limbs, and tissues is regarded as a noble act of *karma* - a good deed of profound importance, because it saves and transforms the lives of those suffering from serious health conditions caused by organ failure.

Beyond saving lives, organ, limb, and tissue donation also contributes to medical education and research, helping better understand diseases, develop new treatments, and improve overall public health.

However, despite the growing willingness to donate, it is important to recognize that organ transplantation in modern times faces significant challenges. These include the body's immune system rejecting donated organs and other medical risks. This serves as a reminder that maintaining good health during one's lifetime is essential, especially for those who wish to become organ donors.

References to organ or limb transplantation can be found in *Āyurvedic* texts, *Upanishads*, *Shāstras*, *Itihāsās*, and *Purānās*, where they are described symbolically or literally, both during life and at the end of life.

***Dāna* & *Dharma* - Selfless Giving and Righteous Duty:**

Hindu philosophy views the body as a temporary enclosure, vehicle, or garment for the *Ātma* (soul). This understanding supports the practice of *Dāna* (selfless giving). Ancient medical treatises such as the *Sushruta Samhita* and *Charaka Samhita* describe aspects of organ and limb surgeries, suggesting an early awareness of related concepts.

The principle of *Dāna* (selfless giving) is a virtuous act and a key tenet in Hinduism. Donating organs is often seen as one of the highest forms of *Dāna*. Likewise, the concept of *Dharma* encourages righteous actions that benefit others, making organ donation a *Dharmic* act when done for the greater good.

Several *Purānas* recount stories where individuals are transformed, either partially or fully, into another being, only to return later to their original or desired form. These narratives highlight the interconnectedness of all beings and supports the idea of helping others through selfless giving, as expressed in the *mahā-vākya*, *tatvamasī*, the fundamental principle of *advaita-vedāntic philosophy*, which emphasizes the unity between the individual self (*ātman*) and the universal consciousness (*Brahman*).

One of the most powerful examples is the story of *Sage Dadhichi*, who selflessly donated his bones to create the *Vajrāyudha* (divine weapon) that defeated a demon and saved the world.

Thus, while the decision to donate organs, limbs, or tissues is a personal choice, Hinduism and its scriptures broadly support organ donation as an act of compassion, charity, and righteousness, one that sustains life and serves humanity.

Senior Activities (at Senior Center)

Weekly In-person Schedule:

1st and 3rd Tuesdays of the month:

10:00 am - 11:00 am - Chair Yoga
11:00 am - 11:15 am - Break
11:15 am - 12:30 pm - Dance & Skit Practice
12:30 pm - 1:00 pm - Lunch

2nd and 4th Tuesdays of the month:

10:00 am - 11:00 am - Yoga
11:00 am - 11:15 am - Break
11:15 am - 12:00 pm - Guided Spiritual discussions
12:00 pm - 12:30 pm - Bhajans
12:30 pm - 1:00 pm - Lunch

Weekly Online Schedule:

Mondays: (AM/PM - timing varies) - Srimad Bhagavad Gita Classes

For Senior activity updates & announcements please go to nyganeshtemple.org/seniors

For Questions and participation in online classes please email: hts@nyganeshtemple.org

Monthly Prayer Chanting



Ekādaśa Rudra Pārāyanam is scheduled monthly, giving devotees an opportunity to chant the Śri Rudram eleven times as a group and revel in the intense divine vibrations that is generated.

Śri Sukta Pārāyanam - repeatedly chanting Śri Suktam - is scheduled monthly, giving devotees an opportunity to offer devotion to Śri Mahā Lakshmi and also learn or become fluent in chanting the powerful and popular Śri Suktam - Vedic hymn on Śri Mahā Lakshmi.



All are invited to chant / listen and be blessed.

For information see : nyganeshtemple.org or contact the Temple at : (718) 460-8484 ext.112



Monthly Pooja & Bhajans

FIRST SUNDAY OF EVERY MONTH

*2:00 pm - Śri Devi Khodiyar Mātā
Pooja, Bhajans.*

Location: Maha Mantapa

All are invited to participate and be blessed.

