



Ganesha Chaturthi Festival Wednesday 8/16/2017 to Friday 8/25/2017

Ganesha Chaturthi is the birthday of our delightful and playful Lord of Auspicious Beginnings. In his thousands of names, *Ganesha* is glorified as the elephant-faced signifier of Om; as *Mangala Moorti* – the form of auspiciousness; as *Vighna Raja* – the king (and remover) of obstacles; as *Ganapati* – the lord of the *ganas* -- categories or fields or groups -- and hence of *all* knowledge and wisdom; as *Ekadanta* – one-tusked because he broke it off to continue inscribing the *Mahabharata* without any break; and as *Umasuta* – the son of Uma (Parvati). His auspicious birthday is on the fourth day of the moon's bright fortnight in the lunar month of Bhadrapada. During his birthday celebration, Ganesha is worshipped in temples or shrines for five, seven, or ten days, and he is then ceremoniously immersed in some parts of India to the shouts of: *pudcha varshi lavkar ya* – come early next year! Such is the devotee's love for Ganesha, the first-worshipped deity of the Sanatana Dharma traditions.

This year, Ganesha Chaturthi is on Friday, August 25th. Join us to celebrate Ganesha's birthday in a grand manner. (**Ganesh Chapparam Procession with Ganeshanjali will be celebrated on Sunday 8/27/2017**).

Ganesha Chaturthi Program Wednesday, August 16th - Thursday, August 24th

10:00 AM to 11:30 AM	Ganesha Laksharchana (archana with recitation of the 1000 names of Ganesha)
6:30 PM to 7:30 PM	Ganesha Laksharchana (archana with recitation of the 1000 names of Ganesha)

Please sponsor Ganesha Laksharchana for world welfare and personal blessings.

Sponsorship: \$20 per person, **\$25** per family. You may sponsor one or more Laksharchanas, and get the *Sankalpam* done on that day.

Friday, August 25th: Ganesha Chaturthi

7:30 AM to 9:30 AM	Kalasa Sthapanam, Poorvanga Puja, Ganapathi Homam, Poornahuti
9:45 AM to 10:30 AM	Abhishekam for Moolavar (main deity)
10:30 AM to 11:15 AM	Ganesha Sahasranamam (1000 names) chanting by devotees
11:30 AM to 12 PM	Shodasa (16) Upachara Puja for Ganesha
6 PM to 9 PM	Ganesha Archana, Aarathi

Special Announcements

- Please note that there will be **NO Vahana Puja** on the Ganesh Chaturthi day.
- Prasadam will be served in the temple. Watch out for the signs posted in the temple.
- Temple Building lower level will be open only for preparing prasadam.
- There will be a Police Officer at temple entrance to manage traffic between 5:00 PM and 9:00 PM and to direct traffic in and out of the temple.
- The parking lot in front of the temple will be used only for dropping and picking up devotees. In addition left side end will be used for Handicap Parking.
- Please follow posted signs and directions/instructions given by volunteers.
- Please park only in our temple parking lot. Do not park in private lots neighboring our temple and in side streets. Ashland Police Department will be enforcing strict parking rules. Illegally parked vehicles may be towed at owner's expense.

*May the blessings of Sri Ganesha and Sri Lakshmi
be always with you and your family.*

