



2024



Gurur Brahma Gurur Vishnu
Gurur Devo Maheshwaraha
Gurur Saakshaat Param Brahma
Tasmai Sri Gurave Namaha

JANUARY 2024



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	 New Year's Day 1	2	3	4	5	6
Ekadashi 7	8	9 ●	10	11	12	Sri Sai Satcharitra Parayan ★ 13
Makara Sankranti / Pongal 14	15	16	17	18	19	Sri Sai Naam Puja ★ 20
Ekadashi 21	22	23	24 ○	25	26	Sri Sai Vrat Puja ★ 27
28	29	30	31			

★ Mandir Event



Purnima



Amavasya

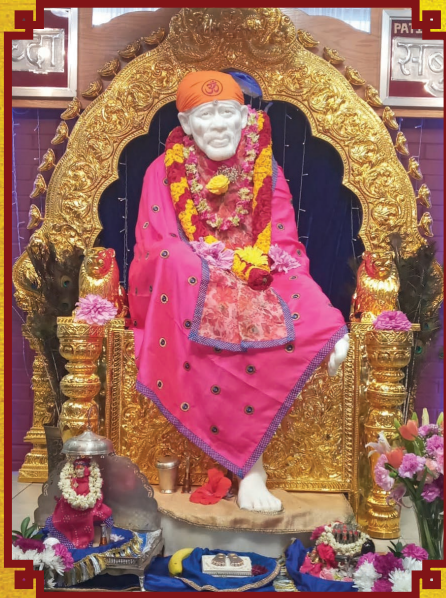
Sai Baba of Shirdi

Sai Baba of Shirdi was an Indian spiritual master and fakir, and a revered saint during and after his lifetime. The name Sai Baba comes from Sai (a Persian word used by Muslims to denote a holy person) and Baba (Hindi for father). Sai Baba's early years are a mystery. Sai Baba arrived in Shirdi, a rural village in the state of Maharashtra, in about 1858 and remained there until His Samadhi on October 15, 1918. He was initially denounced by the villagers of Shirdi as a madman. Eventually Sai Baba had a considerable following of devotees, attracted by His compelling teachings and the healing of the sick.

Sai Baba wore a head cloth, khafni and langot and lived in an abandoned mosque in Shirdi, where he kept a fire burning all day, a practice reminiscent of some Sufi orders. He named the mosque Dwarakamai, a decidedly Hindu name, and is said to have had substantial knowledge of the Quran and Hindu Puranas. His teachings combined elements of Hinduism and Islam and he taught using words and figures that drew from both traditions. He is thought by devotees to be an avatar of the Hindu god Dattatreya. Among his favourite sayings to devotees were "Allah Malik" (God is Master), "Sabka Malik Ek" (Everyone's Master is one).

The cardinal principles of Sai Baba are 'Shraddha' and 'Saburi'. Sai Baba explicitly asked for these two qualities in his devotees by giving his self-experiential instance that his 'Murshid' or Master asked from him only two Paise - one Shraddha and other the Saburi. Sai Baba condemned discrimination based on religion or caste. His teachings often took the form of paradoxical parables and displayed both his empathy for the poor and diseased and his contempt for rigid religious formalism. He preached the importance of realization of the self. His teachings concentrate on a moral code of love, forgiveness, helping others, charity, contentment, inner peace, and devotion to God and Guru. He stressed the importance of surrender to the true Sadguru, who, having trodden the path to divine consciousness, can lead the disciple through the jungle of spiritual growth.

FEBRUARY 2024



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1	2	3
	Ekadashi					Sri Sai Satcharitra Parayan
4	5	6	7	8	●	★ 10
		Vasant Panchami	Valentine's Day	Ratha Saptami		Sri Sai Naam Puja
11	12	13	14	15	16	★ 17
	Family Day 🇨🇦 Ekadashi					Sri Sai Vrat Puja
18	19	20	21	22	○	★ 24
25	26	27	28	29		

★ Mandir Event

○ Purnima

● Amavasya

The Shirdi Sai Mandir

The Shirdi of North America, is conveniently located at 2721 Markham Road in Toronto, Canada. Baba's Mandir spreads across 4 units with an area of approximately 8,000 square feet. The reception area has facilities to place footwear and jackets and access to rest rooms.

Baba's beautiful marble murthy, facing west, is located in the East end of the prayer hall in unit 8. Baba's benign look and mystical smile welcomes everybody to His Dwarkamai in Toronto. This is one of the very few Mandir's where devotees can touch Baba's murthy to seek blessings and energy. Devotees are requested to ensure that ornaments such as rings and bangles do not scratch Baba. Devotees may offer parikrama to Baba around the altar, except during Aarti, pujas and festivals.

There is a stage on Baba's left in unit 9 used by Bhajan singers. Prasad distribution (food distribution) is conducted in Unit 6 and can seat up to 100 devotees. The kitchen is located in the west corner of unit 6. A seating area is available in Unit 7 for seniors. The resource centre is located in Unit 7 wherein various articles such as Satcharita (in various languages), CDs, books can be acquired by devotees for nominal donations.



