

Hindu Temple of Rochester

Shikhar Installation & Concecration Celebration

THURSDAY, October 20 to SUNDAY, October 23
JOIN US FOR THE GRAND CELEBRATION AND ENRICHING EXPERIENCE

Frequently Asked Questions

Q: Where at the Temple I can get information and assistance?

A: Volunteers at the Information desks will be glad to assist you. There will be a registration desk at the South entrance. You can also contact any member of the EC.

Q: Can I sponsor a Havan/Puja at the Temple?

A: Yes subject to availability. If you would like to reserve your slot ahead of time, please contact Manoj Rajgarhia (manojrajgarhia@gmail.com or 585-226-1628)

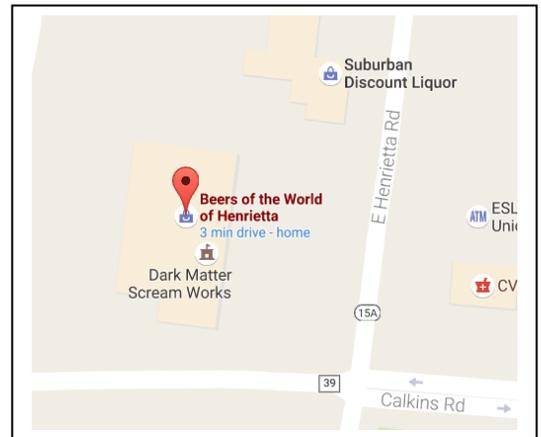
Q: Can I pay using my credit card?

A: Yes, you may pay using credit card at the Temple. This might take a few more minutes so please factor this in when you plan your arrival time.

Q: Where do I park?

A: From Thursday afternoon, there will be NO PARKING AT the TEMPLE, except for certain designated vehicles. Devotees may park at the parking lot of old Wegmans store at the corner of E.Henrietta and Calkins. The main tenant there now is Beers of the World (2599 E. Henrietta Road,, NY 14623). Please park in the designated areas of the lot. Shuttle services will be available to take you between the parking lot and the Temple according to the following schedule:

From the lot to the Temple	Morning	Evening
Thursday 10/20		5:15 p.m. – 7:30 p.m
Friday 10/21	8 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.	5 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
Saturday, 10/22	6:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.	5 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.
Sunday, 10/23	6:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.	5 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.
From Temple to Parking lot		
Thursday, 10/20	None	8:30 – 9:30
Friday 10/21	12:30 p.m. to 2 p.m.	8:30 p.m. to 10 p.m.
Saturday 10/22	1 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.	8:30 p.m. to 10 p.m.
Sunday 10/23	1 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.	8:30 p.m. to 10 p.m.



Please follow the directional signs to park in the designated areas so as not to inconvenience the shoppers. Please don't park along Pinnacle Road. Please **factor the extra time** that it would take to catch the shuttle and arrive at the Temple as you plan your visit. If you are bringing food or other supplies, you may drop them off at the temple near the South Entrance.

Q: Can I drop people off at the Temple?

A: Yes, at the south entrance.

Q: What do I do first when I am at the Temple?

A: Walk through the South entrance to the information desk. Volunteers will assist you. You may sign-in as a pre-registered sponsor for a Puja or Havan, or as a new registrant, subject to availability, at the registration desk. Leave your shoes in either of the two shoe rooms. Go to the Havan tent.

Q: Where do I leave the shoes?

A: Shoes **must** be left on the shoe racks in the two shoe rooms. **Shoes should not be left anywhere else. They will be removed.**

Q: I am one of the sponsors, When should I be at the Temple?

The Havans/Pujas are expected to start on time per daily published schedule. To assure proper Havan/Puja, avoid interruptions and to be able to chant all the required mantras for full benefit, **you must be at the Yagashala Tent at least thirty minutes before the Havan/Puja begins if you are sponsoring a Havan/Puja. Please factor in driving, shuttle, walking, and registration times. You need to get seated when the Havan/Puja begins. You will not be able to join the Havan/Puja after it has begun. Please check daily schedule of pujas to find out the Havan/Puja start time. While Pujarijis will attempt to keep on schedule, there may be some unavoidable delays.**

Q: I have sponsored a Havan/Puja. Do I need to be present at the Temple?

