



# Sri Lakshmi Temple

117 Waverly Street, Ashland, MA 01721  
Phone: 508-881-5775, [www.SriLakshmi.org](http://www.SriLakshmi.org)



Newsletter and Calendar

March 2014

## President's Message

Dear SLT devotees and NEHTI members,  
Namaste.

The Sri Lakshmi Temple welcomed 2014 with Grand Celebrations. In spite of the cold weather devotees came in large numbers on the New Years day to get the blessings of Sri Lakshmi.

The Month of January also hosted the festivals of Vaikunda Ekadasi, Ayyappa Mandala Puja Grand Finale and Makara Sankaranthi (Pongal). Once again, the devotees came in with enthusiasm to participate in all these festivals – Thanks to all Volunteers who put in their time and effort to make it a big success.

At this point, it would be fair to mention two names – Mr Manjunath and Mr Sriram who built the Swarga Vasal for Vaikunta Ekadasi and the 18 steps and stage for Ayyappa Mandala Puja grand finale in one night. The temple is fortunate and blessed to have these volunteers who are always passionate in helping in many ways.

As you all know and still are experiencing this brutal winter this year in New England. I am happy to inform you the temple Operations managed to keep the Temple accessible by clearing the walkways, drive ways of Snow and Ice.

In the next few weeks we are planning to start painting inside the temple. This long pending project will certainly enhance the ambience of the temple. We seek and will appreciate your cooperation during this time.

In the construction area a new team is embarking on completing the pending projects of Sewer RFP and related tasks. It will be finalized soon.

As mentioned in the last temple news letter, based on complaints to the town by our trustee Mr KG Narayana about temple matters, all major department inspectors from the town visited the temple and have given their report mentioning that the codes are followed without violations. As we all know there is always room for improvement in anything we all do and we are trying to follow the advice given by the town Inspectors.

Mr LN Raghavan has resigned from the Chairmanship and the Trusteeship of NEHTI. We will surely miss his presence and guidance. Our sincere thanks to him for his long standing services to Sri Lakshmi Temple from the beginning.

The BOT unanimously elected Mr Ranjit Singanayagam as the new Chairman of NEHTI. By the grace of Goddess Sri Lakshmi, under his able leadership we will make progress on all the Sewer related projects soon.

Please support your temple generously so that we can serve your family's religious needs with enhanced facilities and services.

**May the blessings of Sri Lakshmi be always with you and your family!**  
**"HAPPY MAHA SIVARATHRI"**

Sincerely,

*Ranjini Ramaswamy*  
President

## Sivaratri

Sivaratri is a very important event that reminds us of our spiritual goal.

There are four purusharthas (goals) in human life-- artha, kama, dharma and moksha. Of these, the pursuit of artha (wealth) and kama (desire) are largely related to mundane matters. But our scriptures tell us that our primary goal should be a dharmic life and attainment of moksha. It is to remind us of these that festivals are conducted and vratas observed. Sivaratri is one such vrata, which enables us to look inward, and spend our time and thoughts more for spiritual and less for material pursuits. The glory of Lord Siva is limitless. Chanting of Sri Rudram, especially on Sivaratri, is considered to be very auspicious. Even if elaborate rituals are not possible, chanting the Panchkshari mantra, which is part of Sri Rudram, will help us develop a spirit of equanimity.

Siva is known as Mahakalesvara—which means that he is the supreme lord of Kala. Time as well as Death share this name Kala. Since every form of life in prakrti (Nature) moves inexorably every second towards extinction, kala, the word for Time, has death built into it. Not only living creatures, but even material objects, such as rocks and metals deteriorate in time.

### **Mahakalesvara Jyotirlinga**

*AkasamTaraka lingam Pataaley Hatakeswaram  
Mrtyulokey Mahakaalam*

(In the celestial region this form is called Taraka linga, in the other regions it is known as the effulgent linga, and on earth it is called Mahakala.)

The presiding deity of Time, Siva, rules over the city of Ujjain. The temple of Mahakala dominates the life of the city and its people, in the midst of worldly preoccupations.

The icon of Mahakalesvara is unique since it faces the south (Dakshina) and is called 'Dakshinamurti.' The icon of Omkaresvara is consecrated in the sanctum above the Mahakala shrine. To the south is the icon of Nandi, the vehicle of Lord Siva.

Taken from <http://www.Tattvaloka.com>

## Events Calendar

### Important Functions

Maha Shivaratri (Temple open till 4 AM Friday morning)	2/27/2014 Thu
Ugadi	3/31/2014 Mon



### Maha Sivaratri Feb 27 Thursday

Maha Rudra Yagnam (Feb 19-27 morning)	10:00AM-12:00PM
Maha Rudra Yagnam (Feb 19-27 evening)	6:30PM-8:30PM

### Satyanarayana Puja

3/16 Sun Pournami - Sathyanarayana Puja	3:00 PM - 5:00 PM
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### Abishekams

Balaji Abishekam – March 1,8,15,22,29	8:30 AM Saturdays
Shiva Abishekam – March 3,10,17,24,31 Pradosham Rudra Abishekam 3/14, 3/28	6:30 PM Mondays
Lakshmi Abishekam – March 7,14,21,28 Sri Suktha Homam, Lakshmi Abishekam	9:30 AM Fridays 3/2 Sun 9:30 AM

### Hanuman Abishekam (Amavasya)

3/1 Sat Sri Hanuman Abhishekam	4:30 PM - 6:00 PM
3/30 Sun Hanuman Abhishekam	6:30 – 8 pm

