

Hindu Temple and Cultural Society of USA Inc.
Sri Venkateswara Temple (Balaji Mandir) and Community Center
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Sriramanavami

Sriramanavami is a well-known Hindu Holiday. Sriramanavami is celebrated on the ninth day of the Chaitra Sukla paksha (bright half of the lunar month Chaitra – March/April). This day also coincides with the star Punarvasu, the birth star of Sri Rama (The seventh incarnation of Lord Vishnu). Special festivities of this function include Sri Rama's birth, Sita Rama Kalyanam, His victory over Ravana and His coronation ceremony. Vada pappu, Neer Mor (diluted buttermilk), Panagam (sweet herbal water) are few of the special prasadam significant of Sriramanavami.

Sriramanavami celebration in our temple, a week long festivity, includes a number of religious activities. Daily Sundara Kanda parayana. (Sundara Kandam is that section of Valmiki Ramayanam, which deals with the heroic deeds of Hanuman/Anjaneya when he crossed over to Sri Lanka, discovered Sita, carried out a number of tasks and flew back to convey the news of Sita to Rama. Sundara Kanda parayana is believed to bring good news and hope) and Sri Rama Sahasranama Archana (chanting of 1000 names of Sri Rama) form special part of this event. On the Sriramanavami day, following the daily suprabhatam, Sundara Kanda parayanam and Sri Rama Janana Sarga (Sri Rama's Birth story) Parayanams are performed. One of the Beautiful events that take place on this morning, after the parayanam, is The abhishekam to Sri Rama Parivar (Sri Rama, Sri Sita, Sri Lakshmana and Sri Anjaneya) . Morning functions also include Sri Sitarama Kalyanam and Sri Rama Pattabhishekam. Annadhanam (distribution of free food - Prasadam) during Sriramanavami is a tradition in our Temple. Evening prayers include a Special Navaneetha Alankaram (decoration with butter) to Sri Anjaneya, an eternal devotee of Sri Rama. Hanuman Chalisa and Sri Anjaneya Sahasranama Puja (chanting of 1000 names of Sri Anjaneya) also form part of this religious service.

May the Blessings of Lord Sri Venkateswara and Sri Mahalakshmi be with you and your family.

HTCS