



HINDU TEMPLE SOCIETY

4200 Airport Road Allentown, PA 18109 Ph: (484) 616-9001

www.hindutemple-lehighvalley.org

March 2022

NEWS LETTER

Volume 35 Issue 3

* Om asato maa sadgamaya, tamaso maa jyotirgamaya, mrtiyormaa amrtam gamaya.....Om Saantih,Saantih,Saantih *

HTS PROGRAM UPDATES

Priest Anand ji (512) 545-9657

ALMANAC (Panchang)	JAIN ALMANAC	UPCOMING PROGRAMS
March 01 : Shivratri March 13 : Ekadashi March 15 : Pradosham March 27 : Ekadashi March 29 : Pradosham March 21 : Sankata Haran Chaturthi March 17 : Pournami	March 1 : Maha Vad Chaudas March 7 : Fagan sud pacham March 10: Fagan sud Aatham March 17: Fagan sud chaudas March 22: Fagan vad Aatham March 25: Fagan vad Chaudas	March 18 : Holi April 01 : Ugadi April 10 : Sri Rama Navami April 14 : Vishu/TNY/ Mahavir Jaya May 15 : Thyagaraja Aradhana June 04 : HTS virtual fundraiser

Event	Date & Time	Facilitator
Pradosha Pooja	Tuesday, March 15 & Tuesday, March 29	Anand ji (Please contact the priest for timings)
Ekadasi pooja	Sunday, March 13 & Sunday, March 27	Anand ji (Please contact the priest or timings)
Sai Bhajan	Saturday, March 12	(Flyer on page 5)
Pournami Pooja	Wednesday, March 17	Anand ji (Please contact the priest or timings)
Sankat Haran Chaturthi Ganesh Pooja	Monday, March 21	Anand ji (Please contact the priest for timings)
"Taal Se Taal Mila" Virtual Fundraiser	Saturday, June 4	(Flyer on page 9)

PUBLIC DARSHAN TIMINGS

Weekdays: 8 a.m. – 12 Noon; 5 p.m. – 8 p.m. Weekend & Holidays: 10 a.m. – 8 p.m.

- Evening Arati will be at 7 p.m.
- Vahana Puja/Archana ends at 7:30 p.m.
- Temple will discontinue Zooming evening Arati.
- Devotees needing priest presence, please check with Anandji: (512) 545 9657/sastrigalanand@gmail.com

TEMPLE ADMINISTRATION

Executive Council

Please remember! We all share the Temple. Let us work together to keep it safe & clean. Remember to tidy rooms when finished using them. Please refrain from horseplay on temple property. Thank you for your understanding.



President: Neela Bera 610-417-1068
Vice-President: Jitesh Rohatgi 862-324-2939
Secretary: Sarvana Govindasamy 732-379-9611
Treasurer: Venkat Balabhadra 610-530-7863
Asst. Treasurer: Ravi Chitluru 610-349-0662
Program Director: Nirmala Sivakumar 610-909-7865
Asst Program Director:
Editor: Swathi Anantasagar 484-772-5210
Asst Editor:
Balvihar Director: Pratibha Purani 610-390-9316
Balvihar Asst. Dir: Purvi Bhojani 484-903-1954
Comm. Relations Dir: Vindya Raghavachari 610-709-4066
Webmaster: Sridhar Venkatnarayanan 630-363-0673
Asst. Webmaster: Sameer Phadke 484-695-8761

Members-at-large
 Nirav Shah 215-450-9987
 Seema Garg 404-200-3239
 Vinay Satyanarayan 610-628-4101
 Pratima Patel 646-479-0142
 Surender Dayal 610-392-5851
Program Committee
 Rimmi Dawar 610-261-2050
 Rakesh Shroff 610-504-9412
 Sujata Singh 610-730-0845
 Shaila Shah 484-347-7749

Maintenance Committee
 Satish Patel 646-479-0142
 Manish Desai 610-223-7367
 Urvish Shah 484-695-3534
 Babulal Chauhan

Board of Trustees

Chairman:
 Pattabi Neelakantan 610-351-1710
Vice Chairman:
 Chetan Pandya 610-336-0454

