

# Hindu Temple of Rochester

120 Pinnacle Road, Pittsford, NY 14534-1008

Mail to: P.O.BOX 20061 Rochester, NY-14602-0061

<http://www.hindutempleofrochester.com>

Telephone: (585) 427- 8091

Newsletter-2019-1

## EXECUTIVE COUNCIL 2019

### President

Chetna Chandrakala  
773 - 704 - 8817

### Vice President

Ravi Rasu  
585 - 797- 8144

### Secretary

Krishna Kumar Kaza  
585 - 474 - 0478

### Treasurer

Kusum Narang  
585 - 249-6287

### Cultural Secretary

Indrani Priyanka Pariti  
607-331-3391

### Communications

#### Secretary

Radhe Syam Tangirala  
585-315-7332

### Educational Secretary

Jayanthy Hindupur  
585 -503 - 3936

### Facilities Secretary

Bhupendra Rana  
585 - 623 - 2928

### Volunteer Coordinator

Shilpy Gupta  
585 - 623 - 9042

### Past President

Om. P. Gupta  
585 474-8022

### Priest

L.V. Govind  
585-427-8091

## President's Column

Dear Fellow Devotee,  
Hari Om!

We are proud to be part of this wonderful community that supports our beautiful temple. We just celebrated the colorful festival of Holi which most truly displays how diverse people from different cultures can assimilate and display one color of friendship. That is the true essence of our Indian heritage!

Year 2018 was another eventful year. Over 300 people participated in the Ashtalakshmi Maha Yagna – a celebration with 32 havans over 3 days that also brought donations over \$37K for the temple. Your generosity was also appreciated during the Annual Banquet in November when over \$77K was raised for temple operations.

This year Executive Council (EC) will comprise of 10 members, we added a new position “Volunteer Coordinator” to streamline help for temple events and activities. Each member of EC puts in countless hours to ensure effective temple operations and utmost devotee satisfaction.

In 2018 we also introduced Annual Puja packages, which is an important way for sustainable donations to the temple and also a great way for devotees to participate in regular pujas even if they cannot attend.

As you know temple has been searching for a second priest. Thanks to the efforts of the Priest Search Committee, and by grace of God, we will have a second priest in 2019.

Like previous years, during 2019, our temple will be vibrant with pujas, festivals, functions and new initiatives to serve the needs of the devotees under the leadership of our Pujariji, with support of the volunteers and teachers. We will also continue to expand our focus on inter-faith activities, health and humanitarian initiatives. But it is only complete with your family's attendance, participation and support.

Thank you again for the support from all volunteers, Board of Trustees and guidance from temple stakeholders and leaders, especially our late Dr. Anil Sawhney.

We are enclosing a survey form for you to provide your feedback in any area. Please feel free to reach any of the EC members if you have any question or need any help.

Sincerely,

Chetna Chandrakala, President

Ravi Rasu, Vice President

Om P Gupta, Past President

This is your temple. If you have any suggestion, input, comment, or observation to make it better, please let us know at [feedback@hindutempleofrochester.com](mailto:feedback@hindutempleofrochester.com). We will make every effort to incorporate all feedback received. EC and BoT

## BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Anurag Agarwal

Prem Gupta

Ramana Adibhatla

Manoj Rajgarhia

Lakshmi Rao

Ishwar Mathur

Neelam Bajaj

Jaimala Thanik

Sheshvadhani Kumar(Chair)Sanjay

Mathur

## Temple Hours

Day	Time
Mon-Fri	9:00AM – 11:30AM 6:00PM – 8:30PM
Sat & Sun	9:00AM – 12:00PM 4:30PM – 8:30PM
Wed	Closed except for special occasions

Please check the web-site for details.

