Issue 69 November 2021

Sri Amrutha Sai Narayana Sarveswaralayam

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Sai Amrutha Jyothi

MASTER'S DIVINE WORDS

LIFE IS LOVE…. LOVE CAN ALSO BE EXPRESSED AS AN UNCONDITIONAL SERVICE TO THE SOCIETY AT LARGE … DO SOMETHING FOR THE HUMANITY AT LEAST IN A SMALL WAY WITHIN YOUR MEANS OF POSSIBILITY… YOU WILL HAVE THE BLESSINGS OF THE LORD AND ALL THE MORE ETERNAL SATISFACTION

****

WHEN YOU ARE WITH UNCONDITIONAL LOVE, IT WILL FLOW AND OVERFLOW… YOU WILL NEVER CREATE A PRISON FOR ANYONE… YOU WILL NOT BE POSSESSIVE… NONE WILL BE SUFFOCATED … FURTHER YOU WILL NOT EXPECT ANY GRATITUDE OR THANKS GIVING FROM ANYONE… YOU WILL BE FULL OF JOY… EVERYONE AROUNG YOU WILL BE MESMERISED BECAUSE OF THE UNCONDITIONALITY IN LOVE…THEY IN TURN WILL INSPIRE YOU AND SHOWER UNCONDITIONAL LOVE ON OTHERS… YOU WILL TURN THE ENTIRE SOCIETY IN TO A PARADISE…ALL WILL FEEL THE EXISTENCE OF HEAVEN ON EARTH FREE OF ALL MALADIES… MALADIES WILL TURN INTO MELODIES…

****

FUTURE IS A PROJECTION….
BASED ON PROJECTION IS PREDICTION….
LIFE IS SO LIVE AND NEW EVERYDAY,
SELDOM FUTURE PREDICTIONS COME TRUE….

~~~~His Holiness Sri V.V. Sridhar Guruji

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Upcoming Events

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- 11/01/2021 & 11/15/2021 & 11/30/2021 Ekadasi
- 11/02/2021 & 11/16/2021 Pradosham
- 11/03/2021 Masa Sivarathri
- 11/04/2021 Amavasya
- 11/09/2021 Subramanyeswara Kalyanam
- 11/09/2021 Shasti
- 11/19/2021 Pournami & Karthigai
- 11/23/2021 Sankashtahara Chaturthi
- 11/27/2021 Ashtami

November Festivals

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- 11/04/2021 Deepavali
- 11/07/2021 Nagula Chavithi
- 11/05/2021–11/09/2021 Skanda Shashti abhishekams
~~~~

SOMETIMES THE MASTER WILL SHOUT AT YOU… DO YOU KNOW WHY? DO YOU THINK HE ENJOYS SHOUTING AT YOU?

BECAUSE YOUR SANCHITA KARMA IS TO THAT EXTENT, BY SHOUTING AT YOU HE TAKES OVER YOUR PRARABDHAS.

THAT IS THE KIND OF SACRIFICE A MASTER DOES.

THAT IS WHY HE IS THE TRUE MASTER, HE IS THE SADHGURU.

KRISHNA WAS ONE SUCH MASTER, BUDDHA WAS ANOTHER.

THAT IS WHY WE SAY, “GURU MADHYE STHITHO VISHWAM, VISHWA MADHYE STHITHO GURUHU, GURUHVISHWAM NA CHA ANYOS-THI.. TASMAI SRI GURAVE NAMAHA”.

WITHIN THE GURU IS THE UNIVERSE; AT THE CENTER OF THE UNI-VERSE IS THE GURU… THERE IS NO DUALITY HERE, THE GURU IS NOT SEPARATE FROM THE UNIVERSAL CONSCIOUSNESS.

SALUTATIONS AND PROSTRATIONS TO LORD DAKSHINAMURTHY… LORD HAYAGREEVA HIMSELF. HE IS AN EMOBIDEMNT OF SUPREME KNOWLEDGE AND WISDOM.

GURU MEANS TODAY, NOW…. HE LIVES WITH YOU, HE DANCES WITH YOU.. HE IS INVOLVED IN A COSMIC DANCE WITH YOU.