Secretary:
 Vikas Joshi 610-360-1210

Audit Committee:
 Shaila Shah - (484)347-7749
 Shankar Natraj - (610)360-8755

Education Committee:
 Ajay Soni - (908)391-3959

Finance Committee:
 Raju Shah - (610)462-3108
 Parveen Gupta - (610)867-9604
 Chetan Pandya - (610)442-4387

Membership and Community Relations:
 Chatargy Kaza 610-614-0128
 Susheer Gandotra (570) 620 6219
 Kripa Singh 610-391-1540

Projects & Planning Committee:
 Vikas Joshi - (610)360-1210
 Rajan Pawar - (570)578-3161
 Parveen Gupta - (610)867-9604
 Shaila Shah - (484)347-7749
 Kripa Singh - (219)308-4606

Ex-Officio Member:
 Neela Bera 610-417-1068

Publication Identification

Title: HTS News Letter
Issue Date: Monthly / March 2022
Volume: 35; Issue # 3
Published by: Hindu Temple Society,
 4200 Airport Road Allentown, PA 18109

!!NO PARKING ON THE CURB!!

Note the yellow “no parking” lines next to the curbside of the temple. Violations will be strictly enforced by the local police.



*****No Eating in the Temple Sanctorum*****
Only small quantity of dry Prasad is allowed in the temple sanctorum. No plates and cutlery allowed. Please exit out of the temple sanctorum into the main lobby area to eat more Prasad. prasad.

Please refrain from bringing unused items from your home and leaving it at the temple in boxes labeled “FREE”.



Advertisement in the News Letter

Full Page(7.5" x 10")	\$ 70	Temple Tax ID #23-2064729
Half Page (7.5" x 5")	\$ 50	
Quarter Page (3.5" x 5")	\$ 30	

Please e-mail your ad (in WORD / PUBLISHER ONLY) AS PER THE ABOVE GUIDELINES to the editor htseditor@gmail.com
 Send the check payment (made out to *Hindu Temple Society*) directly to the Temple address. Please note the purpose of the check in the memo field.

RENTAL DONATIONS FOR THE TEMPLE (EFFECTIVE FROM JANUARY 2019)

Temple Hall & Lower Level	0 - 3 hours	\$250; Each additional hour \$75
Temple Hall	0 - 2 hours	\$100; Each additional hour \$50
Lower Level	0 - 3 hours	\$200; Each additional hour \$75

The above rates are for **Paid Members only**. Non-Member rate is total bill + 20%. Charges are based on current (or) prior year Membership.

A refundable deposit of \$100 is **required** to make the above reservations. Deposit will be returned in entirety if temple is left in the same condition as prior to the rental.

Payment in full is **required** two weeks prior to the rental day. Payment can be made online or with a check payable to HTS given to Temple Management.

Lower Level, Stage only	0 - 2 hours	\$30
Upper Level, Krishna Room	0 - 2 hours	\$20
Upper Level, Yamuna Room	0 - 2 hours	\$20
Upper Level, Ganga Room	0 - 2 hours	\$30
Folding Chairs	Each	\$1

Please visit ["www.hindutemple-lehighvalley.org"](http://www.hindutemple-lehighvalley.org) for CURRENT newsletter, donation links and other information.

TEMPLE BULLETIN BOARD

BHAGAVAD GITA VICHAR GROUP

***Bhagavad Gita and Vedanta Studies Group
Sessions are held every Thursday, 7:00 PM
to 9:00 PM . Text: Bhagavad Gita Home
Study by Swami Dayanandaji***

***Zoom Video Conference, call Dipakji (484)
597-0981***

***Private Puja ,
call Anandji: (484) 616-9001 or
Nirmala: (610)909-7865 for more details***

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP

***Go to below website
<https://www.hindutemple-lehighvalley.org/>***

***to begin / renew HTS Annual
Membership of \$151***

PUJA PROGRAM

Monday, March 21

Sankata Hara Chaturthi pooja

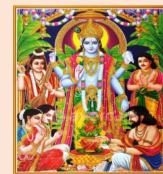
(Please contact the priest for details)



