

SRI MANDIR

A.C.N 003 123 591

The First Hindu Temple

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Auburn, NSW 2144
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P.O.Box 332
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A Mandir dedicated to: .Religion .Culture .Education .Charity .Ecology

DHRITI

(DHRITI – SPIRITUAL MEANS PATIENCE & FIRMNESS)



SRI MANDIR PATRIKA
January - March 2016

Editor : Sangita Kashyap

MANDIR/TEMPLE OPENING HOURS:

Monday to Friday : 10:00 am to 12:00 noon
05:30 pm to 08:30 pm

Weekends & Public Holidays
10:30 am to 08:00 pm

Priest of the Temple: Pdt. Jatinkumar Bhatt (Jyotish Ratnam)
Marriage Celebrant & JP
Contact 0423 341 604
Email jrbhatt@hotmail.com



DAILY EVENTS

Bhog & Aarti : Daily at 7:45 pm

Monday Shiv Abhishek from 07:15 pm
(Mahaprasad/Langar)

ON PUBLIC HOLIDAYS, SHIV ABHISHEK FROM 6:30PM

Tuesday Ramayan Paath from 7:00pm
followed by Hanuman Chalisa
(Mahaprasad/Langar)

Friday Amritwani - 7:00pm

Saturday Recital of Sunderkand - 5:30pm

Poornima Satyanarayan Katha

CALENDER FOR JANUARY 2016

01	Friday	New Year Celebration - Recital of Sunderkand Paath 10:30am – 1:00pm
05	Tuesday	Safala Ekadashi
07	Thursday	Pradosh
09	Saturday	Amavasya
14	Thursday	Makar Sankranti – Uttarayan
20	Wednesday	Putrada Ekadashi
21	Thursday	Pradosh
23	Saturday	Poshi Shakambhari Poonima
26	Tuesday	Indian Republic Day & Australia Day
27	Wednesday	Sankashti Chaturthi – Moonrise 9:52pm



CALENDER FOR FEBRUARY 2016

04	Thursday	Shattila Ekadashi
06	Saturday	Pradosh
08	Monday	Somvati Amavasya
12	Friday	Vasant Panchami
13	Saturday	Sankranti Saraswati Pooja 4:30pm to 6:30pm
18	Thursday	Jaya Ekadashi
20	Saturday	Pradosh
22	Monday	Maagh Poonima – Satyanarayan Katha 6:30pm – 8:00pm
26	Friday	Sankashti Chaturthi - Moonrise 9:29pm



CALENDER FOR MARCH 2016

05	Saturday	Vijaya Ekadashi
06	Sunday	Pradosh
07	Monday	MAHASHIVRAATRI
08	Tuesday	Amavasya
14	Monday	Sankranti
19	Saturday	Amalki Ekadashi
20	Sunday	Pradosh
23	Wednesday	Poonima – HOLI Penumbra Lunar Eclipse from 8:39pm to 12:54am(24/3/16)
24	Thursday	Dhuleti – Rangotsav
27	Sunday	Sankashti Chaturthi Moonrise 9:12pm



EKADASHI

Ekadashi fasting is observed on every 11th Tithi in Hindu calendar. There are two Ekadashi fasting in a month, one during Shukla Paksha and another during Krishna Paksha. Devotees of Lord Vishnu observe Ekadashi fasting to seek His blessings. Ekadashi fasting spans for three days. Devotees take single meal in the afternoon a day before fasting day to make sure there is no residual food in the stomach on next day. Devotees keep strict fast on Ekadashi day and break the fast on next day only after sunrise. Eating of all type of grains and cereals is prohibited during Ekadashi fasting. Devotees can choose to observe fasting without water, with only water, with only fruits, with one time latex food according to their will and body power. However it should be decided before starting the fast.

SAFALA EKADASHI

The significance of Safala Ekadashi was explained to Yudhishtira by Lord Krishna. It is mentioned in the Brahmanda Purana. Fasting on Saphala Ekadashi is believed to help in cleansing the sins committed and it also opens the door of fame in earthly life.

Legend has it that Lumbaka, one of the four sons of a famous king, was always questioning the authority of Lord Vishnu. Due to this attitude, he was exiled. Lumbaka continued with his behavior and started plundering the wealth of poor villagers and made his home under a banyan tree. He started eating killing animals and ate the raw meat.

Once on Saphala Ekadashi day he fell very ill and as a result he kept a fast the whole day and stayed awake during the night and thus unknowingly he undertook the Safala Ekadasi Vrat. Next morning he felt good and realized that all this was due to the blessing of Lord Vishnu. He realized his mistake and returned to his father and lived a happy life.

