

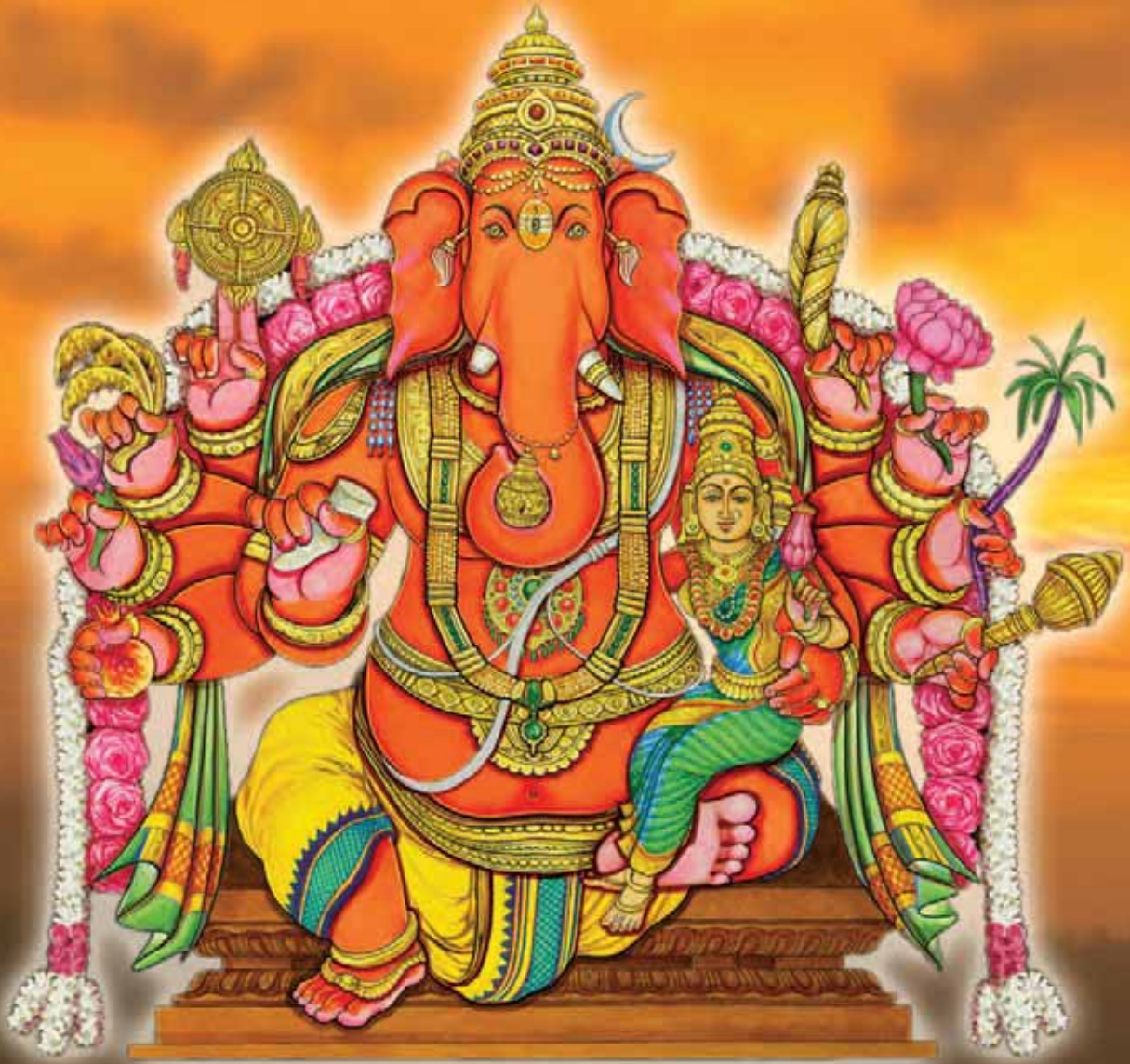


GANEŠĀNJALI



Temple Newsletter

JUNE 2026



ŚRI MAHA 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 2026 • Vol 49-26 • 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 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 Śri 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 & Greetings!