Thursday, March 17

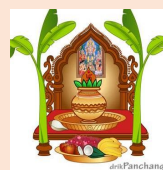
Satyanarayana pooja . (Pournami pooja)

(Please contact the priest for details)



**Sunday, March 13 &
Sunday, March 27**

Ekadasi Pooja: Vishnu Sahasranama Archana
followed by Aarthi. Sponsors are solicited



**Tuesday, March 15 &
Tuesday, March 29**

Pradosh Shiva Abhishek
Devotees are welcome to sponsor the Pooja



Starting New Year with a Great News

Dear Devotees,

Some of you may know that in order to strengthen our financial base, an earlier HTS Board offered the community an opportunity to rename any of the three rooms at the back of the temple for a significant donation (\$100K for the Ganga Room and \$50K for Krishna or Yamuna). One of our founding members, who was also the longest serving Board Chair, Shri Gopal Krishna (Kris) Kapoor (fondly called Kapoorji) and his wife Smt. Preeta Kapoor recently donated \$100,000 when the temple finances are going through some challenging times due to the pandemic.

It is important to point out that Kapoorji led the temple during many HTS milestones. He spearheaded the efforts toward Temple Ground Breaking, Construction, Pran Pratistha of Radha-Krishna, Sthapna of Guru Granth Sahib and Gabhara Opening and Jain Snatra Puja during his first two terms (1983-1987) as the Board Chair. During his next stint as Board Chair (2007-2013), Kapoorji managed the Vidya Mandir Project that was close to his heart and expanded the back of the temple with additional rooms for the growing Balvihar Program, renovated the temple kitchen in the basement, finished the temple office in the lobby area and most importantly helped raise sufficient funds to fully payoff the mortgage loan for the Vidya Mandir Project. Kapoorji remained as one of the largest donors from the beginning and it is no surprise that he took the leadership again and donated \$100,000 to inspire others to follow suit.



Left to Right: Kris & Preeta Kapoor, Priest Anandji & Board Member (another founding father) Kripa Singh

On behalf of the temple management and the larger community, we wholeheartedly thank Kapoorji and Preetaji for their very generous donation. We hope that their generosity will encourage other large hearted donors to follow his lead and rename the other two rooms with a large donation. Please help us minimize the mortgage loan toward the current temple expansion efforts that are in full swing.

We were humbled by Kapoorji's following words; "*Prabhu, I came to this world empty handed and I will go empty handed. Oh Lord, it is You, who gave me. It is You, who is giving; not I.*"

