



*Arise ! Awake ! Stop not, till the goal is reached.*

April. & May, 2022

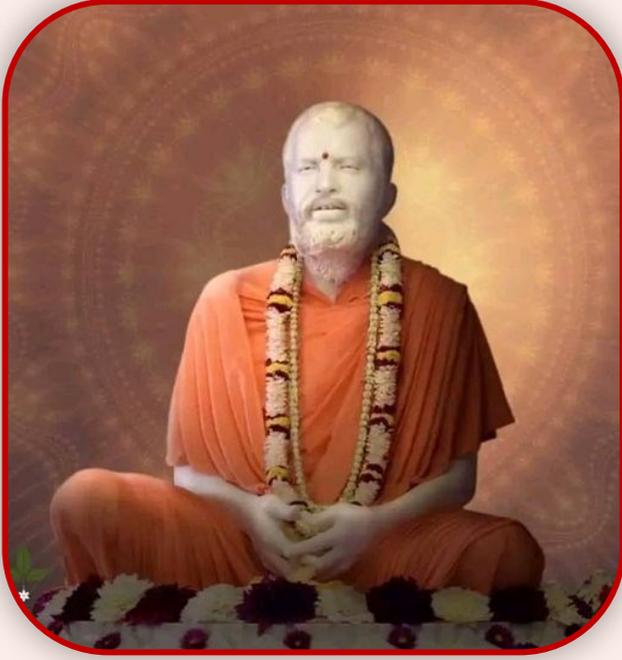
*Om Namo Narayanaya*

*Sandesha*

Na Me Bhakta Pranashyati

My Devotee Never Perishes

### Badarikashrama Diary



### Paramahansa Sri Ramakrishna

1836 – 1886

‘The bliss of worship and communion with God is the true wine, the wine of ecstatic love. The goal of human life is to love God, Bhakti is the one essential thing.’

‘If you must be mad, be it not for the things of the world. Be mad with the love of God.’

‘I must attain God in this very life ; yea, in three days I must find Him; nay, with a single utterance of His name I will draw Him to me’ – with such violent Love the devotee can attract the Lord and realize Him quickly. But devotees who are lukewarm in their Love take ages to find Him, indeed, if they find Him at all.’

We welcomed the arrival of Spring in celebration of Chaitra Navaratri, a nine day worship of Sri Durga from April 2nd to 10th. There was daily recitation of Ramayana Paath. The concluding weekend was a fantastic Mata Ki Chowki concert by Harjit Mehndi and a Sri Durga Homa. May Divine Mother bless all with health and happiness. It was early morning, 16th of April, when the celebration of Sri Hanuman Jayanti began. Devotees took a vow of tapasya and chanted the Hanuman Chalisa 108 times, 9am to 6pm. It was a glorious day. The monthly Full Moon Sri Satyanarayana Puja was conducted on Sat. 16th at 7pm. Many families joined in the group worship, chanting and praying together, remembering the importance and glory of the puja. The program concluded with Aarati and Mahaprasad.



Prof. Dennis Chowenhill & Varun Kamath

It has been a tradition of Badarikashrama to honor the saints of other religions. On Sunday, 17th April, we celebrated Easter, a day to remember the resurrection of Christ and all good things. Varun Kamath, who attended the Balasamskara Kendra as a young boy sang beautiful and soul stirring hymns to Christ. The melodies were emotional and the vocal pitch of his A ccapella were pure and true.

Dennis Chowenhill, retired Professor Emeritus from Chabot College, spoke of Easter's similarities to yoga of the Patanjali Sutras. He expressed his feeling of renewal through the practice of yoga asanas just as one feels renewal in their prayers to Christ. It was an eloquent and entertaining talk.



Ramanavami Music Festival Performances



The Annual Sri Ramanavami Music Festival was a memorable weekend of Carnatic music. This year there were more than 15 schools of music. Each group sang for 1 hour. There were great performances by young artists and senior students alike. They sang many krithis by Saint Tyagarajan, Subbarama Dikshitar and more. There were also instrumental performances on violin and veena. This program was organized by Sri Srikanth Chary. We thank all the schools of music for their participation.

A large gathering of devotees attended a Sri Gayatri Homa on Sunday, May 8th, to celebrate Mother's Day. With great devotion Swami Vishnumayanandaji led the homa. The group chanting of the Gayatri Mantra filled the atmosphere with divine energy. Gayatri Devi is an

embodiment of Shakti. She is Divine Mother and bestower of blessings.

Our greatest strength is our community. Devotees come from far and wide to enjoy the peace and serenity and the variety of programs. It is their home away from home. Badarikashrama has been a spiritual & cultural center sharing the Vedic heritage since 1984 and this year celebrated its 38th Anniversary.

This year's celebration began on May 14th with a day of cultural activities. The morning session started off with a beautiful Bharatanatyam dance performance by Lekshmi Sarath and group. A Carnatic musical performance was presented by students of Smt. Shanti Shriram, director of Nadalaya School of Music. The narrator expressed the stories and sentiment of each song. Their enchanting performances captured the hearts and minds of all.