PUTRADA EKADASHI VRAT KATHA

Shri Yudhishtira Maharaja said, 'Oh Madhusudana, Oh killer of the Madhu demon, please be merciful to me and describe to me the Ekadashi that occurs during the light fortnight of the month of Shravana (July-August).' The Supreme Lord, Sri Krishna, replied, 'Yes, Oh king, I shall happily narrate its glories to you, for just by hearing about this sacred Ekadashi one attains the merit of performing a horse sacrifice.'

At the dawn of Dvapara-yuga there lived a king by the name of Mahijita, who ruled the kingdom of Mahismati-puri. Because he had no son, his entire kingdom seemed utterly cheerless to him. A married man who has no son gains no happiness in this life or the next.

For a long time this king tried very hard to obtain an heir, but to no avail. Seeing his years advancing ever onwards, King Mahijita became increasingly anxious. One day he told an assembly of his advisers: "I have committed no sin in this life, and there is no ill-gotten wealth in my treasury. I have never usurped the offerings to the demigods or Brahmans. When I waged war and conquered kingdoms, I followed the rules and regulations of the military art, and I have protected my subjects as if they were my own children. I punished even my own relatives if they broke the law, and if my enemy was gentle and religious I welcomed him. Oh twice-born souls, although I am a religious and faithful follower of the Vedic standards, still my home is without a son. Kindly tell me the reason for this."

Hearing this, the king's Brahman advisers discussed the subject among themselves, and with the aim of benefiting the king they visited the various ashrams of the great sages. At last they came upon a sage who was austere, pure, and self-satisfied, and who was strictly observing a vow of fasting. His senses were completely under control, he had conquered his anger, and he was expert at performing his occupational duty. Indeed, this great sage was expert in all the conclusions of the Vedas, and he had extended his life span to that of Lord Brahma himself. His name was Lomasa Rishi, and he knew part, present, and future. After each kalpa passed, one hair would fall

out of his body. All the king's Brahman advisers very happily approached him one by one to offer their humble respects.

Captivated by this great soul, King Mahijita's advisers offered obeisance's to him and said very respectfully, Only because of our great good fortune, Oh sage, have we been allowed to see you. Lomasa Rishi saw them bowing down to him and replied, "Kindly let me know why you have come here. Why are you praising me? I must do all I can to solve your problems, for sages like me have only one interest: to help others. Do not doubt this."

The king's representatives said, "We have come to you, Oh exalted sage, to ask for your help in solving a very serious problem. Oh sage, you are like Lord Brahma. Indeed, there is no better sage in the entire world. Our king, Mahijita, is without a son, though he has sustained and protected us as if we were his sons. Seeing him so unhappy on account of being sonless, we have become very sad, Oh sage, and therefore we have entered the forest to perform severe austerities. By our good fortune we happened upon you. Everyone's desires and activities become successful just by your darshana. Thus we humble ask that you tell us how our kind can obtain a son."

Hearing their sincere plea, Lomasa Rishi absorbed himself in deep meditation for a moment and at once understood the king's previous life. Then he said, "Your ruler was a merchant in his past life, and feeling his wealth insufficient, he committed sinful deeds. He traveled to many villages to trade his goods. Once, at noon on the day after the Ekadashi that comes during the light fortnight of the month of Jyeshtha, he became thirsty while traveling from place to place. He came upon a beautiful pond on the outskirts of a village, but just as he was about to drink at the pond a cow arrived there with her new-born calf. These two creatures were also very thirsty because of the heat, but when the cow and calf started to drink, the merchant rudely shoved them aside and selfishly slaked his own thirst. This offense against a cow and her calf has resulted in your king's being without a son now. But the good deeds he performed in his previous life have given him ruler ship over an undisturbed kingdom."

Hearing this, the king's advisers replied, "Oh renowned rishi, we have heard that the Vedas say one can nullify the effects of one's past sins by acquiring merit. Be so kind as to give us some instruction by which our king's sins can be destroyed; please give him your mercy so that a prince will take birth in his family."

Lomasa Rishi said, "There is an Ekadashi called Putrada, which comes during the light fortnight of the month of Shravan. On this day all of you, including your king, should fast and stay awake all night, strictly following the rules and regulations. Then you should give the king whatever merit you gain by this fast. If you follow these instructions of mine, he will surely be blessed with a fine son."

