

शुभमस्तु
Subhamastu

अविघ्नमस्तु
Avighnamastu

विजयोस्तु
Vijayostu



आलय संदेशः

[Aalaya Sandeshaha]

Sri Venkateswara Temple Newsletter

10401 McKinzie Lane, Corpus Christi, TX 78410

Phone 361-241-0550 www.svtempletexas.org

Volume 1 December 2009

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Dear Devotees,

The Trustees of STHS and I are pleased to present the first Newsletter of our temple, 'Aalaya Sandeshaha', for your reading and reference. This and following newsletters will contain information on upcoming events, shlokas and their meaning, excerpts from scriptures and other interesting and useful items. The intent is to provide you with sufficient information so that you will understand, appreciate, participate and enjoy the various events organized at the temple.

I am also pleased to inform you that Festival of India and Health Fair are combined and this event is scheduled for Saturday, February 27, 2010. Additional details will follow as soon as they become available. Your help and support of this event is highly requested.

I wish to thank Mahesh and Syamala Maruvada for their efforts in getting this newsletter started. I am confident that with your suggestions and involvement, this newsletter will take a new dimension of its own.

Finally, needless to say, in order to maintain and grow our temple, your continued support is requested. Please be generous in your financial contributions to the temple. You can support either by regular monthly donations or by sponsoring temple-organized events.

As always, I welcome and value your ideas and suggestions for the improvement and betterment of our temple. Please contact me or any of the Trustees if you would like to get involved in any capacity.

Happy New Year and May the Blessings of Lord Venkateswara be with you and your family!

Sincerely,

M.P.Sudhakaran
President

The immediate events are Vaikuntha Ekadasi and on-going Goda Devi Pujas. In February we celebrate Maha Sivaratri. Since we are in Dhanurmasam, we will start with the importance of Dhanurmasam. Sri Mahavishnu stays in yogamudra until kaarteeka and blesses the universe. Hence, this month is very special. After Surya (Sun) enters Dhanurasi, Lord's blessings are very special. Hence, people wake up at early in the morning at 4:30am (Brahma Muhurtam) and pray the Lord.

Vaikuntha Ekadasi

Every year, Margasira Sukla Paksha Ekadasi is celebrated as Vaikuntha Ekadasi, which is of utmost importance. On Ashaadha Suddha Ekadasi (Toli Ekadasi), Sri Maha Vishnu goes into yoga nidra over "Milk Ocean" and wakes up on Kaarteeka Suddha Ekadasi from his yoga nidra. There is puranic episode behind this. Devatas were unable to sustain Ravana's tortures. They went to Lord Brahma. Then Lord Brahma went to Vaikuntham along with Devathas. All of them prayed Srihari with Vedic chants. Then Lord Vishnu was pleased and gave Darshan to them. Another story was Raakshasas Madhu Kaitabhas were killed by Lord Vishnu and they attained Divya rupam and Divya Jnanam and prayed and requested that Lord Brahma or anyone else, who ever makes a Mandir of Lord Vishnu, and enter it through the North entrance on Ekadasi, will attain Vaikuntha. Because Mukkoti Devatha's sufferings were removed, it is called **Mukkoti Ekadasi**, and because it is an auspicious day of seeing Lord Vishnu, it is also known as Bhagavat darsanam day. All Ekadasis are auspicious, but Dhanurmaasa Sukla Paksha Ekadasi is Sri Mahaavishnu's favorite and most auspicious. On this day, those who pray at the feet of Sreemannarayana whom all Davathaas pray will attain Mahaa punyam.

Lord Krishna, the Geethacharya said,

“बृहत्साम् तथा साम्नाम् गायत्री चन्द्रसा महं मासानां मार्गशीर्षोहं रुतूनां कुसुमाकरहः”.	bRuhatsAm tadhA sAmnAm gAyatrI chandasA mahaM mAsAnAM mArgaSIrShOhaM rutUnAM kusumAkarahH”.
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--Meaning, I am Bruhatsama in saamavedam, Gayatri among chandas(metere), Maargaseersham in maasams(months), and Vasantha in rutus(seasons). Because Gita arose in Maargasira month, if devotees read all 18 Adhyayas(chapters) of Geeta in this Month, they attain Moksha.

