

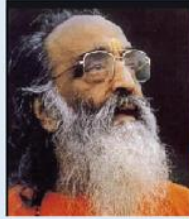


CHINMAYA MISSION CHICAGO

BADRI - A School of Vedantic Studies



Monthly Newsletter – November 2021



Chinmaya

Wisdom Quote

“Every sunrise is a message from God and every sunset is His signature.” – **Swami**

Chinmayananda

Swamiji's Message



The above quote from Gurudev will make no sense to the modern man buried in his mobile phones, busy with his career, business, or the stock markets... He has no time even to look at the sun! Being with the machines, he has become another machine, devoid of all noble emotions and feelings...

Let's come out of the rat race, at least a few moments in a day, and watch this majestic cosmic happening in the infinite expanse of the sky.

What message does the sun bring along with it? Well, when we start pondering, the list appears unending. – **Swami Aparijithananda**

[\(Click here\)](#) to read about all the messages that Sun brings with it, which is provided at the end of this newsletter)

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Upcoming Events -

- **Monthly Bhajan** [Virtual]: **11/20 @ 6 pm** hosted by Sujatha & Gyana Patnaik – Available on YouTube
- **Rangoli Showcase** (Deepavali Special) – **11/6 @ 1 – 5 pm** – Badri Basement – Anyone can participate. Will be recorded and interviewed
- **Deepavali** (Puja & Cultural Programs) – **11/13 @ 6:30 pm** – Badri Shrine – Available on YouTube
- **Monthly Vedic Group Chanting** @ Badri Shrine: **11/27 (Saturday) @ 5 – 6:30 pm** – Available on YouTube

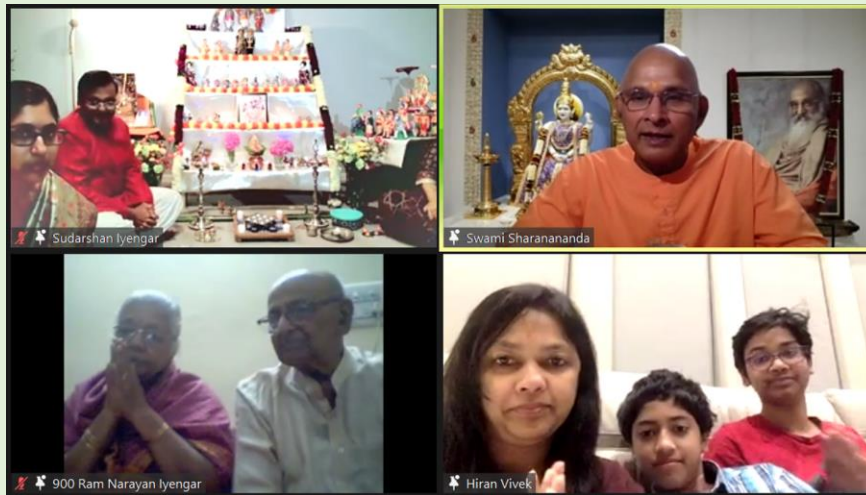
[Chinmaya Mission Chicago YouTube Channel](#) [**Subscribe**]

Highlights from Previous Month

The month of October is dedicated to Goddess Durga and the nine nights of Puja and celebration culminating on the 10th day of Vijaya Dasami. This festival is celebrated in different ways by communities in different parts of India. For many from the southern part of India, Vijaya Dasami also marks the beginning of education for children. At Badri, we had an evening filled with devotional bhajans. All our regular monthly events also continued with an enthusiastic participation from children and adults equally as the tasks are for HIM.

1. Bhajan Sandhya

The monthly Bhajan Sandhya, held on the 2nd Saturday of the month was this time held at Geeta & Sudarshan Iyengar's home on 9th October at 6 pm. Continuing the tradition of this event, all the stotrams were chanted by Bala Vihar children and for the Bhajans, the host family joined them in singing too. The solemn evening ended with the chanting of Nirvana Shatakam followed by a few minutes of silence and Aarthi.



2. Monthly Vedic Chanting

[<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=f4kS7zIncOg>]

The monthly group Vedic Chanting at our Badri Shrine was performed on 30th October at 5 pm. This was live telecast on YouTube Chinmaya Mission Chicago channel.



3. Badri Narayana Murthi Sthapana Day

[\[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vDUxpBU_deM\]](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vDUxpBU_deM)

The 28th anniversary of Lord Badri Narayana's Murthi Sthapana was celebrated on Sunday, 24th October. It was an elaborate event that started at 8 am with **Varuna Homam**. This was followed by the chanting of **Vedic Suktams** and **Kalasha Puja**. These were performed in the Tapovan Hall. Thereafter at the Badri Shrine, the **Kalasha abhishekam** was performed followed by **Geeta Chanting** by devotees and a talk by our Swamiji. The entire event was shared with everyone through the Badri YouTube channel.



