



# ŚRÎ SÂI LEELA

Śrî Shirdi Sai Bâbâ Temple

1449 & 1451 Abers Creek Road, Monroeville, PA 15146

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“Spend money in charity; be generous and munificent but not extravagant.”- Śrî Sâi Bâbâ.”

January 2016

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS - January 2016

MARGASIRAM - JAN 9TH - PUSHYAM

<b>Dec 31 Thur</b>	New Year's Eve Bhajans 8pm-12am 10am Sarvadevatha Homam	\$126
<b>Jan 1 Fri</b>	***New Year Celebrations***	
<b>Jan 2 Sat</b>	10.00am Samohika Sri Sai Rudra Abhishekam (individual Siva lingas will be given) 1.00pm Sri Sai Satyanarayana Vratam	\$54 \$54
<b>Jan 7 Thur</b>	Margasira Krishna Trayodasi - Pradosham 10am & 6.30 pm Ekavara Rudra Abhishekam Siva Archana	\$36 \$18
<b>Jan 8 Fri</b>	Margasira Krishna Chaturdasi - Masa Sivaratri 10.00am 360 Rudra Abhishekam 11.00am Sri Rudra Homam	\$108 \$126
<b>Jan 9 Sat</b>	Margasira Amavasya - 8.00am Deva Rishi Pitru tarpanam	\$21
<b>Jan 10 Sun</b>	Pushyam Starts	
<b>Jan 14 Thur</b>	<b>BHOGI</b> - 7am Bhogi Mantalu (Bon fire) <b>6.30pm Bhogi Pallu to our Sai and Kids</b> <i>To pray Lord Vishnu for better health for children.</i>	
<b>Jan 15 Fri</b>	<b>Makara Sankranti - Uttarayanam starts</b> 09.30 am Ekavara Rudra Abhishekam 10.00 am Mahalakshmi and Surya Homam 05.00 pm Veda Patanam 07.00 pm - Jyothi / Sej Arathi	\$36 \$126 \$21 \$108
<b>Jan 16 Sat</b>	<b>Kanuma</b> 09.30 am Sai Moola Vighraha Abhishekam 10.00 am Lalitha Sahasranama Homam 01.00 pm Sâi Satyanârâyâña Vratam 05.30 pm Lalitha Sahasranama Parayana/Flower 08.00 pm Jyoti Arati	\$54 \$126 \$54 \$27 \$108
Travelling is Prohibited. Festival of animals- cow and calf will be bathed, decorated & worshipped. Offer boorelu (sweet cookies) to divine mother for peace.		
<b>Jan 17 Sun</b>	<b>Mukkanuma</b> - Bomma Nomu-Traveling is not advised / 10am Savitri Gauri Vratam	\$54
<b>Jan 21 Thur</b>	<b>Pushya Sukla Trayodasi -PRADOSHAM</b> 06.30 pm Ekavara Rudra Abhishekam Siva Archana	\$36 \$18
<b>Jan 23 Sat</b>	<b>Pushya Sukla Poornima</b> 09.30 am Sai Moola Vighraha Abhishekam 10.00 am Sri Sai Rudra Yagnam 11.00 am Sri Sai Satyanarayana Vratam Sri Sai Archana \$11 / Sahasranamam Flower Service \$36 / 7.00pm Jyoti Arati	\$54 \$126 \$54 \$21 \$108
<b>Jan 27 Wed</b>	<b>Pushya Krishna (Sankatahara) Chaturthi</b> 10:00 am Ganapathi Abhishekam 11:00 am Ganapathi Homam 06:30 pm “GA” kara Sahasram	\$54 \$126 \$36
<b>Jan 31 Sun</b>	<b>Kalaastami</b> / 10am Kala Bhairava Puja	\$21

## New Year Celebrations / Thursday - Friday

<b>December 31st Thursday</b>	<b>Bhajans 8pm to 12am</b> First Archana/Jyothi Arathi - Midnight	
<b>Jan 1st Friday</b>	<b>New Year Prayers</b> 09.00 am Sri Sai Rudra Abhishekam 10.30 am Sri Sai Navagraha Homam 11.00 am Sri Sai Satyanarayana Vratam Sri Sai Archana \$11 / Sahasranamam	\$54 \$252 \$54 \$21