## MONTHLY ABHISHEKAM AND PUJA SCHEDULE

Shiva Linga and Ganesh Abhishekam( to Small Linga/Utsav Murthy)	Every Monday	10:00 AM
Sri Hanuman & Sri Kartikeya	Every Tuesday	10:00 AM
Sri Venkateshwara & Sri Padmavathi	1 <sup>st</sup> Saturday	9:45 AM
Sri Radha Krishna	2 <sup>nd</sup> Thursday	6:30 PM
Sunderkand Puja	2 <sup>nd</sup> Saturday	9:45 AM
Lord Murugan Sri Valli & Devayani	3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday	9:45 AM
Maa Durga	4 <sup>th</sup> Saturday	9:45 AM
4 <sup>TH</sup> Sunday Puja	4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday	10:00 AM
Shiva Linga	Every Pradosham	6:00/6:30 PM
Sri Ram Parivar	Punarvasu star day	
Satyanaryana Puja	Purnima day	
Sri Vishnu Murthy abhishekam	Sukla Ekadasi	
Sri Ganesh Abhishekam	Sankata hara Chaturthi	

<b>NAME OF THE CLASS</b>	<b>TIMINGS</b>	<b>AGE GROUP</b>	<b>CONTACT FOR FURTHER INFO</b>
<b>BAL VIHAR</b>	<b>SUNDAYS</b> 9:30 -10.30 a.m. Sept to May	5 to 16 years	<a href="mailto:Balvihar_news@yahoo.com">Balvihar_news@yahoo.com</a>
<b>HINDI CLASS</b>	<b>SUNDAYS</b> 10.45 -11.45 a.m. Sept to May	Ages 5 & above	<a href="mailto:Hindiclass.rochester@gmail.com">Hindiclass.rochester@gmail.com</a> Madhavi Dixit <a href="mailto:mrachar@yahoo.com">mrachar@yahoo.com</a>
<b>TAMIL CLASS</b>	<b>SUNDAYS</b> 2.30 – 4 p.m. Sept to May	Ages 6 yrs and above	Sangeetha Ramkumar <a href="mailto:Sangeetha_ramkumar@yahoo.com">Sangeetha_ramkumar@yahoo.com</a>
<b>KUCHIPUDI DANCE CLASS</b>	<b>SUNDAYS</b> 3- 6p.m. Sept to June	Ages 7 and above	Jyothi Sastry/Sastry Bhagavatula <a href="mailto:jyothisastry@yahoo.com">jyothisastry@yahoo.com</a>
<b>MRIDANGAM CLASS</b>	<b>SUNDAYS</b> 10 - 12 noon Sept to June	Ages 7 and above	Jyothi Sastry/Sastry Bhagavatula <a href="mailto:jyothisastry@yahoo.com">jyothisastry@yahoo.com</a>
<b>YOGA CLASS</b>	<b>TUESDAYS</b> 6.30 - 7.30 p.m.	All ages and fitness levels	Raje Sathasivam <a href="mailto:sraje@yahoo.com">sraje@yahoo.com</a>
<b>RUDRAM CHANTING</b>	Thursday 8 PM	All ages	Dr.Anurag Agarwal

**THE HINDU TEMPLE OF ROCHESTER OFFERS AN EXCITING RANGE OF CLASSES FOR CHILDREN AND ADULTS**

**Hindu Temple of Rochester**  
**Membership Form (January 1, 2019 to December 31, 2020)**

FAMILY: \$50.00    STUDENT: \$25.00    SINGLE: \$35.00    SENIOR CITIZEN FAMILY (≥62 yrs.): \$35.00  
 LIFE MEMBERSHIP: \$1000.00

Make check payable to: Hindu Temple of Rochester (mail to: P.O.BOX 20061 Rochester, NY-14602-0061)

(Please write "Membership 2018" in the memo area on the check)

Please PRINT all the information to keep our records updated. Thank you!

