

## Sharanagati Shri Maha Ganapati



*“Om vande nirantara samasta kalakalapam sampatkaram bhava haram girija kumaram!*

*Lambodaram gaja mukham pranava swarupam Lakshmi Ganesham, akhila ashrita kalpa bhujam.”*

*“Om samsara sagare ghore patitam aadgati varjitam deenabandhu dayaa sindho maam uddhara Shri Maha Ganaadhipaa”.*

Kaliyuga is an age that bestows afflictions. All hardships come together at the same time and seek solutions from humankind. On one hand there are financial problems, health issues, losses and difficulties, marriages and differences, enmities, arguments, hatred among family members, and differences among friends; on the other hand, planetary afflictions and also the burden of lifetimes of sins accumulated and their fruits. These kinds of challenges are faced only by humankind. The only remedy to overcome all these challenges is the worship of Shri Ganesha. That is why it is said in Sanskritam, “Kalau Chandi Vinayakaa”.

All hardships are removed and appeased by the performance of “Shri Sankata Hara Ganapati Vratam” which is invaluable, unparalleled, and benefits prosperity. The Veda Shastras reveal to us in Kaliyuga that when we perform homas to Shri Chandi and Shri Ganapati, they are the only two divinities that quickly remove the hardships and confer happiness and all auspiciousness to us for an easy journey through life.

This Sharvari Nama Samvatsara, that is in the year named “Sharvari” in the month of Bhadrapada, which is from Friday, September 10 to Sunday, September 19, in Shukla Paksha which is in the first fortnight of the waxing moon, Shri Ganesha Navaratri will be celebrated in a grand manner at Manidweepa Mahasamathanam in Penusila Kshetram.

In Manidweepa, homas have been ongoing every year for the past 24 years with offerings of 100,000 modukas to Shri Ganesha. This is the 26th year in which a special program called “Sharanagati Shri Maha Ganapati” is going to be performed.

## The Birth of Shri Ganesha

Once Parvati looked at Parameshwara (Lord Shiva) with a gentle and sweet smile. Swami also looked at Devi's precious smile and smiled back gently. Their smiles met together and from those 2 smiles emerged a luminescent light. They merged together to become one glowing light that was radiating brilliant rays in hues of red and golden color. From that brilliance arose a beautiful boy with the rare beauty of shining golden effulgence. He is none other than our Ganapati! This young boy was extremely beautiful. His smile gives everyone in the world extreme delight, powerful strength and immense radiance. This is the narration of Shri Ganesha.

Bhaadrapada Shuddha Chaviti, the fourth day of the month is the birthday of Shri Ganesha. Purva Bhaadra nakshatra enters on the full moon day in this month. That is why it is also called the month of Bhaadrapada. Of the ten Vishnu Avatars, the fifth Vamana avatar came to this Earth in this month of Bhaadrapada. For 40 days people celebrate this entire Shravana month into 10 days of the Bhadrpada month. All the streets in the villages and cities are decorated and illuminated with colorful lights. People install Ganesha idols in many of the streets during these 40 days and grand pujas and celebrations are performed in the entire country with a lot of merriment.



## The Nine Days of Ganesha Navaratri: Ganesha Vratam



**Day 1 - Friday, September 10:**

### **Sri Bala Maha Ganapati Puja and Homa**

Pujas will start early in the morning with Shri Ganesha Panchamrtam abhishekas. Panchamrtam abhishekam is performed early every morning with special durva grass blades in pairs, bilva leaves and jashvanti (hibiscus) flowers.

🕒 5:00-6:00 am: Abhishekas with panchamrtam

🕒 6:00-7:30 am:

- a. Decoration with flowers
- b. 108 Names Archana with flowers
- c. Harati
- d. Naivedya Samarpanam

🕒 9:00 - 1:00 pm: Sri Bala Maha Ganapati Homa

Every evening, pradasha puja, naivedya and special Maha Mangala Harati will be performed.