New Year day began well with grand celebrations and with thousands of devotees participating in the day-long events. Other main festivals celebrated during the last six months included; *Śri Dhanvantari Mantra Japam, Makara Sankrānti & Śri Ayyappa Pooja, Mahā Śivaratri, Śri Rāma Navami Mahotsavam, Śri Dakshināmoorthy Mantra Japam, Śri Hanumān Jayanti Deeksha* which was observed for the first time and *Śri Śiva Mahotsavam*. All these festivals and several *mantra japas* were very well participated by the devotees.

Several cultural and outreach events were carefully planned to include all age groups. Monthly Learning Series on various Hinduism related topics continues to be popular. In addition, there were several cultural programs such as: 77th Republic Day Celebrations, STEM Fair, Festivals of India - presented by HTS Youth Group, Annual Composer's Day, Swami Vivekananda Day: celebrating the Life and Influence of Swami Vivekananda.

Temple participated in several community events such as monthly 109th Precinct Community Council meeting and several others. Participation in Interfaith events by Temple representatives is a high priority. Some of the important events were - The Queens County Farm Museum's Holi Festival, "Building Inclusive Communities" training sessions hosted by The NYC Office for the Prevention of Hate Crimes (OPHC) and the Mayor's Office of Criminal Justice (MOJ), in partnership with Partners for Youth with Disabilities (PYD), Interfaith Breakfast hosted by Mayor's Office, Stewardship of the Environment: A Hindu Perspective" from resource Management to Spiritual service(Seva) and The Queens Clergy Fellowship opening session organized by the Auschwitz Jewish Center Foundation (AJCF), The Faith-AI Covenant New York Roundtable, etc.

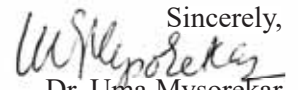
Akshayam (The Hindu Young Professionals Team of HTSNA) hosted on May 2, 2026 'Anubhava' their annual conference. This year's theme was: 'Pride of Hindu Identity' and guest speakers included Sri Hari Vittal, Founder of Vyuhā Learning Labs, Coimbatore, India and Dr. Jeffery D. Long, Professor of Religion & Asian Studies, Elizabethtown College, Pennsylvania. Both speakers were excellent. Kuchipudi dance performance presented by Ms. Aishwarya Madhav was also one of the highlights of the conference.

Summer Day Camp this year is scheduled from July 20th thru July 24th and the theme is 'Hindu Heritage'. All the Patasala children are encouraged to register and participate - please refer to page 4.

My sincere thanks and gratitude to all of you for your continued support of the Temple by your generous contributions. 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. May God bless them all.

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

Sarve Jana Sukhino Bhavanthu

Sincerely,

Dr. Uma Mysorekar
President



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



SUMMER DAY CAMP 2026

July 20th - July 24th, 2026

5 DAY - CAMP SESSION

AGES: 7 YRS & Above

MONDAY - FRIDAY : 8:30 AM - 4:30 PM

DROP-OFF / PICK-UP LOCATION: SARASWATI HALL

(High School Students are invited to apply as Camp Counselors)
For Further information email: patasala@nyganeshtemple.org

Theme:

HINDU HERITAGE

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

Morning session: Yoga, Hindu Culture and Heritage

Afternoon Session: Quiz based on the morning session, Temple visit to learn about the Deities, Discussions on current events, Word building, Board games, etc.

- **Fee for the Camp is \$100.00 which includes Indian vegetarian lunch & snacks.**
- **Absolutely NO outside food allowed during the Camp.**
- **Parents must notify of any kind of food allergies at the time of registration.**



Those interested may please register online at
<http://nyganeshtemple.org/summer>

Early Registration Recommended - Accepted on "First Come" basis.