Chant the Surya Mantra for health and Prosperity

*Surya arishTetu sampraapthe Surya pujaamcha kaarayEt  
Surya dhyaanam pravakshyami Atma PeeDa upashanthaye*

*Adi Deva Namstabhayam praside mama Bhaskara  
Diwakara Namstabhayam Prabhakara Namastute*

*Saptaswa radhamaroodam prachadam kasyapatmajam  
Sweta padmaharam devam Tam Suryam pranamamyaham*

*Om Japa Kusuma Sankasam Kashya peyum mahadyuthim  
Thamorim sarva papaghanam pranatosmi divakaram*

*Banduka pushpa samkasam harakundala bhushitam  
Eka chakra dharam devam tam Suryam Pranamamyaham*

*Viswesam viswakartaram mahatejah pradeepanam  
Maha papaharam devam tam Suryam Pranamamyaham*

## HINDU CALENDAR

Current Year of the Earth: 1,955,885,2015

Name of the Year: Sri Manmadha

Ayanam: Dakshina/Uttaraayanam ; Rutuvu: Hemantha

Masa: Margasiram till Jan 9th Pushyam

Current Year after Rama's Birth: 14,601,202

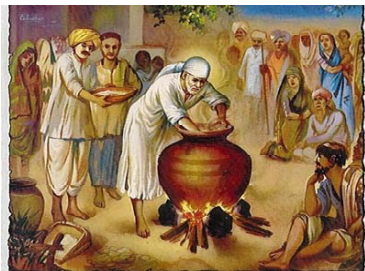
Krishna's Niryanam (Kali Yuga): 5116

Gregorian Calendar A.D. 2016

## Stories of Baba

### Baba's Food

As we have already described, Sri Sai Baba used to have very little food, which he got from the two or three regular houses he used to visit for *Bhiksha*. The whole food was collected and kept in a *Kundi* (a vessel of clay) from where anybody including the dogs, cats, crows, etc. could take the food. After some years, Baba started cooking the



food in the *Masjid*. He used to go to the market in Shirdi with Madhav Fasle and buy grains, flour, salt, chilies, cumin seed and coconut. He used to grind the spices Himself. In the courtyard of the *Masjid* He made a *Bliatti* (a fire-place made of clay on which the food is

cooked). Baba had two *Handees*, one a big one and the other a smaller one. In one *Handee* food was prepared for about 100 people and in the other for about 500 people. This *Handee* is still kept in the *Samadhi* temple. Baba sometimes prepared sweet rice, pulao and *Chhachh* (a cooling drink made from milk) and distributed it among the devotees. He always mixed *Gur* and sugar in food and sometimes put his hand in the boiling food in the *Handee* and stirred it. When food was ready, He first offered it to Allah, and then distributed it to the devotees who were present there. Those people were very lucky who got to have the food served by Baba Himself. It is believed that this food gave spiritual bliss to the devotees.

**Sri Sai Baba always said that donation of food is the best form of donation.** Whenever someone comes to you asking for food, give him your food also. By this Sri Hari will be very happy with you. Before you start eating, you should first serve the food to the poor, helpless and disabled people followed by the others around you and finally to your relatives. If you give anything to someone, God will repay you.

### Protection of Children

Upon seeing a child one day Baba said, "We should take care of our children" After a few days, the same child was walking on a path filled with water due to the heavy rains. On one side of the path there was a five feet deep pit which was dug for constructing a house. Due to the heavy rain the pit was full of water and hence one could not know whether the pit existed or not. This child, who must have been about 3 to 4 years old, fell into it. He did not know how to swim and unfortunately nobody else was present there to help him. In such a situation it would normally be expected that the child would drown, but it was not to happen like that and he came up. By the time the boy was coming out of the pit, a crowd had gathered. Everybody present was shocked to see how this child could survive and they asked him that how did he



manage to come up. He replied that upon falling in the pit he remembered Baba, who told him about the staircase that was made in one corner of the pit. He used that staircase to climb out.

There was a girl of 3 years of age, named Shanti Kirvendkar in Shirdi who used to call Baba her brother. One day her foot slipped and she fell into the well. All the people nearby rushed to the spot. When they reached there they were amazed to see that neither did she get any injury nor did she drown. She was holding a piece of the wall, which was protruding out just above the water. Everyone asked her that how did she come out of this without any injury. She replied that when she fell into the well, she called out to Baba and it was He who held her in His arms and lifted her up. There is absolutely no doubt that it had to be nothing else but Baba's protective shield that saved the girl.