All the king's advisers became very pleased to hear these words from Lomasa Rishi, and they all offered him their grateful obeisance's. Then, their eyes bright with happiness, they returned home. When the month of Shravan arrived, the king's advisers remembered the advice of Lomasa Rishi, and under their direction all the citizens of Mahismati-puri, as well as the king, fasted on Ekadashi. And on the next day, DvAdasi, the citizens dutifully offered their accrued merit to him. By the strength of all this merit, the queen became pregnant and eventually gave birth to a most beautiful son.

O Yudhisthira, Lord Krishna concluded, "The Ekadashi that comes during the light fortnight of the month of Shravan has thus rightfully become famous as Putrada. Whoever desires happiness in this world and the next should certainly fast from all grains and legumes on this holy day. Indeed, whoever simply hears the glories of Putrada Ekadashi becomes completely free of all sins, is blessed with a good son, and surely ascends to heaven after death."

Source : Bhavishya Purana

MAKAR SANKRANTI

Makar Sankranti is a major harvest festival celebrated in various parts of India. According to the lunar calendar, when the sun moves from the Tropic of Cancer to the Tropic of Capricorn or from Dakshinayana to Uttarayana, in the month of Poush in mid-January, it commemorates the beginning of the harvest season and cessation of the northeast monsoon in South India. The movement of the earth from one zodiac sign into another is called Sankranti and as the Sun moves into the Capricorn zodiac known as Makar in Hindi, this occasion is named as Makar Sankranti in the Indian context.

It is one of the few Hindu Indian festivals which are celebrated on a fixed date i.e. 14th January every year.

Makar Sankranti, apart from a harvest festival is also regarded as the beginning of an auspicious phase in Indian culture. It is said as the 'holy phase of transition'. It marks the end of an inauspicious phase which according to the Hindu calendar begins around mid-December. It is believed that any auspicious and sacred ritual can be sanctified in any Hindu family, this day onwards.

Scientifically, this day marks the beginning of warmer and longer days compared to the nights. In other words, Sankranti marks the termination of winter season and beginning of a new harvest or spring season. All over the country, Makar Sankranti is observed with great fanfare. However, it is celebrated with distinct names and rituals in different parts of the country. In the states of northern and western India, the festival is celebrated as the Sankranti day with special zeal and fervor. The importance of this day has been signified in the ancient epics like Mahabharata also. So, apart from socio-geographical importance, this day also holds a historical and religious significance.

In Tamil Nadu Makar Sankranti is known as PONGAL. In Gujarat & Rajasthan Makar Sankranti is known as UTTARAYANA. In Haryana and Punjab Makar Sankranti is known as MAGHI.

BEST WISHES ON THIS DAY TO YOU AND FAMILY
HAPPY MAKAR SANKRANTI
HAPPY PONGAL
HAPPY UTTARAYAN
HAPPY MAGHI

SRI MANDIR Celebrates

VASANT PANCHAMI

ON

Saturday, 13th February 2016

4:30pm to 6:30pm

Saraswatimata Pooja

Pooja will be followed by Religious quiz, awards presentation, bhog, aarti and bhojan prasad

Saraswati Pooja will be performed by children, followed by a Religious quiz. Quiz questions have been set for three different age groups.

Quiz Groups : Age : 4 to 7, 8 to 12 and 13+ yrs old.

Children participating in the quiz will be presented with a certificate of participation on this auspicious occasion by Sri Mandir.

Awards will be presented to 1st, 2nd & 3rd winners of each group.

For our little devotees willing to participate in the pooja and quiz, Parents are requested to kindly register their Child's name via email at srimandir@hotmail.com

Please send the following details to register

1. Child's Full Name
2. Child's Date of Birth (dd/mm/yyyy)
3. Street Mailing address
4. Email Address

Last Date of Registration - 7th February 2016

Saraswati Mantra 1

Yaa Kundendu tushaara haaradhavalaa, Yaa shubhravastraavritha|

Yaa veenavara dandamanditakara, Yaa shwetha padmaasana||

Yaa brahmaachyutha shankara prabhritibhir Devaisadaa Vanditha|

Saa Maam Paatu Saraswatee Bhagavatee Nihshesha jaadyaapaha||

Translation in English: "May Goddess Saraswati, who is fair like the jasmine-colored moon, and whose pure white garland is like frosty dew drops; who is adorned in radiant white attire, on whose beautiful arm rests the veena, and whose throne is a white lotus; who is surrounded and respected by the Gods, protect me. May you fully remove my lethargy, sluggishness, and ignorance."

Saraswati Mantra 2

Saraswati Namasthubhyam, Varadey Kaamarupinee!

Vidhyarambham Karishyami, Sidhir bhavathu mey sada !

