



# GAÑEŠĀNJALI



## Temple Newsletter



ŚRI YOGA 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](mailto: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 9:00 PM

**Take-Out** - for info see: [canteen.nyganesh temple.org](http://canteen.nyganesh temple.org)

**Indoor Dining** - Face Mask recommended

*We request you to please cooperate and wear a mask for your safety, the safety of our staff and others. Thank you for helping keep the community safe!*

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

With the grace and blessings of Sri Maha Vallabha Ganapati, the Temple canteen was started in 1993. 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, etc., Thanks to the encouragement of devotees, the canteen continues to grow and is located in the basement level of the community center.

Please visit the Temple Canteen's website: [canteen.nyganesh temple.org](http://canteen.nyganesh temple.org)

email: [canteen@nyganesh temple.org](mailto: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; *Šri Dhanvantari Mantra Japam, Makara Sankrānti & Šri Ayyappa Pooja, Mahā Šivaratri, Šri Rāma Navami Mahotsavam, Šri Dakshināmoorthy Mantra Japam and Šri Šiva 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. Young Professional Group called Akshayam has been conducting monthly Learning Series on various Hinduism related topics. In addition, there were several cultural programs such as 75th Republic Day Celebrations, Annual Composer's Day, Holi Festival and Earth Day celebrations. As part of Siva Mahotsavam celebrations, youngsters presented brief talks on the four Acharyas which was followed by a fundraising event, with a Music & Dance performance by Members of All India Visually Impaired Talents Association (AIVITA). Total of \$10,001 was raised from the program and donated to 'AIVITA'. Virtual Health & Wellness Series: Session #7 on 'Pancreatic Cancer' by Dr. Sandeep Anantha, Director of Surgical Oncology - LIJ Forest Hills and this was excellent and very informative.

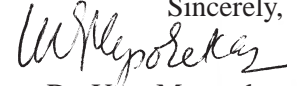
Temple participated in several community events such as monthly 109th Precinct Community Council meeting and several others. Participation in Interfaith events by Temple representatives is a high priority. Some of the important events were - GreenFaith Breakfast at Riverside Church to discuss climate change, Workshop on flood disasters in Queens organized by NYDIS and Interfaith Breakfast hosted by NYC Mayor Eric Adams, etc.

Summer Day Camp this year is scheduled from July 22<sup>nd</sup> thru July 26<sup>th</sup>. All the Patasala children are encouraged to register and participate - please refer to page 4.

My sincere thanks and gratitude to you all for your 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 *Šri 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  
Śrī Mahā Vallabha Ganapati Devasthānam  
45-57 Bowne Street, Flushing, NY 11355



# SUMMER DAY CAMP 2024

July 22<sup>nd</sup> - July 26<sup>th</sup>, 2024

**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](mailto: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 :** Arts and Crafts, word building, board games, etc.

***Fee for the Camp is \$75.00 which includes Indian vegetarian lunch & snacks***

***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](mailto:patasala@nyganeshtemple.org)**



# ANNADĀNAM

By: M.R. Ravi Vaidyanaat Śivāchāriar

*Gaja turaga Sahasram / Gokulam koti dānam / Kanaka Rajatha pātram / Methini sāgarāntham /  
Upaya kula vishuttam / Koti kanyā pradānam / Nahi nahi bahu dānam / Annadānam samānam / /*

Meaning: Even if one gifts 1000 elephants, horses or gifts 10 million cows or any number of silver and gold, or gifts the entire land till sea or offering the entire services of the clan, or helps in the marriage of 10 million women, all this is never equal to *Annadānam*.



*Annadānam* is one of the best forms of “**DĀNA or CHARITY**”. Offering food is one of the oldest and most common rituals. It is represented as *Māheswara Pooja* or *Māheswara Dānam* or ***Annadānam***. By offering food to others, one is feeding none other than the Lord Himself and receives His blessings in bountiful measure. Anyone who is hungry shall be fed without any discrimination or judgment.

Offering food is a meritorious act or Act of giving and is an act of connecting with the spiritual world. It is also a means to overcome selfishness and open the heart to the needs of others.