Sri Bala Ganapati first enjoyed himself in the lap of Parvati. Later he used to climb on the back of Sri Parameshwara and enjoyed His rides. The first day of the celebration nine grains are soaked for 9 hours in cow's milk and then planted onto an earthen pot or terracota. These grains are planted in soil that has been mixed with firewood from each tree that represents each of the nine planets so that when performing the Shanti homa the emerging positive vibrations from each of the nine planetary rays are realized. Together with the powerful mantras chanted during the homa these positive vibrations remove the negativity from our body and attract positive energy and brighten the aura.

In homas, we take the sankalpa. In this worship of Sri Bala Ganapati, every day 1008 sweets/modukas that are very dear to Him, are offered in the homa along with havis (homa samagri powder which contains several sacred herbs). The puja samagri (worship material) that is used is very special because on each of the nine days a particular samagri or firewood specific for its planet is used in the homa. Pure Brahmi cow's ghee is also used in the fire of the sacred homa that negates many afflictions and protects us from the many defective planetary effects.

On the first day the following puja and homa will take place:

1. Sri Bana Maha Ganapati Puja
2. The above mentioned Homas
3. Every day special panchamrtam abhishekas for Sri Maha Ganapati



**Day 2 – Saturday, September 11**

**Sri Bhakta Maha Ganapati Puja and Homa**

Pujas will continue early in the morning with Shri Ganesha panchamrtam abhishekas. Panchamrtam abhishekam is performed early every morning with special durva grass blades in pairs, bilva leaves and jashvanti (hibiscus) flowers.

☪ 5:00-6:00 am: Abhishekas everyday with panchamrtam

☪ 6:00-7:30 am:

- a. Decoration with flowers
- b. 108 Names Archana with flowers
- c. Harati
- d. Naivedya Samarpanam

☪ 9:00 - 1:00 pm: Sri Bhakti Maha Ganapati Homa

Every evening, pradasha puja, naivedya and special Maha Mangala Harati will be performed.

Sri Maha Bhakta Ganapati loves his devotees with all his pancha pranas or five vital life forces. The specialty of this day is that a powerful Shanti Homam will be performed for a fulfilled and long life. As we are currently going through the 4th Kala Sarpa Dosha period this Shanti Homam for long life will be performed to prevent and escape from any untimely and/or accidental deaths. Performing this homa is very beneficial to people born in almost any of the 27 birth stars.

On this day performing Sri Ganesha homa with 1001 modukas and 1001 durva grass blades will enhance the brahma tejas, radiance in the face, and extends the waning longevity and increases one's life span with the grace of Sri Ganesha.





**Day 3 – Sunday, September 12**

## **Sri Shakti Maha Ganapati Puja and Homa**

Pujas will continue early in the morning with Shri Ganesha panchamrtam abhishekas. Panchamrtam abhishekam is performed early every morning with special durva grass blades in pairs, bilva leaves and jashvanti (hibiscus) flowers.

🕒 5:00-6:00 am: Abhishekas everyday with panchamrtam

🕒 6:00-7:30 am:

- a. Decoration with flowers
- b. 108 Names Archana with flowers
- c. Harati
- d. Naivedya Samarpanam

🕒 9:00 - 1:00 pm: Sri Shakti Maha Ganapathi Homa

On the third day this Sri Shakti Maha Ganapati puja is performed for the benefit of people whose birth star is weak and doesn't support them. Doing so, this birth star then becomes powerful. Every day 1001 modukas and 1001 durva grass blades are used in the homas. This makes a person with a weak birth star strong with the grace of Sri Ganesha as He is the ruling Lord of the birth stars. Ultimately this is a homa that is beneficial for everybody with any of the stars. This puja enhances the power of the star and gives radiance and victory.

Every evening, pradasha puja, naivedya and special Maha Mangala Harati will be performed.



**Day 4 – Monday, September 13**

## **Sri Sankashta Hara Maha Ganapati Puja and Homa**

Pujas will continue early in the morning with Shri Ganesha panchamrtam abhishekas. Panchamrtam abhishekam is performed early every morning with special durva grass blades in pairs, bilva leaves and jashvanti (hibiscus) flowers.