For information see : nyganeshtemple.org
or contact the Temple at : (718) 460-8484 ext.112

MUSIC & DANCE CLASSES

(Academic Year 2025-2026)

Vocal Music classes: Teacher Mrs. Divyameena Guhan Krishnan

Every Saturday - Location: Senior Center

Beginners (new students) - 1:00 PM to 2:00 PM

Sarali Varisai, Janta Varisai, Alankāram, Geetam & small Songs

Intermediate students - 2:00 PM to 3:00 PM

Swara Jathis, Varnams & small Krithis

Advanced students - 3:00 PM to 4:00 PM

Tāla Varnams, Krithis & start Manodharmam

Bharatnatyam Dance classes: Teacher Mrs. Mathy Pillai

Every Saturday - Location: Temple Basement

Beginners (new students) - 2:00 PM to 3:00 PM

Intermediate students - 1:00 PM to 2:00 PM

Advanced students - 3:00 PM to 4:00 PM

Veena Music classes: Teacher Mrs. Anupama Komaravolu

Every Saturday - Location: Ganesa Patasala

Beginners (new students) - 2:00 PM to 3:00 PM

Sarali, Janta, Dhatu Varisai, Alankāram, simple Geetam

Intermediate students - 3:00 PM to 4:00 PM

Swara Jathis, Varnams & small Krithis

Advanced students - 4:00 PM to 5:00 PM

Tāla Varnams, Krithis & start Manodharmam

For more info, to register and pay for any or all classes see: nyganeshtemple.org/patasala

Virtual 'Introduction to Vedas' classes online
Thursdays at 7:30 pm (EST)

For information and registration of online Veda classes
please see: nyganeshtemple.org/vedas

Virtual Divya Prabhandha classes online
Tuesdays at 7:30 pm (EST)

For information and registration of online Divya Prabhandha classes
please see: nyganeshtemple.org/divya-prabhandha

Questions? Please contact Sri Ravi Vaidyanaat Sivachariar
at (718) 460-8484 ext. 107 or email: ravi.v@nyganeshtemple.org

FESTIVALS



*Šri Venkatešwara Mahotsavam
Friday, June 13th - Sunday, June 22nd, 2025*



*48th Anniversary of the Temple
Friday, July 4th, 2025*



*Šri Sudaršana Mahā Yajnam
Friday, July 18th - Sunday, July 20th, 2025*



*Vara Mahā Lakshmi Vratam
Friday, August 8th, 2025*



*Šri Ganeša Chaturthi Nava Dina Brahmotsavam
Friday, August 22nd - Sunday, August 31st, 2025*

FESTIVALS



*Šri Ganeša Chaturthi Nava Dina Brahmotsavam
Friday, August 22nd - Sunday, August 31st, 2025*



*Šri Devi Navarātri Mahotsavam
Monday, September 22nd - Wednesday, October 1st, 2025*



*Šri Devi Navarātri Mahotsavam
Monday, September 22nd - Wednesday, October 1st, 2025*



*Deepāvali Celebrations
Saturday, October 18th - Monday, October 20th, 2025*



*Deepāvali Celebrations
Saturday, October 18th - Monday, October 20th, 2025*



*Skanda Shashti Mahotsavam
Wednesday, October 22nd - Tuesday, October 28th, 2025*

CULTURAL & OUTREACH ACTIVITIES



*Anubhava 2025: Annual Akshayam Conference
Saturday, June 7th, 2025*



*Veena Concert -
Śrī Venkateśwara Mahotsavam Celebrations
Sunday, June 8th, 2025*



*11th International Yoga Day
Sunday, June 15th, 2025*



*Bhasha Day (Pāṭaśāla Language Showcase)
Saturday, June 21st, 2025*



*Annual Health Fair
Sunday, June 29th, 2025*



*Group Dance & Sitar Recital - 48th Temple Anniversary
Saturday, July 19th, 2025*

CULTURAL & OUTREACH ACTIVITIES



*Senior Program - Anniversary Celebrations
Saturday, August 9th, 2025*



*Indian Independence Day &
Swami Vivekananda Celebrations
Saturday, August 16th, 2025*



*Music & Dance Program - Sri Ganesa Chaturthi Celebrations
Saturday, September 13th, 2025*



*Deepavali Workshop at PS 46 -The Alley Pond School
Friday, October 17th, 2025*



*Lights of Unity: A Hindu & Jewish Cultural celebration
Sunday, October 26th, 2025*



*Thanksgiving Cultural Program
Saturday, November 22nd, 2025*

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Temple Timings are as follows:

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

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

For directions to the Temple please see: nyganeshtemple.org/directions

PLEASE DO NOT VISIT THE TEMPLE, CANTEEN OR COMMUNITY CENTER -

if you have recently been exposed to a respiratory virus or have a fever, any cold or flu like symptoms.

Please call the Temple at: (718) 460 8484 ext. 112 or
visit the Temple website: **<https://nyganeshtemple.org>** for booking services,
religious schedules and live streaming info.

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 by donating online generously
at - nyganeshtemple.org/donations-annadanam

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

Patasala Classes In-person see - nyganeshtemple.org/patasala

Yoga Classes In-person 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 In-person & Online see - nyganeshtemple.org/seniors

SUPPORT THE TEMPLE

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