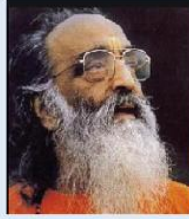




CHINMAYA MISSION CHICAGO

BADRI - A School of Vedantic Studies

Monthly Newsletter – February 2022



Chinmaya

Wisdom Quote

*"It is better to live the **Chinmaya Life** with Occasional folly, than to live a life of folly with occasional **Chinmaya Life**" - Swami Chinmayananda.*

Swamiji's Message



What is Chinmaya Life?

Uncompromising commitment to a Higher Vision, a life of love and respect is Chinmaya-life. World transformation through individual transformation, constant self-introspection and self-improvement is Chinmaya-Life. "Ours is not a programme of political and economic revival. Cultural revival is our goal." Commitment to Hindu renaissance is Chinmaya-Life. Being conscious of Bharat's glory and to serve the Nation is Chinmaya-Life. "I'm unborn! If at all I exist, it is in your

imagination." Commitment to Self-Realisation and abidance in Self is Chinmaya-Life. **Are we living the Chinmaya-life? – Swami Swatmananda**

Contents –

[Highlights of previous month](#)

[In HIS Loving Memory](#)

[Worldwide Chinmaya Updates](#)

[Badri Programs](#)

[Swamiji's Weekly Program](#)

[Geeta Jayanthi in Pictures](#)

[Who is a Sevak?](#)

[Vedanta Madhuryam](#)

Upcoming Events -

- **Monthly Bhajan** [Virtual]: 2/12 @ 6 – 7:30 pm
 - Hosted by Anand Geeta family – Available on Zoom only
- **Vedanta Madhuryam** – 2/15 – 2/19 @ 7:30 – 8:30 pm on Zoom
 - Talk by **Swami Ishwarananda** of LA
 - Zoom ID: **831 4042 8390**/ pc: **hariom2022**
- **Monthly Vedic Chanting** – 2/26 @ 5 – 6:15 pm
 - Group Chanting (Virtual) on Zoom
- **Maha Shivarathri Celebration & Puja**
 - On Monday, 2/28 @ Shrine
 - Sri Rudram Chanting – 5:30 pm
 - Rudrabhishekam & Archana – 7 – 9 pm

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

Highlights from Previous Month

The month of January, though called the beginning of a new year, had very little activities as people returned from their holidays and the absence of any religious events or festivals on our calendars. We started the year with a Saraswathi Puja accompanied by vedic chanting and singing of Bhajans at our Shrine on the 1st of January at 6 pm. This event was attended by a few families who actively participated in the activities. We had a workshop for the Balavihar teachers and Study Group sevaks, by Swami Shivatmananda of Chinmaya Mission Austin on the Fundamentals of Hinduism. Our regular monthly events continued with an enthusiastic participation from children and adults equally as the tasks are for HIM. We conducted our Monthly Vedic Group chanting on Zoom and witnessed an enthusiastic participation from many members of the Vedic Chanting group.

1. Bhajan Sandhya

The monthly Bhajan Sandhya, was this time held on 8th January at Reema and Sumit Seth's home at 6 pm. Continuing the tradition of this event, all the stotrams were chanted by Bala Vihar children and for the Bhajans, we had a wide variety of singers including the host family. The vibrant evening ended with the chanting of Nirvana Shatakam followed by a few minutes of silence and Aarthi.