Ceremonial food offering is a common practice. The precise rituals and doctrines behind this differ from one school to another, one faith to another. Food may be simply left on an altar, in a bowl, or the offering might be accompanied by elaborate chants of Vedic mantras and full prostrations. Only in *annadānam* a person after consuming the food would say enough, thank you, my stomach is full.

According to a legend, King Swethu of Varanasi donated several things including gold and silver except food. He did not offer food to anyone. He did not get salvation. His atma returned to earth and took the advice of Sage *Agastya* and surrendered his good *karma*/good deeds and performed *annadānam* and finally got *mukthi/moksha*. Similarly the story of *Karna*, who is well known for his charity, as narrated in the great epic *Mahabharata*, one could find that upon his prayer to the God of Death (*Yamadharmā*), his soul came back to earth to fulfill the gap in not donating food (*Annadānam*). Later he returned back to the higher world after feeding food to the poor.

*It is said that Annadānam helps us in reducing the effect of bad karma and increase good deeds.*

Other types of *Dāna* (giving) in practice are *Vastra Dāna* (clothes), *Dravya Dāna* (Materials), *Bhoomi Dāna* (Land), *Go Dāna* (Cow), *Vidya Dāna* (Education) and *Shrama Dāna* (Physical help).

We, at The Hindu Temple Society of North America, (*Śri Mahā Vallabha Ganapati Devasthānam*), do food offering / *annadānam* on a daily basis and during Mahotsava and festival periods. During the annual Ganesh Chaturthi festival we distribute thousands of food packets. Devotees are encouraged to donate generously for *annadānam* so that this can continue on a daily basis. Those who wish to sponsor *annadānam* may please contact the Temple (718) 460-8484 ext. 112.

# **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.**

**Saraswati Hall.**

**For more info: see [NYGaneshTemple.org](http://NYGaneshTemple.org)**

## **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](http://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](http://nyganeshtemple.org/divya-prabhandha)**

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



# FESTIVALS



*New Year's Day  
Monday, January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024*



*Śrī Hanumān Jayanti  
Wednesday, January 10<sup>th</sup>, 2024*



*Makara Sankrānti - Śrī Ayyappa Pooja  
Sunday, January 14<sup>th</sup>, 2024*



*Thai Poosam  
Thursday, January 25<sup>th</sup>, 2024*



*Śrī Dhanvantari Mantra Japam  
Saturday, February 3<sup>rd</sup> - Friday, February 9<sup>th</sup>, 2024*



*Ratha Saptami  
Thursday, February 15<sup>th</sup>, 2024*

# FESTIVALS



*Mahā Śivarātri Celebrations*  
Tuesday, March 5<sup>th</sup> - Friday, March 8<sup>th</sup>, 2024



*Śri Rāma Navami Utsavam*  
Tuesday, April 9<sup>th</sup> - Tuesday, April 16<sup>th</sup>, 2024



*Śri Dakshinamoorthy Mantra Japam*  
Tuesday, May 7<sup>th</sup> - Thursday, May 9<sup>th</sup>, 2024



*Śri Satyanārāyaṇa Kalyāṇa Utsavam*  
Saturday, May 18<sup>th</sup>, 2024



*Śri Śiva Mahotsavam*  
Friday, May 17<sup>th</sup> - Sunday, May 26<sup>th</sup>, 2024





# CULTURAL & OUTREACH ACTIVITIES



*Annual Ganeśa Pātaśāla Celebrations  
Saturday, December 9<sup>th</sup>, 2023*



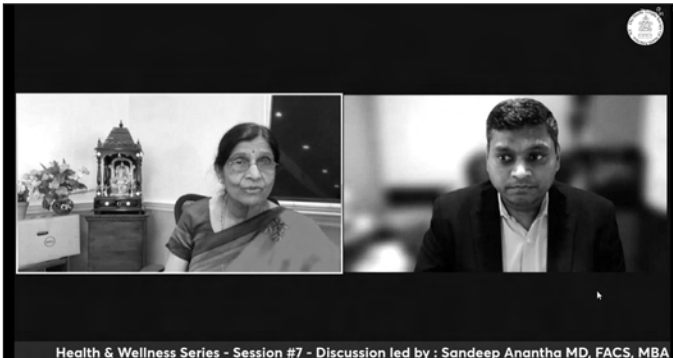
*Special Prayer Services in Celebration of  
Prān Pratishtha at Śri Ram Mandir in Ayodhya  
Monday, January 22<sup>nd</sup> - Wednesday, January 24<sup>th</sup>, 2024*