There was a very famous advocate whose name was H.S. Dixit and he was a resident of Mumbai. Having given up the worldly matters, he was in search of spiritual enlightenment under Baba's guidance. To develop his inner consciousness one day Baba said, "Kaka, why do you worry? The whole responsibility is on Me." Shri H.S. Dixit nodded his head, but he could not make out what Baba meant. Why did Baba speak these words, especially, on that day? After some days, when he went to Ville Parle to see his wife and children, he came to know that on the day Baba had spoken these words, his 7 year old daughter met with an accident. The girl was playing near a cupboard filled with toys and it fell on her. Amazingly the girl was not injured except that her bangles broke and because of that her arm got slightly scratched. It seems that all that heavy weight which had fallen on her, was made light by Baba. Then Shri Dixit realized the true meaning of Baba's words spoken on that day.

One lady of Mumbai and her son were staunch devotees of Baba. One morning when the two of them were visiting Baba in the *Masjid*, He told them to come again at 2 O'clock in the afternoon. When they reached the *Masjid*, in the afternoon, Baba asked the boy to sit on the mat besides Him and not to move without His permission. At about 3 O'clock, one dangerous and ugly looking lady with flowing, unkempt hair jumped from the wall of the *Masjid* and came inside. She came near the boy and said, "I want to take him away" Baba said, "No". But she did not listen and ran to snatch the boy. Baba stood in front of the boy and hit her with His leg. She let out a loud cry and disappeared from the *Masjid*. Later on Baba told them that the lady was the *Devi* of cholera and had come to infect the boy with the germs. Thus Baba saved the child.

The devotees have had many experiences but it is difficult to narrate each and every incident. As long as it is possible we will try our best to explain them one by one. **God makes us experience His divine interventions in our lives to strengthen our faith and make us strong. We should not indulge in trivial matters but should rather describe the mystical incidents among other devotees and those who are not aware of Baba. This is known as Shravan-Manan of God's divine activities. It is bound to be good for you. The function of the brain is to think and that of the body is to run. If the brain always thinks of God's divinity and the body runs to rest at the feet of Baba, it is as good as attaining salvation.**

**Bow to Sri Sai - Peace be to all**

-Excerpts from: "Childrens Sai Baba"- Vikas Mehta

# Makara Sankrathi

## “Makara Sankaranthi Subhakankshalu”

Makara Sankramana is the day on which the Sun appears to traverse from the Tropic of Capricorn in the South to Tropic of Cancer in the North. The Sun takes the northern path from today, the higher path. Whenever the mind yearns for and pursues a goal it is on the northern path, following the Sun the splendor of Intelligence. The summer solstice day is celebrated as an auspicious festival since ages.

Every home is swept clean. Women draw auspicious designs (Rangoli) on the floor. They place a lump of cow dung with a big yellow flower in the middle of that design. The cow dung symbolizes the COW, the GO that Gopala feeds and fends. “GO” also, means, beings, souls, and individual. Thus each trivial detail of the festival rites has a meaning; people hang mango leaves across their doors to welcome the Sun God.

On this day, sweet rice is cooked in milk. The food is sathvic, which promotes elevated thoughts, mildness and humility. What you take in through the eye, the ear, the nose, the mouth and the skin for variegated experiences of the objective world is food in different forms. Every particle of it has to be sathvic for your quick progress towards selfrealization.

The Moon represents the emotion and the Sun represents the intellect. Both must be balanced in every individual, emotion held back by intelligence. One must learn to accept good and bad bravely and welcome every happening with a “Yes”

## Sri Surya Namaskara

OM MITRAYA NAMAHA - NAMASKARAM SAMARPAYAMI. (THE FRIEND OF ALL)

OM RAVAYE NAMAHA - NAMASKARAM SAMARPAYAMI. (PRAISED BY ALL)

OM SURYAYA NAMAHA - NAMASKARAM SAMARPAYAMI. (THE GUIDE OF ALL)

OM BHANAVE NAMAHA - NAMASKARAM SAMARPAYAMI. (THE BESTOWER OF BEAUTY)

OM KHAGAYA NAMAHA - NAMASKARAM SAMARPAYAMI. (STIMULATOR OF THE SENSES)