Badri Programs

<https://mychinmaya.org/virtual-satsanga-and-e-study-groups/>

- **Swaranjali** (For Balavihar Children)
- **Stuti Vandana** (For Balavihar Children)
- **Geeta Chanting** (For Everyone)
- **Vedic Chanting** (For Everyone)
- **Sri Rudram Chanting** (For Everyone)
- **Sanskrit language classes** (For Everyone)
- **Adult Study Groups** (Registration required)
- **Vishnu Sahasranamam** (For Everyone)
- **ACT/ SAT Classes** (Registration required)

In HIS Loving Memory –

Awareness of Realized Master

The year was 1987-88. **Pujya Gurudev** had come to bless us after our purchase of the present 6.5 acres of property. Gurudev stayed for one day in our old Ashram building. It was the room that our Swamiji occupied. The next morning, HE told Shankerji that **the north wall of the old Ashram was sinking**. It was as though he became one with the building. So, we looked at each other and as Gurudev requested the American engineer who was accompanying him to take a look, the engineer went in the crawl space under the room's flooring. He confirmed that south and middle parts were reinforced but not the northern wall of the building. So, we dug the north side foundation and poured the concrete as those days we were doing everything by ourselves. **Our Sahastrakoti Pranams to our Pujya Gurudev.** – *As narrated by Shri Ashok Dholakia*

Updates from around the world -

- [Mantra Sadhana Retreat](#) – Nov 7, 2021 – Jan 1, 2022 [In Person]
 - Eight weeks of Japa/ Purascharana under the guidance of Swamini Vimalananda ji.
- [Valmiki Ramayana](#) – June 5, 2021– Mar 22, 2022 [Virtual] – Swami Ramakrishnananda
 - Discourse and Analysis of Ramayana in three parts with the fragrance of Kamban and Kalidasan
- [Swadhyaya Series of Self Learning](#) – Online learning with access to materials for a lifetime
- [Mahalakshmi Puja for Deepavali at CIF](#) – Celebrate Deepavali with a Mahalakshmi Puja at **Adi Shankara Nilayam** on 11/4 at 7:15 am CST. Live telecast on **YouTube**
- [Sambhashana Samskritam](#) – Introduction to Basic Sanskrit (Spoken Sanskrit) – Starting on 11/6 – Online Course – Registration required.
- [Vedic Suktas \(Part II\)](#) – A detailed study of Vedic Suktas from Rigveda – 12/12 – 12/18 – Online camp – Registration required

Swami Sharananandaji's Weekly Program Schedule

Program Name	Details
Saddarshanam	Sunday/ 8:30 – 9:15 am
Bhagavad Gita – Chapter-wise Summary	Sunday / 9:30 – 10:00 am
Viveka Choodamani	Tuesday/ 7 –8 pm
Mandukya Upanishad	Wed/ 7 – 8:15 pm
Drik Drishya Viveka	Saturday/ 8 – 9 am

Chinmaya Mission Chicago Banquet – 2021 Fund Raiser – 4th Dec 2021



Chinmaya Mission Chicago

Badri ♦ Yamunotri ♦ Gangotri

Graciously invites you with family to the

Annual Fundraising Event

Unto Him

Presided by

Swami Ishwarananda

(Chinmaya Mission Los Angeles)

Swami Sharanananda

(Chinmaya Mission Chicago)

Saturday, December 4, 2021 ♦ 7:30 PM

Zoom Event – Registration required

\$50 per family

[Click here to register](#)

Zoom link will be sent following registration

Chinmaya Vishwa Vidyapeeth (CVV) Crowd Funding – Rewarding Campaign

Our campaign to raise funds for **Chinmaya Vishwa Vidyapeeth (CVV)** has been greatly rewarding and successful with the grace and blessings of **Pujya Gurudev**. Below are the details about our Chicago team.



Certificate in Hindu Chaplaincy – from CVV

CHINMAYA VISHWAVIDYAPEETH
DEEMED TO BE UNIVERSITY

Hindu Chaplaincy Certificate Programme

First of its kind course to train Spiritual Care Providers

- Provide spiritual care for people facing distress and loss
- Serve in hospitals, hospice, colleges, schools, military, etc.
- Volunteer in interfaith and other community settings
- Serve in India and abroad

Mode
Online and on-campus options

This course is recognised by
 Association of Professional Chaplains (USA)

For details
www.cvv.ac.in
chaplaincy@cvv.ac.in


Starts January 2022

Join the Chinmaya Mission West 'Mananam Book Club'

[Detailed Information & Registration](#)

The **Mananam** Series of books are the brainchild of **Gurudev, Swami Chinmayananda**.