## 2014 March

Mar	Dy	Starts	Event
01	Sa	8:30 AM	Sri Venkateswara Abhishekam
		4:30 PM	Amavasya - Sri Hanuman Abhishekam
		6:00 PM	Ayyappa Puja - Abhishekam, Bhajan and Aarthi
02	Su	9:30 AM	Sri Suktha Homam - Srilakshmi Abhishekam
03	Mo	6:30 PM	Shiva Abhishekam
04	Tu	6:30 PM	Sukla Chaturthi - Ganesha Abhishekam
		7:00 PM	Sri Lalitha Sahasranamam
06	Th	6:30 PM	Sukla Sashti - Sri Murugar Abhishekam
07	Fr	9:30 AM	Srilakshmi Abhishekam
08	Sa	8:30 AM	Sri Venkateswara Abhishekam
10	Mo	6:30 PM	Shiva Abhishekam
11	Tu	10:00 AM	Punarvasu - Sri Ramar Abhishekam
		7:00 PM	Sri Lalitha Sahasranamam
12	We	8:00 PM	Ekadasai Uthsavam
14	Fr	9:30 AM	Srilakshmi Abhishekam
		6:30 PM	Pradosam - Rudra Abhishekam
			Karadayan Nonbu (Good time 10:00 PM To 10:20PM)
15	Sa	8:30 AM	Sri Venkateswara Abhishekam
16	Su	10:00 AM	Pooram - Andal Abhishekam
		3:00 PM	Pournami - Sathyanarayana Puja
17	Mo	6:30 PM	Shiva Abhishekam
18	Tu	7:00 PM	Sri Lalitha Sahasranamam
20	Th	10:00 AM	Swathi - Sri Garuda Abhishekam
		6:30 PM	Sankatahara Chaturthi - Sri Ganesha Abhishekam
21	Fr	9:30 AM	Srilakshmi Abhishekam
22	Sa	8:30 AM	Sri Venkateswara Abhishekam
24	Mo	6:30 PM	Shiva Abhishekam
25	Tu	7:00 PM	Sri Lalitha Sahasranamam
26	We	10:00 AM	Sravanam - Sri Venkateswara Uthsavar Abhishekam
28	Fr	9:30 AM	Srilakshmi Abhishekam
		6:30 PM	Pradosam - Rudra Abhishekam
29	Sa	8:30 AM	Sri Venkateswara Abhishekam
30	Su	6:30 PM	Amavasya - Sri Hanuman Abhishekam
31	Mo	9:30 AM	Ugadi Lunar New Years Day Sri Lakshmi Moolavar Abhishekam Sri Venkateswara Uthsavar Abhishekam
		6:30 PM	Vasantha Navarathri
		6:30 PM	Shiva Abhishekam
		7:30 PM	Sundarakanda Parayanam

Nrityanjali – In Celebrations of Maha Sivarathri, New England Area Dance Teachers and Students perform Classical Dance at Sri Lakshmi Temple Campus on March 16, 2014 - 9am to 6pm.

For More Details:

[http://www.srilakshmi.org/Weblink/SLT\\_Nrityanjali.pdf](http://www.srilakshmi.org/Weblink/SLT_Nrityanjali.pdf)

Please check our website, weather reports and local advisories during inclement weather regarding Temple Closing information. Please use your own judgment before venturing out and drive carefully!

#### Temple Hours

**Weekdays:** Morning: 9am – 12 noon, Eve: 5:30 – 9pm  
**Saturday, Sunday & Holidays:** 9am – 9pm

**Daily:** 8:15p Sri Lakshmi Arati, 8:45p Ekanta Seva  
**Monday** - Rudra Abhishekam 6:30-8pm  
**Tuesday** - Sri Lalitha Sahasranamam 7-8pm  
**Friday** - Sri Mahalakshmi Abhishekam 9:30-11am  
Sri Mahalakshmi Sahasranama Archana 8pm  
**Saturday** - Sri Venkateswara Abhishekam 9:30-12  
**Sunday** - Sri Vishnu Sahasranama Parayanam 6pm  
**1st Saturday** - Ayyappa Abhishekam 6-8pm  
**1st Sunday** - Sri Sukta Homam 9:30-11am  
**2nd Friday** - Sri Mahalakshmi Utsavam 7-8pm



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**Pradosham** Rudra Abhishekam 6:30 – 8 PM

**Sukla Sashti** - Sri Murugar Abhishekam 6:30-7:30p

**Sukla Chaturthi** - Ganesha Abhishekam 6:30-7:30p

**Sankatahara Chaturthi** - Ganesha Abhishekam 6:30-8p

**Punarvasu** - Sri Rama Abhishekam 10-11a

**Swathi** - Sri Garuda Abhishekam & Sri Narasimhar Abhishekam 10-11a

**Pournami** - Samooha SatyaNarayana Puja, Weekdays 6:30-8p, Weekends/Holidays 3- 6p

**Sukla Ekadasi** - Sri Venkateswara Utsavam 10-11a

**Sravanam** - Sri Lakshmi Venkateswara Utsavar Abhishekam 10-11a

**Amavasya** - Sri Hanuman Abhishekam 6-7:30p

Program times/dates are subject to change due to weather or other factors. Please check the Temple website [www.SriLakshmi.org](http://www.SriLakshmi.org) for detailed AM/PM event information and for the latest schedule, or call the Temple front-desk at 508-881-5775.

### Call for Volunteers

We need dedicated volunteers for making garlands, managing the temple floor and for the front office. If you can volunteer some time to serve Sri Lakshmi Temple and our community, please email your contact info and availability to [volunteer@srilakshmi.org](mailto:volunteer@srilakshmi.org)