



HINDU TEMPLE AND CULTURAL SOCIETY OF USA, INC.

Sri Venkateswara Temple (Balaji Mandir) and Community Center

One Balaji Temple Drive, Bridgewater, NJ 08807, USA

Telephone 908-725-4477 | www.venkateswara.org



Maha Sivaratri

Monday, March 4th, 2019

Temple is open whole Day and Night



LORD SIVA manifested himself as a Jyotirlinga in the midnight of the Krishna paksha Chaturdashi of the Magha masam. This is celebrated as Maha Sivaratri. Lord Siva, the Sarva vyapaka (omnipresent) Jnana swarupa (body of knowledge) and Nirakara (formless), is worshipped by His devotees as Jyotirlinga.

“Alankara Priyo Vishnuhu Abhisheka Priya Sivaha”

Lord Vishnu is Alankara Priya and Lord Siva is Abhisheka Priya. Sivaabhishekam in the midnight of Sivaratri is very significant since Lingodbhavam occurred during that time. It is auspicious to perform abhishekam to Siva Linga, which is the replica of Jyotirlinga. As per shastraas, abhishekam needs to be performed with several dravyas (sacred materials). Each abhisheka dravyam bestows a different boon.

As per the vedic saying “Naa Rudro Rudram Archayet”, one can't worship Lord Rudra without becoming Rudra oneself. Hence, Mahanyasam is recited to invoke Lord Siva in all parts of the (worshipper's) body and then Rudrabhishekam with Namakam and Chamakam is performed. On Sivaratri day devotees observe a day long fast, perform abhishekam to Siva linga, offer Bilva leaves, flowers, fruits and spend all night with prayers, bhajans, japa and dhyana (Jagarana). In our temple abhishekams are performed in 4 different phases throughout the night. Devotees take part in these auspicious rituals and festivities and receive divine blessings.

Monday, March 4th, 2019

09:00 AM Sri Maha Ganapati Homam, Rudra Homam
10:30 AM Sri Siva Abhishekam, Sri Parvati Abhishekam

Phase 1 Abhishekam in the Evening

5:30 PM Mahanyasa Parayanam
6:45 PM Sri Siva Abhishekam, Sri Rudra Trisati Nama Archana

Phase 2 Abhishekam in the Night

10:30 PM Sri Siva Abhishekam, Bilva Ashottara Sata Nama Archana

Phase 3 Abhishekam in the Early Hours of Tuesday (03-05-2019)

01:00 AM Sri Siva Abhishekam, Sri Siva Sahasra Nama Archana

Phase 4 Abhishekam in the Early Hours of Tuesday (03-05-2019)

04:00 AM Sri Siva Abhishekam, Nandeewara Abhishekam, Sri Siva Ashottara Sata Nama Archana, Sri Lalitha Sahasra Nama Puja to Sri Parvati Devi

Sunday, March 10, 2019

Maha Sivaratri Celebrations

09:00 AM Sri Siva Abhishekam
11:00 AM Sri Siva Parvati Kalyanam

*Devotees can Perform Abhishekam
(with water only) to Siva Linga in the
Alankara Mantapam.*

Annadanam will be served on Monday March 4th from 12 Noon to 02:00 PM

No parking and dropping off allowed on Old Farm Road and RT 202/206