The Sanskrit word 'mananam' means 'reflection'. The **Mananam** Series of books is dedicated to promoting the ageless wisdom of **Vedānta**, with an emphasis on the unity of all religions. Spiritual teachers from different traditions give us fresh, insightful answers to age-old questions so that we may apply them in practical ways to the dilemmas we all face in life.



Chinmaya Mission West mananam Book Club

Currently Reading:


Egocentric to Ecocentric


From Conflict to Coexistence

Join us online on the following dates:

October 24th, 2021
November 7th, 2021
November 21st, 2021

Time: 2:00 pm (PST)





SCAN ME

For any questions on the
Mananam Book Club email:
mannambookclub@chinmayamission.org

REGISTER TODAY

<https://chinmayamissionwest.com/mananam-series-book-club/>

'Message from the SUN' contd... - Article by Swami Aparijithananda

The rising and setting sun serves as a reminder that the Lord is in full control of His creation – whether it is the heart's beating or the sun's heating. The message is clear: *Why fear when God is here?*

How to live life? Learn from the sun. It goes on burning itself down silently for the welfare of all, nourishing all with its heat and light. *Lead a silent life of sacrifice and service, dedicating your entire God-given talents to the wellbeing of all.*

The rising sun and the setting sun – both look exactly alike! No one can make a difference if asked to identify from a photograph. *Always remain equanimous amidst the pairs of opposites* (like the joys and sorrows etc).

Every sunrise is fresh and new - no decrease in the brightness or temperature despite burning for millions of years! The exhaustion of the past is not carried forward to the present! Learn from the past but don't live in it. *Face life every day with a fresh mind without polluting it with past regrets or future anxieties.*

The sunlight waits outside a shut window or a closed door, making itself ever available to brighten up the darkroom, but never forces its way in. *Let us not force our opinion on others, but let us be ever available to serve.*

Sun is self-effulgent. So too, the Self in us, the pure Consciousness, is that light of awareness because of which everything else is known, including our body and the mind. *Hold on to God, the Pure Consciousness in us.*

In the presence of the sun, everything happens, but the sun ever remains detached from all these happenings. *Serve all maintaining a healthy detachment from all.*

Even when ignored by all, or disbelieved by the blind, the sunlight falls equally upon all without any discrimination. *Love everyone unconditionally based on the vision of oneness.*

The sun, a little closer, and we are burnt to death; a little away and we are frozen to death! *Avoid all extremes. Follow the middle path.* Be moderate in food, sleep etc.

Close the eyes - the sun becomes invisible. Press the eyeballs – the sun becomes double! The Truth, though self-evident remains ungraspable to the crooked minds. *I am the one to be changed, not the world.*

The rising or the setting of the sun is never doubted. *Be consistent, and you become trustworthy.*

The sun ever remains contented, not depending upon anyone for anything. *Be a Master of all situations by ever remaining contented in the Self.*

The sun's rising and setting reminds us of the fleeting time. *Time is precious. Never waste it.*

A retreating sun? Never! *With an understanding clear and the intentions noble, march ahead, unmindful of the criticisms and abuses en route; not a step backwards!*

There are no two suns. *You are unique and special in the whole cosmos. You are irreplaceable.*

The sun rises and lo! The darkness disappears. So too the ignorance with the rise of knowledge. *Attain Self-knowledge, the only solution to all sufferings born of ignorance.*

To form the rain clouds, the sun takes only the water vapour from the ocean and leaves the salt behind. *Pay attention to the goodness in others; ignore their weaknesses.*

The sun serves us even in its absence in the night by making the moon a reflecting medium. *Where there is a will, there is a way!*

The sun's hot rays of discipline and cool rays (through the moon) of love – both are necessary for our growth and nourishment. *Rich in love, strict in discipline - they form the rules in Parenting.*

The stars boast of their brilliance only in the night. But with the rising sun, they fade away and disappear like the valour of the cowards. *When the going gets tough, the tough get going!*

When difficulties and failures make our minds sway, have a look at the passing sun and say – *Even this will pass away!*

In life, every moment contains His message with His signature. The purpose of life is served once the message is decoded and the Messenger is identified. Then alone the Signatory is recognized!

O M T A T S A T



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Online Monthly Devi Satsang with
Swami Sharananandaji

Bhagavan Adi Shankaracharya's
Sadhana Panchakam

Third Thursday of every month 10-11am on Zoom

Register at <https://bit.ly/2ZwTo4x> or email Vidya - pvidya@hotmail.com
More info: <http://mychinmaya.org>



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