For further information please email: patasala@nyganeshtemple.org

ŚRI ŚIVA MAHOTSAVAM

By: M.R. Ravi Vaidyanaat Śivāchāriar

In a temple, various festivals and events are celebrated across different seasons and durations to glorify the Deities and offer prayers for their divine blessings. These events, which may be annual or periodic, are known as *utsavams* - which are celebrations. The term is more elaborately defined by the phrase "*utuhuh savah iti utsavah*": an event brought forth by specific spiritual qualities upon the arrival of a particular season, immersing devotees in profound bliss. Far from being a mere social gathering, a festival adds to its spiritual significance.

When an *utsavam* is conducted on a grand scale, it is designated as a *mahotsavam* followed by the name of the specific deity or occasion. Notable examples include: *Śri Śiva Mahotsavam*, *Śri Venkateśwara Mahotsavam*, *Śri Mahā Lakshmi Mahotsavam*, *Skanda Shashti Mahotsavam*, *Śri Devi Navarātri Mahotsavam*, *Mahā Śivarātri Mahotsavam*, etc.



Vaiśākha also known as *vaikāṣi* or *vrishabha māsa* is the second month of the Hindu solar calendar coinciding with the *vasanta ritu* (spring season). According to *skanda purāna*, a sacred austerity known as *vrishabha vrata* is observed during this month when the Sun enters the sign of *vrishabha* (Taurus) on the eighth day of the waxing moon (*shukla paksha ashtami*).

To observe this rite, one should rise early in the morning to offer prayers and worship Lord *Śri Śiva* and his consort, Goddess *Pārvati*. They are worshipped in the form of *rishabārudar*, seated upon their bull mount, *vrishabha*. It is believed that those who observe this austerity (*vrata*) flawlessly will be blessed with longevity, wealth, wisdom, and health, as well as the eight great spiritual attainments known as the *ashta siddhis*. *Vasanta ritu*, the spring season is celebrated as the "king of seasons" signifying transition from cold winter to warmer and also for the spiritual growth.

Considering these sacred timings, the Temple celebrates a ten-day ritualistic observance known as the *Śri Śiva Mahotsavam*. The festival commences with preliminary cleansing and energizing rituals, such as *Ganapati homam*, *vāstu shānti*, *mritsangrahanam*, *ankurārpanam*, *rakshā bandanam*. During these rites, the priests perform *anujna*, seeking divine permission to conduct the upcoming events successfully and without hindrance.

At the *yāgaśāla*, fire rituals are performed daily. Devotees join the priests in chanting the specially composed *Śri Śiva mālā mantra*, an extract from *Śiva kavacham*, to invoke the Lord's protection over the universe. Simultaneously, in the *Mahā Mantapa* (the main prayer hall), the presiding Deity is anointed with sacred materials (*abhishekam*) and adorned with various traditional decorations (*alankāra*). Throughout the ceremony, the *utsava moorthy* is honored with the *shodasa upachāram*, the sixteen traditional offerings of devotion.

The festival reaches its auspicious culmination with *Śri Śiva-Pārvati Kalyānotsavam*, the celestial wedding ceremony of the Lord and his Consort.

FESTIVALS



*New Year's Day
Thursday, January 1st, 2026*



*Ārdra Darśanam
Friday, January 2nd, 2026*



*Makara Sankrānti - Śrī Ayyappa Pooja
Wednesday, January 14th, 2026*



*Śrī Dhanvantari Mantra Japam
Tuesday, January 13th - Monday, January 19th, 2026*



*Vasanta Panchami
Friday, January 23rd, 2026*



*Ratha Saptami
Sunday, January 25th, 2026*

FESTIVALS



Mahā Śivarātri Celebrations
Thursday, February 12th - Sunday, February 15th, 2026