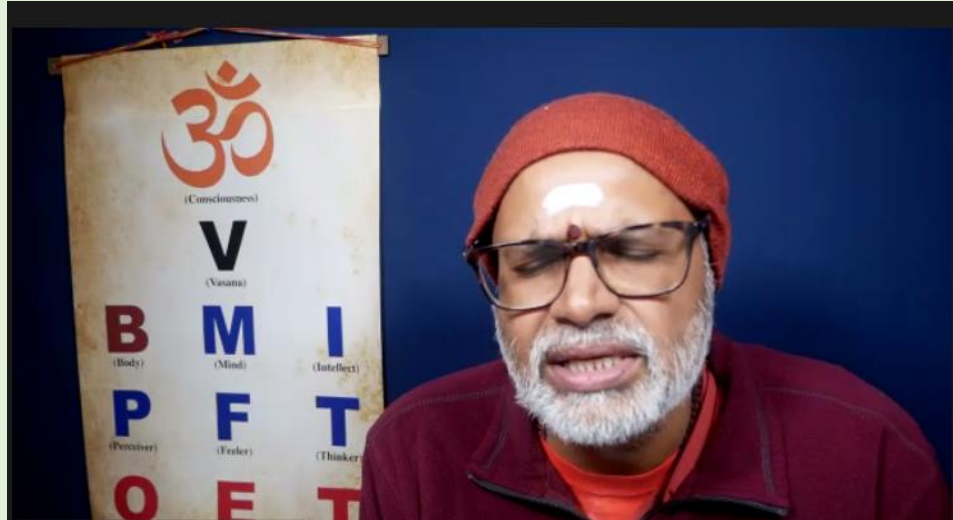
2. New Year Puja & Bhajan

Right in the middle of the freezing winter weather, we at Badri welcomed the New Year in our own traditional way with a Saraswathi Puja and Bhajan program. The evening's prayers started with chanting of Vedic Suktams, followed by a Saraswathi Puja and some melodious bhajans. Our Swamiji also delivered a new year message by stressing the importance of our efforts that define the 'new'-ness. The entire program was telecast on our Chinmaya Mission Chicago YouTube channel which can be viewed by [clicking here](#)



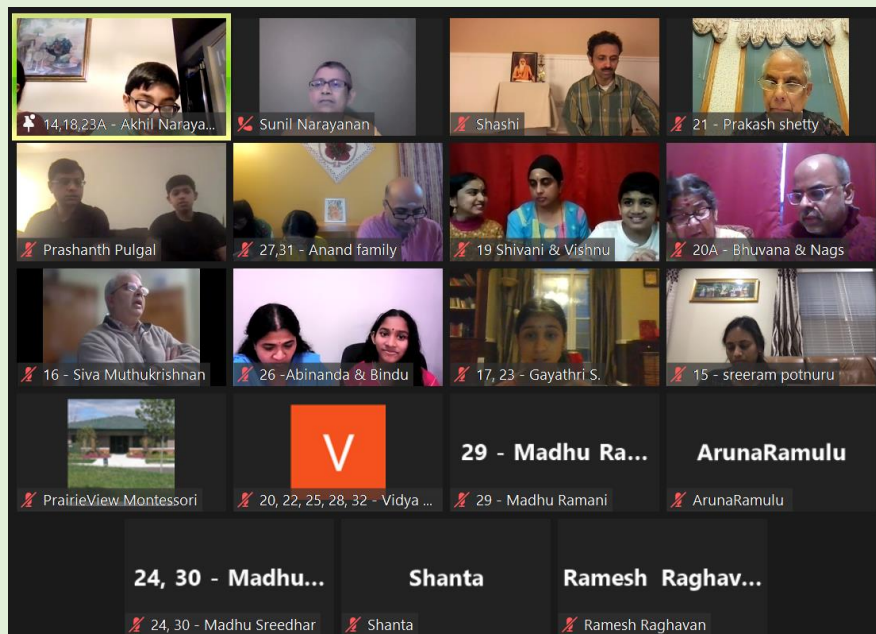
3. Fundamental Principles of Hinduism

The Balavihar teachers and Study Group sevaks & sevikas had the privilege of attending a discourse followed by Q&A by Swami Shivatmananda of Chinmaya Mission Austin on 15th January at 3 pm CST. The topic of the discourse was 'Fundamental Principles of Hinduism' and delved into the topic of 'Sanathana Dharma according to Advaita Vedanta'.



4. Annual Fundraiser Banquet

This month's End of the Month Group Vedic Chanting was conducted over Zoom and we had a great participation from several people who are regularly participating in the weekly vedic chanting sessions. It was conducted on 29th January at 5 pm.



Geeta Jayanthi 2021 – Quick Recollection





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 –

“Hi Swamiji,” greeted a young boy. Gurudev explained to the other devotees around him: “He knows my standard is Hi(gh). He is reminding me of my goal.”

Gurudev always advised that it was **necessary to discover a great purpose or goal in life**. He used to say: “It should be an ideal that you have chosen according to your heart, not an ideal that somebody has given you. It can be political, economic, anything. It should be that which appeals to you the most. Once you gain that great goal or ideal, apply yourself to it. A new enthusiasm will come to you. When there is enthusiasm, then sincerity, ardour, consistency of purpose and a new column of energy automatically follow in you. The quality of action depends on the ideal, which guides and inspires an individual. A person with no ideal feels fatigued in his work. This fatigue is caused by the strain and stress, which we invite, by craving for indulgence in sense objects and ceaseless expectation of the fruits of our actions. The secret of success, therefore, lies in activities undertaken with a **spirit of surrender to an ideal**.”