A: Performing the Havan/Puja is a rare opportunity. However, if you could not be present for any reason but still want to sponsor the Havan/Puja, we appreciate your generosity and deep commitment. Please contact Manoj Rajgarhia and leave your sankalp information -- gothra, names and stars- if you have not done so already. That way, sankalp will be made on your behalf and prasad could be sent to you as well as someone else who wants a Havan/Puja slot could participate.

Q: I have sponsored a Havan. How many of my family could perform the Havan?

A: **Only you and your spouse or partner could perform the Havan.** If you bring children and other family members, we request you to kindly have them seated away from the Havan among the spectators in view of the tight space around the Havan area. This will ensure the safety and comfort of all the sponsors and devotees. Your cooperation and understanding is expected and deeply appreciated.

Q: Can I leave in the middle?

A: If you are participating in a Havan/Puja, please plan on staying for the entire Havan/Puja. It will not be possible to go out in the middle of a Havan/Puja.

Q: Can I bring children?

A: Certainly. It is a good idea to expose children to our tradition and our Temple understands its role in making this connection for them. However, please use your discretion in having small children sit at the Havan behind you . It is difficult to expect children to sit for the duration of the Havan -- typically 30 to 45 minutes. Also, it may be uncomfortable for the children to sit amidst all the smoke, fire and heat and children moving around after the Havan has started, pose a risk to themselves and those around them. You are responsible for making sure that they sit with you all the time. It is preferred to have children sit with the audience accompanied by a supervising adult to give them the experience of participating in the ceremonies and be safe. In any event, please make sure that the children are not running around in the Temple or in the Havan tent.

Q: What do I need to bring with me?

A: You could bring flowers, fruit, and nuts if you wish. **Please don't bring milk, honey, etc.**

Q: Can I attend the Shikhar Sthapana even if I did not sponsor?

A: Absolutely! The Pujas and the Havans are for the benefit of the entire community. Everyone is invited to attend, observe and feel blessed. Even if you don't sponsor a Havan or a Puja, you will have the opportunity to participate in other activities and enjoy the blessings.

Q: When will the food be served?

A: The Lunch and Dinner Mahaprasad, made possible by the generous sponsors of Annadhan, will be served in the hall downstairs after the Bhog and Arti. If you have a medical condition or have children who need to eat earlier, you might want to make special arrangements. The approximate Mahaprasad times are indicated in the daily published schedule. Only one box of Mahaprasad will be given out for each person present at the Temple. After all devotees at the Temple are served, if there are any leftover boxes, you are welcome to take some to your family at home.

Q: What dress should I wear?

A: You are advised to wear a dress suitable and respectable for this holy occasion. Some examples of clothing not suitable include jeans, shorts, skirts etc.

Q: What do I do if I find a lost item, keys, jewelry etc.

A: Please turn in such items at the information/registration desk.

Q: With so much going on at my Temple, I eager to join this fun team, volunteer and contribute to my Temple. Who do I contact for knowing about the volunteering opportunities?

A: We appreciate your enthusiasm. This is your Temple and its success, sustenance, and very survival depends on dedicated volunteers. Uma Gupta is our volunteer coordinator for the Shikhar program. Please contact her at templerochester@gmail.com or 489-4606.

GENERAL

- Please follow directions. This is necessary for your safety and the safety of others around you and allows all to enjoy the occasion.
- Cleanliness: We ask each one of you to do your part in keeping the temple clean during this major event. You can make assure that all the dirty/used plates, cups etc. are placed in proper garbage boxes. If you see a piece of trash lying on the floor, please pick up and throw in the garbage. Help keep our Temple clean.
- Please remember that this is a major event and scores of volunteers have put in countless hours of work in getting ready for the event and in the conduct of the event. It is possible that some things might not work the way that we anticipated. We request and appreciate your patience and understanding while we resolve the issues.
- If you have other questions that have not been answered here or suggestions, please feel free to contact any member of the Executive Council.
- Hari Om!