THERE IS NOTHING LIKE DISTANCE BETWEEN HIM AND YOU. IT IS YOUR ATTITUDE THAT MAKES YOU THINK THAT GURU HAS MOVED AWAY FROM YOU.

~~~~His Holiness Sri V.V. Sridhar Guruji
~~~~

DRAWING SPARROWS (DEVOTEES)

Sai is not finite.

Sai is not finite or limited. He dwells in all beings, from ants and insects to the God Brahma. He pervades all. Sai was well-versed in the knowledge of Vedas, as well as in the science of self-realization. As He was proficient in both these, He was well-fitted to be the Sadguru. Any one though learned, but not able to awaken the disciples and establish them in self-realization, does not deserve to be called a Sadguru. Generally, the worldly parents give birth to the body, but death invariably follows life; but Sadguru does away with both life and death and so he is more kind and merciful than anybody.

Sai Baba often said that – **let His man (Devotee) be at any distance, a thousand kos away from Him, he will be drawn to Shirdi, like a sparrow, with a thread tied to its feet.**

Sai Baba has drawn several of his devotees from far off places, who came to Shirdi and permanently become members of His Darbar. Several such sparrows are mentioned in the Satcharita, here's an example.

LALA LAKSHMICHAND

This Gentleman was living in Mumbai. He met Baba in 1910, one or two months before Christmas. He saw in his dream an old man with a beard standing and surrounded by his Bhaktas. Few days later he went to his friends' house to hear the Kirtan by Das Ganu. It was customary practice for Das Ganu to keep Sai Baba's picture in front of audience when performing his kirtans. This picture of Baba tallied exactly with that of the old man Lakshmichand saw in his dream and came to conclusion that it was Sai Baba himself that he saw in his dream. The sight of the picture, Das Ganu's kirtan and the life of Saint Tukaram on which Das Ganu discoursed, all these things made a deep impression on his mind, and he decided to go Shirdi. It is the experience of the Bhaktas, that God always helps them in their search for Sadguru and other spiritual endeavors.

WHO IS SAI BABA? - BABU JAMMI

In Lakshmichand's case, that night his friend Sankararao knocked at his door and asked him whether he would like to accompany him to Shirdi. His joy knew no bounds and he at once decided to Shirdi. He took Rs.15 loan to cover the cost of the trip. They went to Shirdi by train, and along the way they met other travelers coming from Shirdi and enquired about Baba. They also sang bhajans (religious songs) along the way. Once they reached Shirdi, they went to the masjid with puja materials in hand, and worshipped Baba with due ritual. Lakshmichand was much moved and was extremely happy to see Baba. He wrapped himself around Baba's feet, as a bee with a sweet-smelling lotus. Then Baba spoke as follows:

"Cunning fellow he does bhajan on the way and enquires from others, why ask others? Everything we should see with our own eyes; where is the necessity to question others? Just think for yourself whether your dream is true or not? Where is the necessity of the darshan by taking a loan from a Marwari? Is the heart's desire now satisfied?".

Hearing these words Lakshmichand was wonderstruck at Baba's omniscience. He was at a loss to know how Baba came to know about all the things that had happened en-route from his house to Shirdi. Lakshmichand, had several other experiences, during his stay in Shirdi, that proved Baba's omniscience, again and again. On seeing these proofs and Baba's kindness to His Bhaktas, he surrendered himself totally to Baba's worship, and went home much pleased and contented, singing Baba's glory. He remained a staunch devotee of Baba then onwards.

This story of Lakshmichand clearly demonstrates how Baba arranges things to pull His Bhaktas to Shirdi. We such examples even in the current days. Devotees come to visit our Baba temple in most unique ways, as-if they are drawn here, in most unexpected and unique ways.

Jai Sairam.

Reference: Based on excerpts from Shri Sai Satcharita

FEAR....

Time and thought fuel fear.
In the past or future and the mind unclear.
Time rules every being far and near.
Thoughts ride those with the identity gear.

Someone said, control your thoughts succession.
But, isn't control an illusion?
It only lives in the realm of deception,
For those with a big 'I' in their perception.