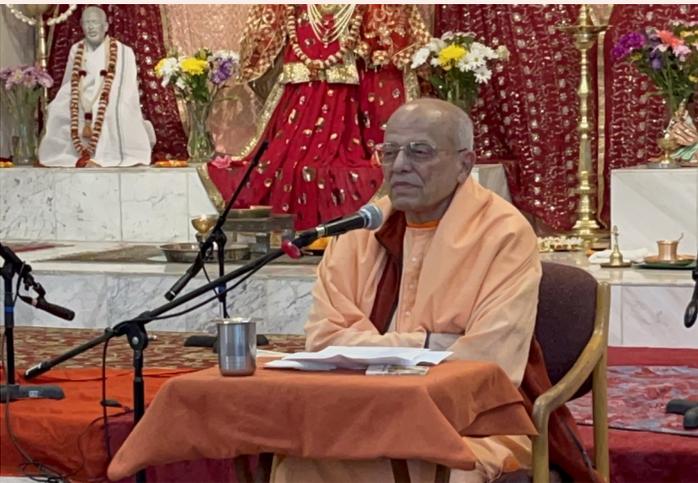
Anniversary Performance by Smt Jayanti Sahasrabuddhe

Swami Prapannanandaji Maharaj, Swami In Charge, Vedanta Society of Sacramento presented a talk on the life of Sri Ramakrishna. He described Sri Ramakrishna's experiences of Samadhi as a little boy, to his intense tapasya as an adult, to the final days in which he blessed his disciples to bring a new era of spirituality and religion that would unite the world. Following an excellent talk by Swamiji was a sumptuous lunch.

It was a joy to watch an Odissi dance performance by the students of Smt. Sima Chakraborty. Their elegant and colorful dress, their rhythmic movements conveyed stories of devotion. The last program of the day was a Hindustani concert by Smt. Jayanti Sahasrabuddhe. She has performed all over the world with her Guru Smt. Veena Sahasrabuddhe.

Jayanti was accompanied by Sri Vivek Datar on Harmonium, Sri Ravi Gutala on Tabla, Abhijit Jere on Manjira , Arvind Kansal as the narrator and backup vocals by Jayanti's senior disciples. The theme was Sundar Shyaam Hamaare, a classical music program of Krishna Bhajans. It was an outstanding performance by world class artists. After the final aarati gifts were presented to all the artists.

On Sunday the Samuhika 108 Sri Satyanarayana Puja was conducted by Swami Vishnumayanandaji. It was an exquisite sight to see 108 Kalashas placed before the alter surrounded by stunning flower arrangements. Each family received a Kalasha and was guided through the puja. All enjoyed the group worship and at the close of the puja a member of the working committee, Ravi Honakere, read the Katha as well as the



Srimat Swami Prapannanandaji Maharaj

Annual Report which highlighted all the diverse cultural and spiritual programs offered to the public. Narayana Sadhaka then read a personal letter from Swamiji to all the devotees. It was a heartfelt letter expressing his appreciation to all the devotees who have made it possible to establish two successful centers, one in San Leandro which promotes cultural activities and Madihalli center which promotes humanity service in the field of education, etc. He asked all the devotees to work together for establishing a new location for the San Leandro Center which will be more spacious and accessible for the growing number of devotees. Following the final Aarati Mahaprasad was served.



Swami Vishnumayanandaji performing Ann. Puja

India has given birth to the some of greatest and most influential spiritual masters the world has known. On Sunday, May 22nd we celebrated the birthday's of Adi Shankaracharya, Sri Ramanujacharya and Lord Buddha. The program began with joyful concert by the students of Smt. Chandrika Pai who teaches Carnatic music in the Bay Area. A talk was presented by Srimat Swami Prasannatmanandaji, Swami in Charge, Vedanta Society of Berkeley. He eloquently spoke on the essential teachings of these three masters along with a brief history of their life. The children and parents enjoyed the talk. After the final Aarati Mahaprasad was served.

The final program of May was Sri Ramanama Sankirtana and Meditation. The soul stirring melodies enchanted all with peace and joy.

**Fundraiser Event**  
 World Premier Sunday, June 12th at 10 am  
 Video Screening of "Mayaangi"  
 (A production by Laya Nritya Dance Academy )  
 Visit [www.badarikashrama.org](http://www.badarikashrama.org) to RSVP

# Upcoming Events

<u>June, 2022</u>	Timings	UPCOMING PROGRAMS
Sun. 5th	10:30 am	Sri Sundarakand Ramayana Recitation
Sun. 12th	10 am 11:30 am	Video Premier of "Mayaangi" (Fundraiser for Badarikashrama) Sri Satyanarayana Puja
Tues. 14th	7 pm	Purnima Sri Satyanarayana Puja
Sat. 18th	11 am	Sant Kabir Jayanti
Sun. 19th	11 am	Memorial Service for Suman Shah
Sun. 26th	11 am	Sri Bhagavad Gita Panel Discussion
<u>July, 2022</u>	Timings	UPCOMING PROGRAMS
Sat. 2nd	Begins at 9 am	Sri Akhanda Ramayana of Goswami Tulasidas Recitation
Sun. 3rd	Ends at 1 pm	Sri Akhanda Ramayana Recitation
Mon. 4th	11 am	Sri Durga Homa
Sun. 10th	10 am	Guru Purnima Celebration—Sri Satyanarayana Puja
Wed. 13th	6:30 pm	Purnima Sri Satyanarayana Puja & Guru Puja
Sun. 17th	11 am	Sri Ramanama Sankirtana & Meditation
Sun. 24th	11 am	Sri Bhagavad Gita Panel Discussion
Sun. 31st	10:30 am	Mrityunjaya Homa (Savana Masa)

## Daily Mandir Schedule

Daily 7:30am to 12 noon and 5 pm to 7:30 pm

Thursdays: Closed

Evening Aarati & Bhajans: 6:30pm – 7.30pm

Every Monday 6:30 pm : Sri Rudra Ahisheka and Aarati

Every Tues. 6:30 pm: Sri Durga Aarati

## Special classes

Every Saturday:

8– 9:15 am Hatha Yoga Class

9:30 am: Odissi Dance Class

Visit our website for more details.



Email: [badarik@pacbell.net](mailto:badarik@pacbell.net) website: [www.badarikashrama.org](http://www.badarikashrama.org)