Translation in English: "Oh ! Goddess, Saraswati, my humble prostrations unto Thee, who are the fulfiller of all my wishes. I start my studies with the request that thou will bestow Thy blessings on me."

SRI MANDIR Celebrates

MAHA SHIVRAATRI

ON

Monday 7th March 2016

Sri Mandir will remain open from 9:00 am to 9:00pm on this day

POOJA & ABHISHEK
6:00pm to 9:00pm

Pooja & Abhishek samagri will be provided by the temple.

A humble request from Sri Mandir – Please do not bring milk, ghee or any such items from home for abhishek. Pooja and abhishek samagri will be available at the temple to be used in the right way and in right quantity. Please support our culture and rituals by avoiding wastage & improper disposal of Pooja samagri. Thank you for your co-operation.

Maha Mrityunjay Mantra

ॐ त्र्यम्बकं यजामहे सुगन्धिं पुष्टिवर्धनम् ।
उर्वारुकमिव बन्धनान् मृत्योर्मुक्षीय मामृतात् ॥

*om tryambakam yajāmahe sugandhim
puṣṭi-varadhanam /
urvārukam-iva bandhanān
mṛtyormukṣīya māmṛtāt //*

PENUMBRAL LUNAR ECLIPSE – 23RD MARCH 2016

ECLIPSE FROM 8:39PM TO 12:54AM (Next Day)

Temple will remain closed from 1:00pm(23/3/16) to 10:00am (24/3/16)

UPCOMING EVENTS

Chaitree Navraatri commences
8th April 2016

SHREE RAM KATHA

From 8th April to 17th April 2016

Katha will be narrated by Shree Dhavalkumarji (India)

Katha timing schedule will be informed in due course of time.

AKHAND SUNDERKAND PAATH

Recital of Sunderkand Paath 108 times

From 21st April to 25th April 2016

With the overwhelming demand from our Sydney devotees with complete faith & selfless devotion Sri Mandir has been fortunate to hold this event for the 2nd time.

For details please contact srimandir@hotmail.com



DAY LIGHT SAVING ENDS – 3rd April 2016

Set your clock back 1 hour at 3:00am

MATA KI CHOWKI

9TH April 2016

DURGA ASHTAMI

14TH April 2016

RAM NAVAMI

15TH April 2016

HANUMAN JAYANTI

22ND April 2016



NOTICE BOARD

PANCHANG 2016 : Available at the temple.

Panchang for the year 2016 as per Sydney - Australia timings is available at the temple. It is compiled to include list of all the events/functions for the Calendar year 2016, Special days, NSW public holidays, School Holidays Ekadashi, Poornima, Sankranti, Sankasti, Amavasya, Pradosh, & Muhurats.

Please enquire in person at Sri Mandir, 286 Cumberland Road, Auburn 2144

PRIEST OF THE TEMPLE

Pdt. Jatinkumar Bhatt has been full time priest of Sri Mandir since 2004 and has been the most respectable and recognised priest in the community since then. He has held an excellent image in the community as a priest with his extensive knowledge, patience, & his performance of rituals and prayers. Sri Mandir is proud to announce that Pdt. Jatinkumar Bhatt is a highly qualified priest with the degree of "Jyotish Alankar" in our Hindu religion. He has recently been honored with the title of Jyotish Bhaskar, Ratnakar and Ratnam. Panditji is marriage celebrant to solemnise Hindu marriages & Justice of Peace too. Panditji performs all kinds of prayers & rituals for any occasion, event, reason.

HUMBLE REQUEST



With due respect to our religion, culture and God, please do not design any posters, flyers, calendars or any promotion material with the photograph of Gods & Goddesses. There have been no photographs of Gods and/or Goddesses or any spiritual leader in any of the Sri Mandir Newsletters or flyers since 2011. Please support this campaign. This is a humble request from the Priest of Sri Mandir and also from your temple Sri Mandir.

Please follow neat and proper dress code whilst visiting temple that reflects our rich culture and expressing respect to God and the divine place of worship.

SAY NO TO CANDLES

Burning candles – how harmful is inhaling the burning candle – please refer to the article on our website.

Web Link :

<http://www.srimandir.org/religious-articles/276-lighting-candles>

PLEASE SUPPORT E-PATRIKA.

**REQUEST TO ALL THE MEMBERS CURRENTLY RECEIVING
PAPER PATRIKA BY MAIL**

**PLEASE SAVE THE ENVIRONMENT AND SUPPORT FOR
ELECTRONIC PATRIKA.**

Send us your email address on which you wish to receive next issue of Sri Mandir Patrika at srimandir@hotmail.com. Your support and help in this matter will be highly appreciated.