Dive deep into time and thought,
Touch its core and undo the fear knot.
If liberation is all you sought,
Turn inward, such as Sadhguru begot!

Patanjali Yoga Sutra – "Samadhi Pada"

11 (continuation from October issue)

In the last issue we saw that Sage Patanjali gives OM as the name to represent the all-pervading Ishvara. Swami Sachidananda provides several explanations about the significance of OM and why OM is the most appropriate name for Ishvara. Let us just see one of them here.

OM is usually split as AUM. A is the beginning of all sounds. Every language begins with some sound related to "A" or "ah". A is pronounced by simply opening the mouth. The sound of A starts at the throat where the tongue is rooted. Then the sound comes forward between the tongue and the palate upto the lips U or "oo" is produced. Then closing the lips produces the M. So, the creation is A, preservation is U, and culmination is M. A-U-M includes the entire process of sound, and all other sounds are contained in it. Thus, OM is the origin from which all other sounds and words were born. As such, OM is dormant in all the words.

Next, Sage Patanjali goes on to say that repeating it with reflection upon its meaning is another way to attain Samadhi.

This we call as Japa. Repeating a mantra (that which keeps the mind steady and produces the proper effect) is called Japa. Japa is one of the powerful techniques to quiet the mind and many great sages have prescribed it to the human kind. It is the easiest and the best, because there is no need for a particular place or time to do the Japa. Because, all we need is to keep it in our heart. Japa can be continuously happening in part of our mind, while we attend to the worldly duties with the other.

Sri Ramakrishna used to say that we must hold onto the Lord's feet with one hand and do our worldly duties with the other. Swami Vivekananda said that we should keep our thoughts on the Lord constantly as the oil drips when we transfer it from one container to the other. (Try it once, it would seem that the oil keeps dripping and would never end). Both of these are possible with Japa.

(To be continued…)

Reference: "The Yoga Sutras of Patanjali" by Swami Sachidananda.

DO YOU KNOW OUR TEMPLE NAVAGRAHAS?

Navagrahas:

Navagrahas are the nine planetary gods we worship. It is believed that all events in the life of a human are tied with the position of these planets, starting at the time of the birth of the person. Hindu astrological science primarily depends on these planetary position calculations. Navagrahas are found in most Hindu temples grouped together on a pedestal in commonly visible areas of the temple.

At our Sai Amrutha Narayana temple, the Navagraha idols were installed in the Northeast corner of the main temple. The navagrahas at our temple are very unique. In all temples you see the vigrahams of the Graha devata only. The uniqueness of the Navagrahas here is that Graha Devata vigrahams have been consecrated along with those of their respective consorts. Also, in our temple, Sani Bhagawan is also facing directly Maha Lingeswara (from main altar). This gives us an unique opportunity to perform abhishekams simultaneously to both Lord Siva and Saneeswara same time, particularly during Pradosha abhishekam and on Sani Trayodasi, which is very auspicious and very special.

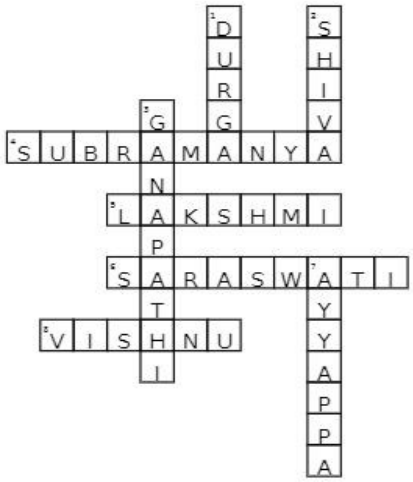
Devotees report of benefits they have derived in their lives from performing Navagraha Abhishekam or Navagraha Shanthi at our temple. It is recommended to perform rituals like Homam and Abhishekam to Navagrahas to get relief from all kinds of problems. Of special benefit are prayers offered to Shani Bhagwan, Guru, Angaraka, Rahu and Ketu.