🕒 5:00-6:00 am: Abhishekas everyday with panchamrtam

🕒 6:00-7:30 am:

- a. Decoration with flowers
- b. 108 Names Archana with flowers
- c. Harati
- d. Naivedya Samarpanam

🕒 9:00 - 1:00 pm: Sri Sankashta Hara Maha Ganapati Homa

For those who join and participate in these special pujas and homas, sankalpas on their names are read four times in a day. Homa is done for those people facing difficulties, and many problems and suffering ill health so pooja is done to Sankashta Hara Ganapati requesting for liberation from these problems and attaining peace; 1001 sugarcane pieces and 1001 modukas are offered while performing a mega homa with special Sri Maha Sankashta Hara Ganapati sankalpas of the devotees being read. People repeatedly plead and pray for their problems and difficulties to be dissolved. Offering the sugarcane pieces into the fire, people pray and wish for their lives to be sweet and without problems. This homa is performed in a beautiful and grand scale.

Every evening, pradasha puja, naivedya and special Maha Mangala Harati will be performed.



**Day 5 – Tuesday, September 15**

## **Sri Vidya Maha Ganapati Puja and Homa**

Pujas will continue early in the morning with Shri Ganesha panchamrtam abhishekas. Panchamrtam abhishekam is performed early every morning with special durva grass blades in pairs, bilva leaves and jashvanti (hibiscus) flowers.

🕒 5:00-6:00 am: Abhishekas everyday with panchamrtam

🕒 6:00-7:30 am:

- a. Decoration with flowers
- b. 108 Names Archana with flowers
- c. Harati
- d. Naivedya Samarpanam

🕒 9:00 - 1:00 pm: Sri Vidya Maha Ganapati Homa

All forms of knowledge will be attained only from Sri Ganapati. That is why for dancers, singers, artists, musicians, poets, authors and researchers and all students, the observance and worship of Sri Vidya Ganapati in the morning with abhishekam and homam in the afternoon and the pradasha pooja in the evening and services of beautiful haarathis is important as it grants the best of the best of fruits and benefits. Not only that, homa performed on this day is supremely powerful.

The pulp taken from the soft bilva fruit mixed with pure brahmi cow ghee and mixed with equal amount of extremely aged honey is used to perform the homa. The beautiful fragrance that emanates from the homa is beyond description. For those who take the sankalpa and perform this homa attain power of unlimited retention, excellent power of intellect, power of memory and concentration, purity of mind, and the power of positive thinking are all obtained through of Sri Vidya Ganapati. The bilva fruits are rarely available and so this homa is performed only once a year. Sri Vidya Ganapati grants us with complete grace

Every evening, pradasha puja, naivedya and special Maha Mangala Harati will be performed.





**Day 6 – Wednesday, September 15**

## **Sri Runa Vimochana Maha Ganapati Puja and Homa**

Pujas will continue early in the morning with Shri Ganesha panchamrtam abhishekas. Panchamrtam abhishekam is performed early every morning with special durva grass blades in pairs, bilva leaves and jashvanti (hibiscus) flowers.

🕒 5:00-6:00 am: Abhishekas everyday with panchamrtam

🕒 6:00-7:30 am:

- a. Decoration with flowers
- b. 108 Names Archana with flowers
- c. Harati
- d. Naivedya Samarpanam

🕒 9:00 - 1:00 pm: Sri Runa Vimochana Maha Ganapati Homa

Runam means indebtedness. The word used here does not mean debt in terms of financial debt only. People become indebted to others in this life in many other aspects as well. We are indebted to our Rishis for the knowledge that they have given us. We are indebted to Mother Earth for all that She gives us. We also owe to our mother and father and to our elders in the house. We are also indebted to Veda Mata. In this manner we are indebted to many. How can we clear these debts? We can clear all our debts such as Deva runam, Rishi runam, matru, pitru and Guru runams by this important Runa Vimochana Sri Maha Ganapati homa. We benefit immensely by reducing our burdens of financial debt and increase our wealth by participating in this Runa Vimochana Sri Maha Ganapati homa. This homa is performed with Bilva leaves that have 11 leaves in one stem. These bilva leaves are very special ekadashi bilva patras which are used in this homa along with 108 times of mantra japa. This is very auspicious to witness at least once in our lifetime. This homa is done specifically with 11-leafed bilva patra which is rarely available in this kali yuga and which liberates us from our matru, pitru, Guru and devata runams.