Simple gist of first Adhyaaya "Arjuna Vishaada Yoga"---Is Arjuna's vishaadam really sadness? Feeling sad and crying for worldly things and luxuries and wealth is not yogam. Crying for God is yogam. According to saastras, AatmaJnaanam can be passed on to one who attained vairagyam. Arjuna expeired severe disgust toward worldly pleasures. Kingdom and pleasures seemed very minute. Hence, Lord Krishna bestowed Paramaardha tatvam to Arjuna. "Me" and "Mine" are hurdles for people to attain moksham.. "Ahamkaarm and mamakaaram became Arjuna's serious illness. To treat it, Lord Krishna bestowed Jnanopadesam

on Arjuna. Like Arjuna, anyone who discards interest in worldly things (attain viragya)and desperately long for Dharma, will attain Jnaanodayam and extreme peace. (Taken from Geetha Sudha by Smt. K.V. Ramanamma.)

Slokas that may be recited before reciting Geetha__

लक्ष्मीनाथ समारंभां नाथ यामुन मथ्य्मां
आस्मदाचार्य पर्यन्तां वन्दे गुरुपरंपरां

lakShmInAtha samAraMBAM nAtha yAmuna mathymAM
AsmadAcArya paryantAM vandE guruparaMparAM

शुक्लांबरधरं विष्णुं शशिवर्नं चतुर्भुजं
प्रसन्नवदनं ध्यायेत् सर्वविघ्नोपशान्तये

SuklAMbaradharaM viShnuM SaSivarnaM caturBujaM
prasannavadanaM dhyAyEt sarvaviGnOpaSantayE

व्यासं वशिष्ठ नप्तारं शक्तेपौत्र मकल्मषं
पराशरात्मजं वन्दे शुकतातं तपो निधिं

vyAsaM vaSiShTa naptAraM SaktEpautra makalmaShaM
parASarAtmajaM vandE SukatAtaM tapO nidhiM

कृष्णाय यादवेन्द्राय डान मुद्राय योगिने
नाथाय रुक्मिणीशाय नमो वेदान्त वेदिने

kRuShNAya yAdavEndrAya ~gAna mudrAya yOginE
nAthAya rukmiNISAya namO vEdAnta vEdinE

The eighteen names of Geetha to be recited before the recitation—

गीता गंगाच गायत्री सीता सत्या सरस्वती
ब्रमविद्या ब्रह्मवल्ली त्रिसंधा मुक्तिगेहिनी
अर्धमात्रा चिदानंदा भवघ्नी भ्रान्तिनाशिनी
वेदत्रयी परानन्ता तत्वार्थ डानमंजरी
इतेतन्नि जऐन्नित्यं नरो निश्चल मानसः
डानसिद्धिं लभेच्चीघ्रं तथान्ते परमं पदं

gItA gaMgAca gAyatrI sItA satyA sarasvatI
brmavidyaA brahmavalli trisaMdhA muktigEhinI
ardhamAtrA cidAnaMdA BavaGnI BrAntinASinI
vEdatrayI parAnantA tatvArdha ~gAnamaMjarI
itEtanni ja^^EnnityaM narO niScala mAnasaH
~gAnasiddhiM laBEccIGraM tadhAntE paramaM padaM

प्रारभ्यतेन खलु विघ्नभयेन नीचैः	prAraByatEna khalu viGnaBayEna nlcaiH
प्रारभ्य विघ्न निहता विरमन्ति मद्याः	prAraBya viGna nihata viramanti maDyAH
विघ्नैर्मुहु रूप प्रतिहन्यमानाः	viGnairmuhu rrapa pratihanyamAnAH
प्रारब्ध मुत्तमग्णा नपरित्यजन्ति	prArabDa muttamagNA nparityajanti

--Meaning *adhamas* will not start anything for fear of *vighnas*,
Madhyamas will start but give up when faced with first *vighna*,
Uttamas (Dheeras) will not give up in spite of facing repeated *vighnaas*.