Śri Rāma Navami Utsavam
Thursday, March 19th - Thursday, March 26th, 2026



Śri Satyanārāyana Kalyāna Utsavam
Sunday, April 26th, 2026



Śri Dakshinamoorthy Mantra Japam
Tuesday, April 21st - Thursday, April 23rd, 2026



Śri Śiva Mahotsavam
Friday, May 22nd - Sunday, May 31st, 2026





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Email: hts@nyganeshtemple.org

APPEAL FOR FUNDS FOR CONSTRUCTION OF AN OUTREACH CENTER OF THE TEMPLE



****Outreach Center construction (45-32 Bowne St. adjacent to 45-52 Bowne St.)
- to conduct various outreach activities such as:***

- Classroom Education / Patasala (Temple School)
- Senior Activities
- Youth Group Meetings & Activities
- Yoga & Meditation
- Music & Dance Classes
- Religious Library

****Estimated cost of Outreach Center construction: \$7 million***

We appeal for your generous contribution to our beloved institution so that all the activities can continue to flourish and be of service to the entire community. Donations can be made by cash, check or credit card. Please make check payable to "The Hindu Temple Society of North America." All contributions are tax deductible.

Donations of \$10,000 or more towards this project can be paid in installments (maximum of 3 years). Any amount of donations are welcome.

To donate online: <https://nyganeshtemple.org/donations-annadanam>

ALL THE DONORS WILL BE DULY RECOGNIZED.

- \$25,000 and above - names displayed within the Temple premises.
- \$250,000 or more - names displayed prominently in the sponsored location.

THANK YOU!

May the Blessings of Śri Mahā Vallabha Ganapati be with you & your families.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT THE TEMPLE AT (718) 460-8484 ext.112

CULTURAL & OUTREACH ACTIVITIES



*Annual Ganeša Pātašāla Celebrations
Saturday, December 20th, 2025*



*Republic Day Celebrations
Saturday, February 28th, 2026*



*Learning Series - Session #77
"Stress Management according to Bhagavad Gita & its values for Success" - Brahmachari Pratyagatma Chaitanya
Saturday, March 7th, 2026*



*STEM Fair 2026
Sunday, March 8th, 2026*



*Queens Clergy Fellowship session
Tuesday, March 10th, 2026*



*Festivals of India - HTS Youth Group
Saturday, March 28th, 2026*

CULTURAL & OUTREACH ACTIVITIES



*Learning Series - Session #78
"Meditation and its Benefits" - Swami Sarvapriyananda
Saturday, April 11th, 2026*



*Annual Composer's Day
Saturday, April 18th, 2026*



*Swami Vivekananda Day
Saturday, April 25th, 2025*



*Anubhava 2026: Annual Akshayam Conference
Saturday, May 2nd, 2026*



*'Sacred Farewells' - Jewish & AAPI Mourning Traditions
Tuesday, May 12th, 2026*



*Dance Program - Sri Siva Mahotsavam celebrations
Saturday, May 30th, 2026*

**SUGGESTED HOMAMS / POOJAS FOR PARIHARA,
GENERAL WELFARE & DURING OTHER
AUSPICIOUS EVENTS**

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

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	Šri 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
Šri Subrahmanya Homam	Āyushya Homam

SAMSKĀRAS:

Nāma Karanam	Seemantham
Shashti Abda Poorthi	Šathābhishekam
Punyāhavāchanam	Griha Ārambham
Annaprāśanam	Griha Praveśam
Apara Kriyas	Vidyārambham
Upanayanam	Hiranya Šrāddham / Pitru Tarpanam
Hair Offering	Vivāham (Wedding)

SPECIAL POOJAS for Deities:

Šri Satyanārāyana Pooja	Navāvarana Pooja
Šri Guru Pāduka Pooja	Šree 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**

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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 friends and receive the blessings of
Śri Mahā Vallabha Ganapati and all the Devatas.