When we perform this homa on the 6<sup>th</sup> day of Ganesha Navaratri, without even knowing it, our many life times of debts are removed and our wealth increases because of doing this homa with the special bilva that has 11 leaves in a stem.

Every evening, pradasha puja, naivedya and special Maha Mangala Harati will be performed.



**Day 7 – Thursday, September 16**

## **Sri Vigneswara Maha Ganapati Puja and Homa**

Pujas will continue early in the morning with Shri Ganesha panchamrtam abhishekas, Panchamrtam abhishekam is performed early every morning with special durva grass blades in pairs, bilva leaves and jashvanti (hibiscus) flowers.

🕉 5:00-6:00 am: Abhishekas everyday with panchamrtam

🕉 6:00-7:30 am:

- a. Decoration with flowers
- b. 108 Names Archana with flowers
- c. Harati
- d. Naivedya Samarpanam

🕉 9:00 - 1:00 pm: Sri Vigneswara Maha Ganapati Homa will take place

For some people it seems like obstacles are never ending. In order to remove all obstacles in our daily life and for removal of all afflictions and faults and progress in our business and achieve higher goals in our lives Sri Maha Vighneshwara Ganapati puja and homa is performed with 1001 modukas even today like every day. By offering puffed paddy while performing homa brings unlimited shakti and fame and celebrity to the performer or sponsor. All kinds of obstacles are removed and one gets fame, respect and wealth. All obstacles and faults are removed. Puffed paddy are the abode of the vedas.

Sri Vighneshwara Ganapati also known as Vighnaraja Ganapati is he who resides in the Vedas and who is the pampered son of Lord Parameshwara. It is He who removes the sorrows of the impoverished and suppresses the ego of the demons. He removes all our impediments, sufferings and liberates us from all bondages and difficulties. On these Navaratri days, the 7th day is very important. Worshipping Ganesha grants us all triumphs and victories.

Every evening, pradasha puja, naivedya and special Maha Mangala Harati will be performed.



**Day 8 – Friday, September 17**

## **Sri Vijaya Maha Ganapati Puja and Homa**

Pujas will continue early in the morning with Shri Ganesha panchamrtam abhishekas. Panchamrtam abhishekam is performed early every morning with special durva grass blades in pairs, bilva leaves and jashvanti (hibiscus) flowers.

🕒 5:00-6:00 am: Abhishekas everyday with panchamrtam

🕒 6:00-7:30 am:

- a. Decoration with flowers
- b. 108 Names Archana with flowers
- c. Harati
- d. Naivedya Samarpanam

🕒 9:00 - 1:00 pm: Sri Vijaya Maha Ganapati Homa

Nayaka means master or ruler. He is the “masterless” Master - the only Master Vinayaka. He removes misfortunes very quickly from the lives of those who worship him and He is Sri Vijaya Ganapati. Just remembering him removes all defeats. Sri Vijaya Ganapati who is the indweller of grace and forgiveness, and to whom homas are performed on the 8th day to destroys all the eight kinds of poverty. The perpetual Sri Vijaya Ganapati grants wealth of fulfillment and accomplishment to yogis practicing meditation.

Taking sankalpa or intention and performing Sri Vijaya Ganapathi homa to achieve higher goals and for all the noble intentions to be fulfilled in this lifetime, and to accomplish and succeed in all works grants remarkable results. This homa is performed with eight sacred ingredients which are:

- 1) Flat rice, 2) Honey, 3) Jaggery, 4) Cow’s milk, 5) Cow ghee, 6) Bananas
- 7) Sathu pindi (soak rice, later dried and ground to fine powder), 8 ) Sugarcane pieces

The eight ingredients which are mixed together and offered in the homa is called the Ashta Dravya homa. Sri Ganapati bestows and grants wealth of accomplishments and triumphs to all his devotees.

Every evening, pradasha puja, naivedya and special Maha Mangala Harati will be performed.



**Day 9 – Saturday, September 18**

## **Sri Maha Sidhi Ganapati Puja and Homa**

Pujas will continue early in the morning with Shri Ganesha Panchamrtam abhishekam. Panchamrtam abhishekam is performed early every morning with special durva grass blades in pairs, bilva leaves and jashvanti (hibiscus) flowers.