[Bhartruhari SubhAshitam]

“If I am impatient to experience the results of my efforts, it is like trying to eat unripe fruit” --[Brahma Kumaris]

Balvikas Balvikas is held every month for children at the temple premises. For additional information please contact Ritha Kulkarni at 991-2919.

Swadhyay Next Swadhyay is scheduled for January 3, 2010 at 11:00 a.m.

Events of Dhanurmas:

Wednesday, Dec 16, 2009 - Dhanurmas begins

10.00 am - Sri Godadevi Abhishekam

Dec 17, 2009 to Jan 13, 2010 - 9 to 9.30 am Daily puja to Sri Godadevi

Sunday, Dec 27, 2009 - Vaikuntha Ekadasi - Aalaya Utsav

Wednesday, Jan 13, 2010 – Bhogi

6.30 pm to 8.00pm - Sri Godadevi Kalyanam

After Kalyanam - Bhogi blessings to all children

under 5 yrs by Priest Kalyan Kumar

(For more details contact Mrs. Ritha Kulkarni 9912919)

Thursday, Jan 14, 2010 - Makara Sankranthi, Uttarayana Punya Kaala

Sponsorship:

Sri Godadevi Abhishekam - \$55

Daily Puja to Sri Godadevi - \$35

Sri Godadevi Kalyanam - \$55

All events and month long pujas - \$251

Sri Venkateswara Temple

10401 McKinzie Lane, Corpus Christi, Texas 78410

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Effective November 2009

Type of Service	Price (\$)	Description
Astotharam	15	Performing the puja by chanting 108 names of God
Sahasra Namam	35	Performing the puja by chanting 1000 names of God
Vahana Puja	35	Puja for the vehicle
Venkateswara Abhishekam	101	Ritual to Lord Venkateswara with Panchamrutha
Abhishekam for Lord Venkateswara for one year	1,116	13 to 14 abhishekams for one year on Sravana (birth star of Lord Venkateswara)
Abhishekam on First Saturday of every month, for one year	1,001	Lord Venkateswara abhishekam
Abhishekam on First Saturday – for one month	101	Lord Venkateswara abhishekam
Siva Abhishekam	51	On Monday
Siva Abhishekam for one year	2,001	On every Monday, for one year
Mahanyasa Abhishekam	1,116	On Masa Sivarathri (13or14 times er year)
Subramanya Abhishekam	51	On Tuesday
Subramanya Abhishekam for one year	501	On every Sashti, for one year
Ganesha Abhishekam	51	On Sankustha Chaturthi
Ganesha Abhishekam for one year	501	On Sankustha Chaturthi, every month for one year
Vishesha archana for Ram Parivar	15	On Tuesday
Vishesha archana for Ram Parivar for one year	501	On every Tuesday, for one year
Vishesha archana for Radha	15	On Wednesday

Krishna		
Vishesha archana for Radha Krishna for one year	501	On every Wednesday, for one year
Vishesha archana for Dattatreya	15	On Thursday
Vishesha archana for Dattatreya for one year	501	On every Thursday, for one year
Vishesha archana for Saibaba	15	On Thursday
Saibaba Abhishekam	501	On every third Thursday, for one year
Vishesha archana for Ram Kabir	15	On Thursday
Vishesha archana for Ram Kabir for one year	501	On every Thursday, for one year
Lalitha Sahasranamam	35	On Friday
Lalitha Sahasranamam for one year	1,501	On every Friday, for one year
Lakshmi Astotharam	15	On Friday
Lakshmi Astotharam for one year	501	On every Friday, for one year
Navagraha archana and Shani, Rahu and Kethu Puja		Please check with the Priest(s)
Kesha Kandanam	55	Hair removal ceremony
Kalyanotsavam	151	Marriage ceremony for God
Samuhika Satyanarayana puja	61	Satyanarayana puja in group
Satyanarayana puja (individual)	101	Individual Satyanarayana puja in the temple
Traditional Indian Wedding	501	Performing traditional Indian wedding in the temple
Priest service	150	Services provided outside the temple, but in Corpus Christi or surrounding areas
Priest service	250	Services provided outside the temple, but out of town