Neela Bera
President, EC



Pattabi Neelakantan
Board Chair

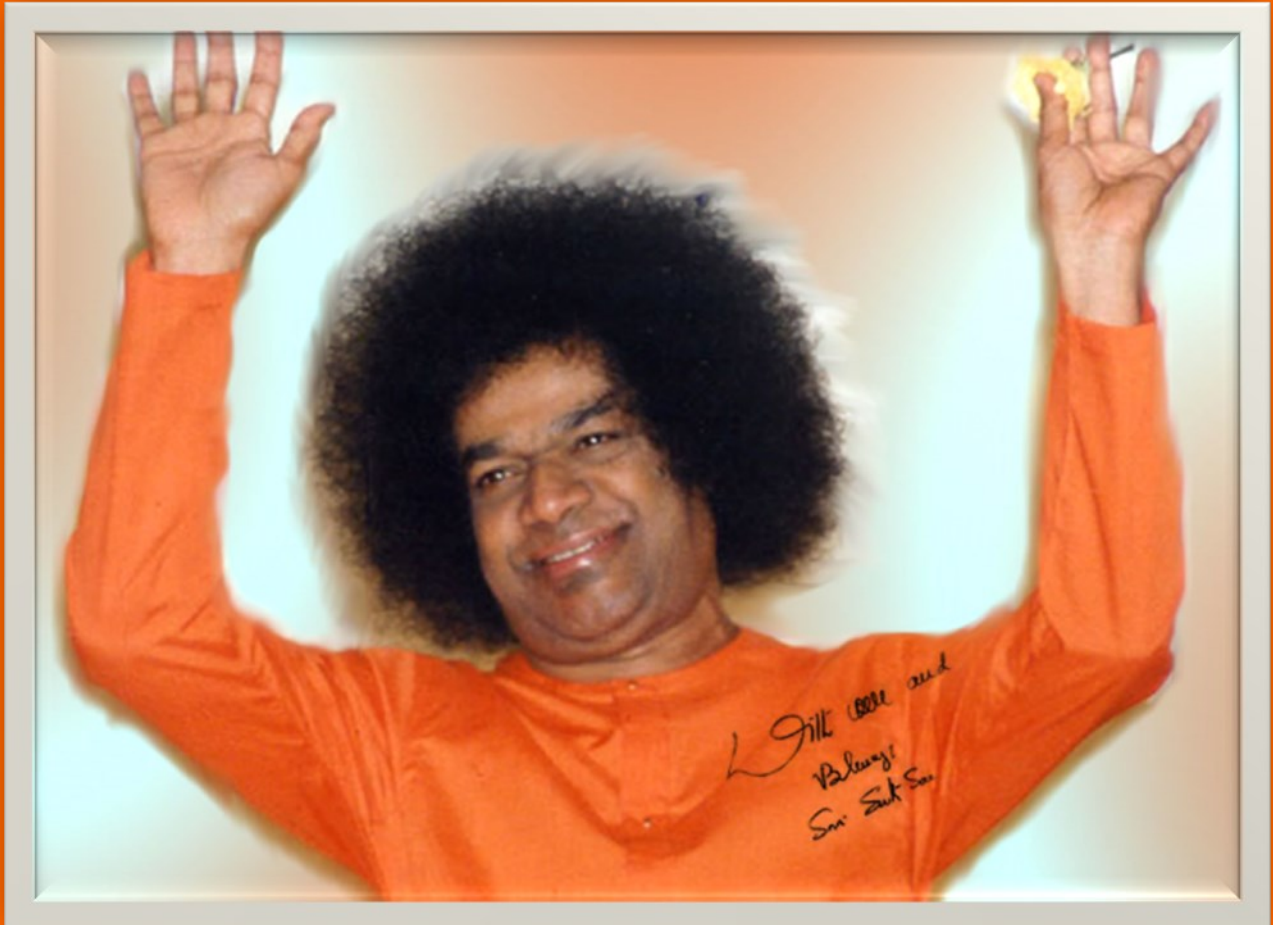
HTS Milestones

(Kapoorji's Term as Chair)

Adoption of Constitution:	Nov. 12, 1977
Purchase of Building Site:	Jan. 14, 1982
Ground Breaking:	Aug. 27, 1983
Construction Completed:	November 1985
Radha-Krishna Pran Prathistha	Dec. 22, 1985
Guru Granth Sahib Stapna	Dec. 28, 1985
Gabhara Opening and Snatra Puja	Dec. 29, 1985
Shuklaji joined as first resident priest	1987

First Expansion (basement, priest apartment)	1990
Merged temple land with adjoining land	2003
Vidya Mandir Construction begins	2006
Vidya Mandir Inaugural Puja	Dec 1, 2007
HTS Kitchen Renovation Completed	Nov. 2010
Temple Office Completed	2011
HTS Mortgage for Vidya Mandir Paid Off	Jan. 2012
Shuklaji retired	Dec. 2014

Sai Bhajan



On Saturday, March 12th

**From: 5:00 PM To: 6:00 PM
In Temple Main Hall**

**Program: Namavali
Bhajans
Harati**

Also On Temple Zoom

Zoom Meeting ID is: 263 071 1139

Link to Zoom: <https://us04web.zoom.us/j/2630711139>

Balvihar Update

Namaste

HTS Balvihar is proud to announce that we secured the President's Volunteer Service Award for Twelve of our Youth Teachers for their service in Balvihar and other volunteering organizations. Our classes are on schedule and we are looking forward to starting classes in person once it is viable.

HTS Balvihar



COMMUNITY OUTREACH

HTS introduces a Community Outreach Portal on the Temple website to provide a place where you can post any help needed. This portal is not a sales listing but purely provides a venue to seek for help. You will find it under the Community Tab on the HTS website.