*Republic Day Celebrations  
Sunday, February 4<sup>th</sup>, 2024*



*Learning Series - Session #64  
"Hinduism - Rational, Harmonious and Diverse"  
Led by: Swami Sarvapriyananda (Vedanta Society of NY)  
Saturday, February 10<sup>th</sup>, 2024*



*Health & Wellness Series - Session #7  
'Pancreatic Cancer' - led by Dr. Sandeep Anantha  
Sunday, March 17, 2024*



*Annual Composer's Day  
Sunday, March 24<sup>th</sup>, 2024*

# CULTURAL & OUTREACH ACTIVITIES



*Annual Holi Festival and Earth Day  
Sunday, April 7<sup>th</sup>, 2024*



*Akshayam Community Volunteering - Bowne Park  
Saturday, April 13<sup>th</sup>, 2024*



*Canned Food Drive Collection  
May 2024*



*Acharya Day / Music & Dance Cultural in celebration of Sri Siva Mahotsavam  
Saturday, May 11<sup>th</sup>, 2024*



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

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

**RELIGIOUS SERVICES**

**ABHISHEKAMS:**

Regular **Abhishekam** for all deities

**Śankha 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)

**Triṣati** (300)

**HOMAMS:**

**Ganapati Homam**

**Śri Rudra Homam**

**Sarva Devata Homam**

**Sudarśana Homam**

**Chandi Homam**

**Dhanvantri Homam**

**Vishnu Homam**

**Saraswati Homam**

**Lakshmi Narasimha Homam**

**Navagraha Homam**

**Nāga Śānti Homam**

**Mrityunjaya Homam**

**Śri Subrahmanya Homam**

**Āyushya Homam**

**SAMSKĀRAS:**

**Nāma Karanam**

**Seemantham**

**Shashti Abda Poorthi**

**Śathābhishekam**

**Punyāhavāchanam**

**Griha Ārambham**

**Annaprāśanam**

**Griha Praveśam**

**Apara Kriyas**

**Vidyārambham**

**Upanayanam**

**Hiranya Śrāddham / Pitru Tarpanam**

**Hair Offering**

**Vivāham (Wedding)**

**SPECIAL POOJAS for Deities:**

**Śri Satyanārāyaṇa Pooja**

**Navāvarana Pooja**

**Śri Guru Pāduka Pooja**

**Śree Mahā Meru**

**Kalyāna Utsavam**

**Navagraha Śānti**

**OTHER POOJAS / SERVICES:**

**New Business**

**Veda Pārāyaṇa**

**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](http://nyganeshtemple.org)**

# THE HINDU TEMPLE SOCIETY OF NORTH AMERICA, NY

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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](https://nyganeshtemple.org/directions)***

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

*if you have recently been exposed to someone with COVID19, have a fever, 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](https://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](https://nyganeshtemple.org/donations-annadanam)

Temple Canteen / Catering Services see - [canteen.nyganeshtemple.org](https://canteen.nyganeshtemple.org)

Patasala Online Classes see - [nyganeshtemple.org/patasala](https://nyganeshtemple.org/patasala)

Yoga Classes In-person see - [nyganeshtemple.org/yoga](https://nyganeshtemple.org/yoga)

Veda & Divya Prabhandha Classes Online - [nyganeshtemple.org/divya-prabhandha-veda-classes](https://nyganeshtemple.org/divya-prabhandha-veda-classes)

Akshayam (HTS Young Professionals Team) info see - [nyganeshtemple.org/akshayam](https://nyganeshtemple.org/akshayam)

Senior Center Activities In-person & Online see - [nyganeshtemple.org/seniors](https://nyganeshtemple.org/seniors)

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## **SUPPORT THE TEMPLE**

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