Last Name:	First Name:
Street Apt.#	City State Zip
Phone#:	Spouse's Name:
<input type="checkbox"/> Check this box if address has changed <input type="checkbox"/> Check this box for other information change	
Payment method <input type="checkbox"/> CREDIT CARD <input type="checkbox"/> CHECK	
Email address (Please PRINT clearly):  <input type="checkbox"/> I am interested in volunteering at the temple	Please support the temple in its environment friendly consciousness goal by choosing the option of paperless delivery of the newsletter. The newsletter is also available for download from the temple website.  <input type="checkbox"/> Please send me the newsletter by e-mail ONLY  <input type="checkbox"/> Please send me the newsletter by U.S. Mail ONLY

*You can also become a member online on the temple website (Forms/Guidelines tab) and donate using Paypal (accepts all credit cards).*

<http://www.hindutempleofrochester.com/become-a-htor-member---online.html>

-----Complete membership form and include the form with your check -----

- Do you believe that your Temple helps you and your children connect with your roots?
- Do you believe that your Temple provides a place of comfort and peace for you?
- Do you believe that your Temple helps you and your children follow your traditions and culture?
- Do you believe that your Temple is a valuable resource worth supporting?
- Do you believe that your Temple is worth preserving and nurturing?

**Then, as a first step, become a member and get involved in Temple activities**

### **Temple needs your involvement—here is HOW?**

---

- 1) By becoming a member or renewing your membership.
- 2) By taking an active part in the administrative team or Temple committees.
- 3) By attending and participating in the functions/events.
- 4) By taking advantage of Temple services -- Special pujas, Language classes, Balvihar classes, Dance classes.
- 5) By volunteering to teach classes (Temple's Volunteer "Gurus")
- 6) By volunteering and signing-up for regular help.
- 7) By volunteering and signing-up to help during special pujas.
- 8) By extending your strong, consistent financial support. Your Temple needs to be financially strong to serve you.

*For the latest news, activities and pictures please visit the facebook page of the temple at  
<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Hindu-Temple-of-Rochester/356997137647036>*

## *Message from Board of Trustees Chair.*

Greetings from the Board of Trustees!

Another year has begun and you may already have noticed the flurry of activities in the first couple of months of this new year. I want to thank Chetna and her team in the Executive Council (EC) for their tireless work to plan and execute the numerous tasks that need to be attended to and that the rest of us take for granted. Our volunteers along with the EC are the reason that the Temple looks ready to celebrate all the events whenever we enter the Temple. The entire Temple community is thankful to them for their dedication.

Several plans are being discussed for the year and beyond to make our Temple safer, more functional, inviting, and user- friendly. Towards that end, the Facility Improvement Team (FIT), under the leadership of Bal Narang and with input from your representatives in the EC and on the BoT, is collecting the list of projects that we need to complete. These projects range from purely maintenance of our infrastructure to adding additional parking and driveway space, from adding storage space to installing external security systems. We will evaluate the projects, prioritize them and execute them as our financial standing allows. Of course, we will share the information with you as we move along. The Kitchen project which was approved by the members several years ago has taken off under the leadership of Narayan Deshpande and O.P. Gupta. They and their team needs to be commended for their dedication and focus to bring this long-standing wish to fruition. We hope to start work on this project before this summer. Already, donors are excited about the prospect of a commercial kitchen at the Temple and have dedicated donations to support the project. As you have donated previously for past temple projects, we know we can count on your generous donations for successfully completing these upcoming temple projects.

Our Temple is a beautiful and special place and serves the spiritual and religious needs of devotees not just in Rochester but in a much wider geographical region. To run the Temple well and make our Temple a better place and be ready to serve the needs of patrons for many more years takes a substantial financial base. I am sure that the Temple could count on your continued generous financial support.

If you have any questions, comments or suggestions on Temple's activities or policies, please do not hesitate to contact me or any member of the Board. The EC and the BoT are grateful for your trust and are committed to helping Temple serve its devotees well now and in future.

I am thankful to members of the EC and the BoT for their guidance and support. We are all grateful to our Pujariji who is the special glue that holds together all things related to the Temple with his kindness, religious counsel, and friendly disposition.

I will be remiss if I don't acknowledge the significant void – personally and to the Temple – left by the demise of Anil Sawhney. Anil has been a great friend, good teacher, as well as an honest and supportive guide to me. He was a passionate leader and a visionary for the Temple, even planning the future of the Temple until his last days. He will be sorely missed but following his leadership to help Temple grow will be one small way we can show our respect and love to him.