🕒 5:00-6:00 am: Abhishekas everyday with panchamrtam

🕒 6:00-7:30 am:

- a. Decoration with flowers
- b. 108 Names Archana with flowers
- c. Harati
- d. Naivedya Samarpanam

🕒 9:00 - 1:00 pm: Sri Maha Sidhi Ganapati Homa

Any task that is undertaken should be started first by praying to and worshipping Sri Ganapati. In doing so, all obstacles are cleared by Him. He is extremely compassionate to his devotees and confers success in every way in all their endeavors for He is the Master of Masters - Sri Maha Siddhi Ganapati. He is not simply a siddhi Ganapati but He is Maha Siddhi Ganapati. Sri Maha Siddhi Ganapati holds all arts in himself in this form of Sri Maha Siddhi Ganapati.

Siddhi yoga is really the ability to accomplish all tasks to their fullest completion. The very intention of completing the task to its ultimate result is Siddhi Yogam. Whoever worships Sri Maha Siddhi Ganapati in this form and performs homa with the pulp of wood apple (bael fruit) and bilva leaves, Sri Maha Siddhi Ganapati immediately grants siddhi yoga and gives them success in all their endeavors.

- He is Sri Sureshwara, the Lord of the Gods, Indra,
- He is Nidhiishwara, God of Wealth, Kubera
- He is Gajeshwara, the Elephant headed God
- He is Pramatha Ganeshwara, or Maha Bhairava or Siva
- He is Paratpara, the Supreme Being
- He is Parabrahma, the Supreme Spirit behind the manifested stage or nirguna, beyond any qualities, nirupaadhika, beyond form.
- He is Paratpara the Supreme Power behind the manifested Universe, Ganeshwara.
- Whoever prays to him early in the morning everyday, whoever serves him and whoever meditates on him are liberated from all sins. They are blessed with all fine arts, progeny, long life and ashta aishwarya bhoga bhagya - eight kinds of wealth and prosperity.

Every evening, pradasha puja, naivedya and special Maha Mangala Harati will be performed.





**Day 10 – Sunday, September 19**

## **Sri Maha Lakshmi Ganapati Puja and Homa**

Pujas will continue early in the morning with Shri Ganesha Panchamrtam abhishekam. Panchamrta abhishekam is performed early every morning with special durva grass blades in pairs, bilva leaves and jashvanti (hibiscus) flowers.

🕒 5:00-6:00 am: Abhishekas everyday with panchamrtam

🕒 6:00-7:30 am:

- a. Decoration with flowers
- b. 108 Names Archana with flowers
- c. Harati
- d. Naivedya Samarpanam

🕒 9:00 - 1:00 pm: Sri Maha Lakshmi Ganapati Homa

Every evening, pradasha puja, naivedya and special Maha Mangala Harati will be performed.

### **Sri Maha Lakshmi Ganapati:**

To the question of what is dear to which Deity. Here are the answers

1. Sri Surya God - Salutations to Sun God
2. Sri Vishnu- Loves to be bedecked with jewels and flowers
3. Sri Siva - Loves abhishekas and stotras or praises
4. Sri Ganapati – Pleased and satisfied with offerings (modukas)

Dharma, artha and kama are easily granted by Sri Maha Lakshmi Ganapati, who is Shodasha Kalaatmaka (meaning he is the Lord who mastered the 16 arts), when worshipped with homa and the following stuti or praise:

Shloka:

*Om Ganesham pramadhadhisham,*

*Nirgunam, sagunam vibhum*

*Yogino yat padam yaanti*

*Tam Gauri nandanam bhaje*

He is immensely moved by the devotees and their nectarine flow of devotion and he grants unlimited wealth and prosperity. On this 10th day homa is performed offering 1001 lotuses and 1001 modukas in the homa. By doing this one attains Sri Maha Lakshmi yoga. By the grace of Sri Lakshmi Ganapathi, Sri Maha Lakshmi Devi Dhana Lakshmi yogam is accomplished. This homa marks the culmination of the Sri Ganapati Navaratri Program.