Abhishekam: Abhishekam to Navagrahas is performed every Saturday morning. In addition, we also perform special prayers during transition periods of Guru and Sani grahas, to help devotees face the effects of graha transition on their lives, based on their janma kundali or jathakam

Just for Fun—Anushaa Nukala

Crossword Puzzle Solution

Deities & Vaahanas



Down:
1. Lion
2. Bull/Ox
3. Mouse
7. Tiger

Across:
4. Peacock
5. Owl
6. Swan
8. Eagle

Kolam—Sangeetha Sridhar

Do you want to know how to make this beautiful Kolam in the picture?

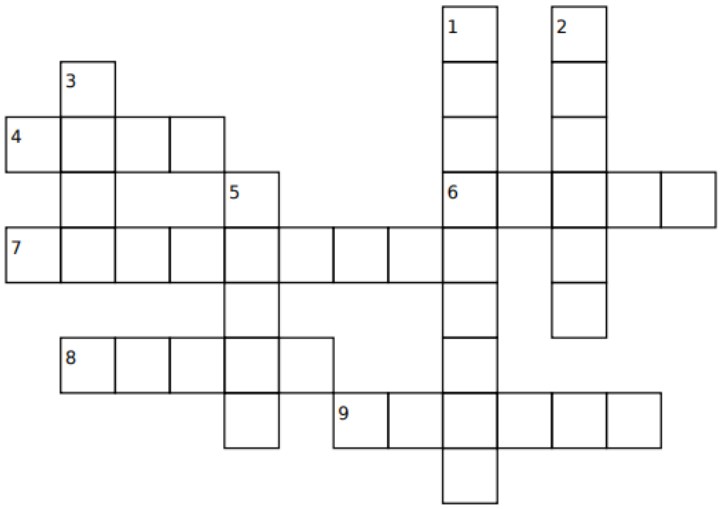
You can watch the process of making this Kolam on our Youtube page Sai Amrutha Jyothi or you can use this following link:

https://youtu.be/v8HcgrM_mqo

Please like, share and subscribe to our Youtube channel.

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCvcLCGOv_5IAUYxA2vA4eqQ

Deities and their weapons



Down:
1. Lord Shiva
2. Lord Krishna
3. Lord Balarama
5. Lord Rama

Across:
4. Lord Hanuman
6. Devi Durga
7. Lord Indra
8. Lord Yama
9. Lord Vishnu

SPOT THE DIFFERENCES

Spot 6 differences between the 2 pictures

Source: Pinterest

Deepavali Celebrations

Sri Sai Amrutha Narayana Temple

340 Three Chopt Road, Manakin Sabot, Va. 23103

DEEPAVALI 2021

Thursday, November 4, 2021

6 : 00 AM : Special Abhishekams
Sri Mahalakshmi, Sri Venkatachalapathy, and
Sri Sai Amrutha Narayana

7 : 00 PM : Special Puja for Sri Mahalakshmi

Archanas will be performed through out the day for devotees

For Sponsorship details please contact :
Sarada Jammi # 804 868 5751 or Pt. Rajagopalan #804 708 3007

Follow us on FaceBook and Instagram:

Deepavali Celebrations

Sri Sai Amrutha Narayana Temple

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SKANDA SHASHTI

November 5th - November 9th, 2021

Nov 5th—Nov 9th @ 5: 30 am	Daily Pancha Dravya Abhishekam
Nov 7th @ 4:30 pm (Nagula Chavithi) Sponsor a gallon of Milk for $11.00	Laghu Sahasra Kshira (Milk) Abhishekam (336 litres/108 gallons) to Sri Valli, Sri Devasena and Sri Subramanyeswara swamy

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Subramanyeswara Kalyanam

Sri Sai Amrutha Narayana Temple

340 Three Chopt Road, Manakin Sabot, Va. 23103

Valli Devasena Sametha Sri Subramanyeswara Thiru Kalyana Mahotsavam

November 9, 2021

Let us celebrate the divine wedding and pray for Loka Kalyanam

5.30 pm	Ganapathy puja, Punyaha Vachanam, Vishesha Puja, Raksha Bandhnam
6.30—7.30 pm	Divya Muhurtham Mangalya puja, Mangalya Dharanam, Kalyana Mahotsavam
8.00 pm	Shej Aarathi

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