OM PUSHNE NAMAHA - NAMASKARAM SAMARPAYAMI. (THE NOURISHER OF ALL)

OM HIRANYAGARBHAYA NAMAHA - NAMASKARAM SAMARPAYAMI. (THE CREATOR)

OM MARICHAYE NAMAHA - NAMASKARAM SAMARPAYAMI. (DESTROYER OF DISEASE)

OM ADITYAYA NAMAHA - NAMASKARAM SAMARPAYAMI. (THE INSPIRER)

OM SAVITRE NAMAHA - NAMASKARAM SAMARPAYAMI. (THE PURIFIER)

OM ARKAYA NAMAHA - NAMASKARAM SAMARPAYAMI. (THE RADIANT)

OM BHASKARAYA NAMAHA - NAMASKARAM SAMARPAYAMI. (THE ILLUMINATOR)

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**Puja Sponsorsip form: Puja Sponsored: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_**

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E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_ Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Star: \_\_\_\_\_ Gotram: \_\_\_\_\_

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**SRI SHIRDI SAI BABA TEMPLE: DONATION/PLEDGEFORM**  
**NEW TEMPLE BUILDING - SRI SAI SIVA ALAYAM**

We are in the process of raising funds for the **New Temple Building**. We need your support!  
 The GOAL is to raise 8,000 bricks for the 1st Phase. We have started a "SPONSOR A BRICK"  
 program. Over 200 bricks raised so far! Thanks to all who have sponsored a brick.



**PLEDGE YOUR DONATION**

**\*\*\*A Devotee, who wishes to be anonymous, has pledged \$10,000 matching donation. So, it is like doubling your donation! If you donate \$1,000 it will be matched! DONATE NOW!\*\*\***

IT IS NOT NECESSARY TO MAKE THE WHOLE DONATION AT ONCE. You can make a pledge for the total amount of donation, and then pay the over a period of 1 year (ie you can pledge \$6,000 and give make 6 monthly donations of \$1,000 each).

Call the temple at 412 374 9244 or return this form to pledge. Thank you for your support!

I want to sponsor :

- 1 BRICK - \$252 (NAME MENTIONED ON WEBSITE)
- 4 BRICKS - 9 BRICKS ( BRONZE LEAF SPONSOR)
- 10 BRICKS - 19 BRICKS (SILVER LEAF SPONSOR )
- 20 BRICKS AND ABOVE ( GOLD LEAF SPONSOR)

**\*LEAF SPONSORS CAN HAVE THEIR FAMILY NAME OR A DESIGNEE PRINTED ON THE LEAF OF THE SANJEEVANI TREE**

\*\*\*\*\*

**I / WE PLEDGE A TOTAL OF \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

**I will pay the total amount (check one):**

- Single Payment**    or     **Payments of \_\_\_\_\_ in \_\_\_\_\_ Months**  
 (i.e. Payments of \$500 in 5 Months = Total Amount \$2,500)

**\*\*\*Make your donation more - Does your employer match donations to charities? Ask your HR Dept. \*\*\***

**Acknowledgement Information (choose one) :**  **In Memory of \_\_\_\_\_**

**Use the following name: \_\_\_\_\_**                       **Anonymous Donation**

Enclosed check (pay to the order of : **SRI SHIRDI SAI BABA TEMPLE**) or Credit Card information :

**Name** \_\_\_\_\_ **Address** \_\_\_\_\_  
**City,State, Zip** \_\_\_\_\_ **Phone** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Card No.** \_\_\_\_\_ **Expiration** \_\_\_\_\_ **CVC** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Signature** \_\_\_\_\_ **Email** \_\_\_\_\_

# Sri Shirdi Sai Baba Temple

1449 Abers Creek Road, Monroeville, PA 15146 ;www.baba.org

PH: 412-374-9244 ; Like us: www.facebook.com/pittsburghbabatemple

## ***Sai Family of 2016 – Annual Sponsorship - \$252***

The donors will be listed as Sai family Supporters of 2016 in the website and will be included in the 5 major festivals throughout the year.

***Festivals: Maha Sivaratri, Ugadi, Guru Poornima, Dasara, Deepavali***

Method of donation: Check ( ) Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Cash ( ), CC ( )

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Jai Sairam

***May Baba's blessing be with you and your family***