Updates from around the world -

- **Valmiki Ramayana** – June 5, 2021– Mar 22, 2022 [Virtual] – Swami Ramakrishnananda
 - Discourse and Analysis of Ramayana in three parts with the fragrance of Kampan and Kalidasan
- **Swadhyaya Series of Self Learning** – Online learning with access to materials for a lifetime
- **Home Study Vedanta Courses** - @ Chinmaya International Foundation
 - Foundation Vedanta Course
 - Advanced Vedanta Course
 - Bhagavad Geeta
 - Upanishads
 - Master Geeta Master Life
 - Make it Happen
 - Sanskrit Learning – Beginner & Advanced
 - Vedic Mathematics

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


Who is a Sevak?

Pujya Gurudev wrote thus to a devotee in 1957
Who is a Sevak? What is her/his duty?




- 🔸 *Surrender to Succeed!*
- 🔸 *Soldiers of the Renaissance Army!*
- 🔸 *The eternal voice of the Rishis salutes you!*
- 🔸 *You are serving a great cause and accomplishing a divine task!*
- 🔸 *Lord is the only organizer-in-chief of all our activities!*
- 🔸 *I expect each member to renounce all their mental reservations, personal anxieties, and individual planning!*
- 🔸 *Be ready to serve, strive, rest in Him in faith and goodwill, pray ever to be His faithful instruments, watch on!*
- 🔸 *What a glorious dividend of success we reap for our efforts!*
- 🔸 *Success and failure - is but a glorious vision of His leela!*
- 🔸 *Renounce all anxieties!*
- 🔸 *Meet each devotee and explain the work we are doing, ask for their cooperation and help, and watch!*
- 🔸 *Even when you get a refusal to help from individuals, watch on. Watch on in perfect detachment to see Him talking through that individual!*
- 🔸 *Smile at refusals; smile at those who offer to help; all activities are His play; Lord's own expressions everywhere!*
- 🔸 *Success is ours if we know how to work in surrender into Him - for He knows no failure ever!*

Vendata Madhuryam



CHINMAYA MISSION CHICAGO

A School of Vedantic Studies
Badri ✧ Yamunotri ✧ Gangotri

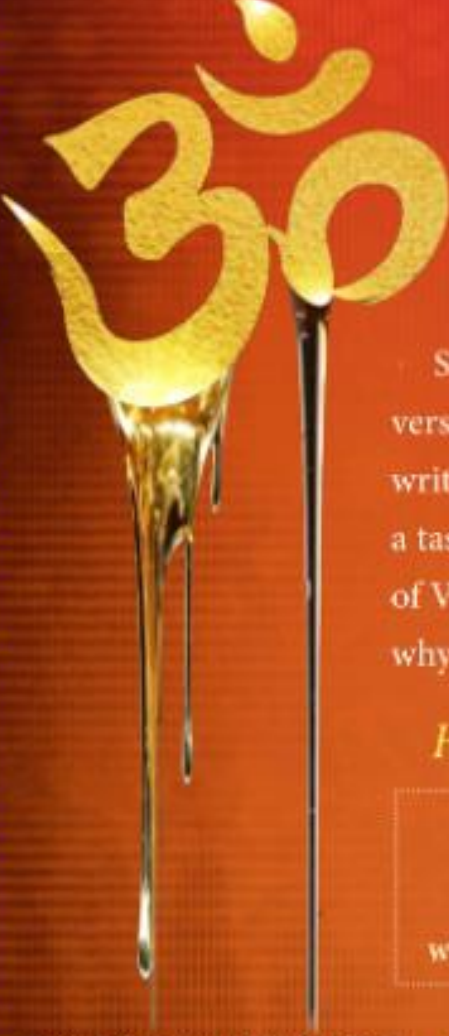


Vedanta Madhuryam

TALKS BY SWAMI ISHWARANANDA


Chinmaya Mission Los Angeles

TUE. - SAT., FEBRUARY 15 - 19, 2022 ✧ 7:30 PM - 8:30 PM



There is one and only one thing which is the nearest, the most beloved, the very source of happiness which never leaves us. It is the undotted 'I', my very own dearest Self.

Swamiji will expound on the verses of this nectarous composition written by Pujya Guruji, to give us a taste of the honey-like sweetness of Vedanta and compelling reasons why we should study it.



Happiness is available here and now!

Zoom Link: 831 4042 8390

Password: hariom22

www.youtube.com/ChinmayaMissionChicago

Premal Joshipura (847) 814 6072 • Kaushik Joshi (630) 886 4789 • Nitish Kanabar (347) 829 9099