<https://www.hindutemple-lehighvalley.org/>

Note the following requirements:

- Send help request (up to 500 words) with contact information and requestor name (optional) to htscommunityrelations@gmail.com
- No sales ads please



Please become a paid member or renew your membership. Start every January by mailing your membership check of \$151 per family. For your convenience, we accept all major credit cards at our secure website

<https://www.hindutemple-lehighvalley.org/>

(Click on **Make a Donation**) or mail your check to the temple address (payable to "Hindu Temple Society").

Name: _____
Spouse Name: _____
Address: _____
Telephone: _____
E-mail: _____

Membership : \$151 _____ Gift For a Day: \$401 _____ Patron: \$5000 _____

Gift for Multiple Days: \$1000 _____ \$2000 _____ Other: \$ _____

Total Donation: \$ _____

Comments:

Please mail your Tax Deductible Donation to HTS at the above address OR go to our website to pay by credit card.

<https://www.hindutemple-lehighvalley.org/> (Click on **Make a Donation**)





HINDU TEMPLE SOCIETY

4200 Airport Road, Allentown, PA 18109

Tel: (484) 616 9001

www.hindutemple-lehighvalley.org

<https://www.facebook.com/HTSLV/>

February 20, 2022

Dear Friend,

The HTS is proud to host **“Taal Se Taal Mila”**, a **Virtual Fundraiser** on **Saturday, June 4, 2022**.

This virtual cultural entertainment program will provide a platform for children and adults to showcase their talents and share in their rich ancestral culture with the greater Lehigh Valley community.

We all are excited that our temple is slowly coming back to life with devotees visiting for darshan in increasing numbers every day. Spring is generally the busiest season for our temple with many activities like pujas, havan, and festivals. They not only bring our community together but also raise significant funds to support year-round temple expenses. As you all may know that our temple revenue is drastically down during 2020 and 2021.

So, this Virtual Fundraiser is crucial for temple's financial position.

General sponsorship towards the fundraiser \$100. In appreciation for your General Sponsorship, your family can participate as a sponsor at any one HTS puja during 2022.

As part of our celebration, we are also publishing a color brochure for the program. Please support this fundraising effort by sponsoring an advertisement in the Brochure.

The advertisement rates are:

FULL PAGE: \$100

HALF PAGE: \$50

Full Page Ad: Height 10" x Width 7.5" & Half Page Ad: Height 5" x Width 7.5"

Please send your advertisement in JPEG/ BMP/ Word/PDF format to htsnirmala@gmail.com.

Donations and financial contributions to the Temple are fully tax deductible! The Temple's Tax ID is **23-2064729**. Please make all checks payable to the **Hindu Temple Society** and please write in the memo space **"2022 Fundraiser Brochure Advertisement"**.

Thank you.

Pattabi Neelakantan

Chairman

Pattabi.hts@gmail.com

Neela Bera

President

Neela1030@gmail.com

Nirmala Sivakumar

Program Director

HTSNirmala@gmail.com



Please send your advertisement and payment by April 15th, 2022.



The Hindu Temple Society
4200 Airport Road, Allentown, PA 18109
(610) 264-2810

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED.....

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
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Lehigh Valley, PA
Permit No.22

Upcoming 2022 HTS Events

*Mark your
calendar for these grand HTS events & look out
for further updates in the HTS email blasts
newsletter & WhatsApp group!*



Temple: (484) 616 9001

March 18	: Holi
April 1	: Ugadi
April 10	: Sri Rama Navami
April 14	: Vishu/TNY/ Mahavir Jayanti
May 15	: Thyagaraja Aradhana
June 4	: HTS virtual fundraiser
Aug 5	: Varalakshmi Vratam
Aug 11	: Upakarma
Aug 18	: Janmashtami
Aug 24 - 31	: Paryushan
Aug 30	: Ganesh Chaturthi
Sep 26 - Oct 4	: Navratri
Oct 12	: Karwa Chauth
Oct 22	: Dhanteras
Oct 24	: Diwali



*Scan the above QR code with your phone's camera
to join the HTS Events & News WhatsApp group!
Let's stay connected.*