On behalf of my team on the BoT, I wish you the best in the days to come. May the Lord's Blessings be with you and your family!

Cordially

Kuma

Chair, BoT.

**HINDU TEMPLE OF ROCHESTER (HTOR)  
MEMBER SATISFACTION SURVEY-2019**

Please circle the number that corresponds with your level of agreement to the following statements: **1= Strongly Disagree;... ; 5 = Strongly Agree**

- HTOR meets our spiritual & religious needs 1 2 3 4 5
- HTOR's mission and vision have been clearly explained to devotees. 1 2 3 4 5
- Temple's activities support its mission and vision. 1 2 3 4 5
- Temple's opening days and hours adequate. 1 2 3 4 5
- Puja and hall booking process are being handled properly. 1 2 3 4 5
- Temple decision-making process is transparent to its members. 1 2 3 4 5
- Information on temple's events is disseminated in a timely manner 1 2 3 4 5
- Information on Temple projects is disseminated in a timely manner 1 2 3 4 5
- Temple's policies and procedures are clearly explained. 1 2 3 4 5
- Temple follows established policies and procedures. 1 2 3 4 5
- Temple's website and use of social media are useful. 1 2 3 4 5
- Members are made aware of the process of becoming a HTOR volunteer. 1 2 3 4 5
- Temple is inclusive and welcoming 1 2 3 4 5
- Temple meets the needs of its young members 1 2 3 4 5
- Temple makes efforts to involve our youth in Temple activities 1 2 3 4 5
- The educational classes of the Temple are satisfactory. 1 2 3 4 5
- Temple actively solicits feedback from members. 1 2 3 4 5
- Temple listens to member concerns and responds to them quickly 1 2 3 4 5
- Temple represents well our religion and culture to the community outside. 1 2 3 4 5
- Overall, I am satisfied as a member of the temple. 1 2 3 4 5
- I plan to continue to contribute financially 1 2 3 4 5
- I plan to continue to volunteer at the Temple 1 2 3 4 5
- My skills as a volunteer are used appropriately 1 2 3 4 5

I am a volunteer (Yes)\_\_\_\_\_ (No)\_\_\_\_\_

I am a life-member (Yes) \_\_\_\_\_ (No)\_\_\_\_\_

The number of times someone in my family goes to the Temple for Puja or class in a typical month (Please circle one):

- (a) 0-1      (b) 2-4                      (c) 5-8                      (d) 9-12                      (e) 13 or more times

Tell us about a good or bad experience that you may have had at any Temple program and your idea on how to improve.

( ) Good experience    ( ) Bad experience

---

---

---

---

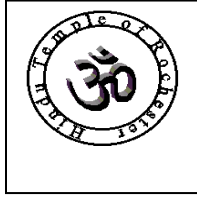
Use additional space if needed.

Please indicate any projects or activities that you think the Temple should embark on.

Any other comments?

**Please mail the Survey (Page S1 and Page S2) to HTOR, PO Box 20061, Rochester, NY 14602-0061 or drop off at the temple with our Pujariji. HTOR appreciates members' input. Please take a few minutes to complete the survey. Your feedback will inform us on what we do right and guide us on areas which need to be improved or focused on. Thank you!**





Non Profit  
Organization  
**US Postage  
Paid**  
Rochester, NY  
Permit NO. 372

**HINDU TEMPLE OF ROCHESTER, INC.**

**Mailing Address:** P.O. Box 20061

Rochester NY 14602 – 0061

Phone: (585) 427-8091

[www.hindutempleofrochester.com](http://www.hindutempleofrochester.com)

Newsletter: January - March 2019

If the code next to your name does not have "2019" or "LM", PLEASE renew your membership by filling out the enclosed form and returning with your check. Thanks.

**Apply/Renew Hindu Temple Annual Membership For 2019**

<b>Mark your calendars for!!</b>	
<b>Special Event</b>	August 9,10,11
<b>Geeta Parayan</b>	November 3,2019
<b>Diwali Celebrations</b>	October 27, 2019
<b>Annual Banquet</b>	November 16, 2019
<b>AGBM</b>	November 17, 2018