MARCH 2024



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
31					1	2
3	4	5	Ekadashi 6	7	Maha Sivaratri Rudra Abhishek ★ 8	Sri Sai Satcharitra Parayan ★ ● 9
Day Light Saving Starts 10	11	12	13	14	15	Sri Sai Naam Puja ★ 16
17	18	19	Ekadashi 20	21	22	23
Chhoti Holi, Holi Dahan Satyanarayan Vrat ○ ★ 24	Holi 25	26	27	28	Good Friday 🇨🇦 29	Sri Sai Vrat Puja ★ 30

★ Mandir Event

○ Purnima

● Amavasya

Eleven Promises of Sai Baba

- 1) No harm shall befall anybody who visits Shirdi
- 2) He who worships my Samadhi, his sorrow and suffering shall cease.
- 3) I will continue to protect my devotees even if I do not exist physically.
- 4) Trust in me and your prayer shall be answered.
- 5) I am eternal. Experience this for yourself.
- 6) Show me a person who has sought my refuge and has been turned away.
- 7) I will render myself to you with the same intensity as your faith in me.
- 8) I will always carry your burden and this is my firm promise.
- 9) I will help everybody. I am here to give you what you need.
- 10) I am indebted to everyone who has totally surrendered to me.
- 11) Blessed is the person who has become one with me.



**"Sada Nimbavrikshasya Mooladhivasat, SudhaSravinam Tiktamapiapriyamtam,
Tarum Kalpavrikshadhikham Sadhayantham, Namameeshvaram Sadgurum Sainatham"**

APRIL 2024

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	Easter Monday			Ekadashi		
	1	2	3	4	5	6
		Gudi Padwa Ugadi				Sri Sai Satcharitra Parayan
7	● 8	9	10	11	12	Baisakhi ★ 13
Vishu Putundu		Sri Rama Navami	Sri Rama Navami Celebrations	Sri Rama Navami Celebrations	Ekadashi	Sri Sai Naam Puja Sita Ram Kalyan
14	15	★ 16	★ 17	★ 18	19	★ 20
		Hanuman Jayanti				Hanuman Chalisa Recital
21	22	○ 23	24	25	26	★ 27
Sri Sai Vrat Puja						
★ 28	29	30				

★ Mandir Event

○ Purnima

● Amavasya



Nava Vidha Bhakti

- (1) **Shravana (Hearing);** Shravana is listening to the divine name and his Leela's, the stories of saints, as these may orient one's mind towards spirituality.
- (2) **Kirtana (Praying);** Kirtana is to glorify God by chanting his name or singing holy verses.
- (3) **Smarana (Remembering);** Smarana is remembrance of God or his forms, with steadfast faith and devotion, without nurturing any material desire. Constant repetition of a mantra or his sacred name, helps in concentration, checks the vicious tendencies of the mind, and raises the level of one's consciousness.
- (4) **Padasevana (resorting to the feet);** Pada sevana is service at the feet of the lord /guru, or to his paduka, emblematic of divine grace.
- (5) **Archana (Worship);** Archana is worship to beseech divine blessings.
- (6) **Namaskara (Bowling);** Vandana is a devotional gesture of prostration before a deity, guru, or a holy person, expressing gratitude.
- (7) **Dasya (Service);** Daasyam is a form of devotion where the devotee sees himself as not just the 'servant' of the Lord but also the servant of the Lord's devotees. Daasyam refers to a heartfelt yearning to be of personal service to God.
- (8) **Sakhyatva (Friendship);** It is a form of devotion where devotee considers himself to be a friend of supreme.
- (9) **Atma-Nivedana (surrender of the self).** Atma-Nivedana is surrendering one's body, mind, and soul to God, so as to take refuge in him, and remain guided by the universal purpose.

MAY 2024



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1	2	3	Ekadashi 4
5	6	7	8	9	Akshay Tritiya 10	Sri Sai Satcharitra Parayan ★ 11
Mother's Day 12	13	14	15	16	17	Sri Sai Naam Puja Ekadashi ★ 18
19	Victoria Day 20	Narasimha Jayanti 21	22	Buddha Purnima ○ 23	24	Sri Sai Vrat Puja ★ 25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

★ Mandir Event

○ Purnima

● Amavasya

Importance of Shri Sai Satcharita Parayan

Parayan means repeated chanting/singing of Vedas, Shlokas or Puranas. Akhand Parayan means reading a scripture from beginning to end in one sitting. Devotees are encouraged to read Sai Satcharita on a daily basis. The reading can fulfill a devotee's materialistic desires however more importantly, devotees will be able to achieve Baba's Grace through this process. All that Baba expects from devotees is Shraddha (love) and Saburi (firm faith). He is capable of seeing the devotee's worth, his motive, his devotion, his faith and his past, present and future. It is important for devotees to accept that the desired result may not be immediately blessed by Baba and they should not be disheartened. Baba is the ultimate doer and what He chooses to do shall be the best for the devotee. Devotees should completely surrender the outcome to Baba and Baba shall bless each according to his Prarabdh or worthiness.

Guidelines for Parayan.

Baba did not believe in outward rituals therefore, there are no specific rules to conduct a Parayan.

- Devotees who wish to do weekly Parayan (Saptah) (complete the full book Sri Sai Satcharitra in 7 days) should start reading the book from Thursday and finish the last chapter the following Thursday.
- Select a clean and quiet place that can be used every day for the Parayan. Seek Baba's blessings to complete the Parayan without any interruptions or difficulties.
- Sai Satcharita has total 51 chapters which can be divided into 7 chapters per day. Devotees can read all 7 chapters at one go or they can read the 7 chapters at convenient times through the day. Each chapter requires about 15 minutes to read at a steady pace.
- The last chapter (epilogue) in Sai Satcharita gives complete detail about results of Sai Satcharita Parayan.
- Offer Prasad (Naivadya) to Baba everyday as per your capabilities. Fruits, dry fruit, sugar candy, raisins or cooked prasad can be offered.

JUNE 2024



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
30 Ekadashi						1 Sri Sai Satcharitra Parayan
2	3	4	5	● 6	7	★ 8
9 Father's Day	10 Nirjala Ekadasi	11	12	13	14	Sri Sai Naam Puja ★ 15
16	17	18	19	20 ○	21	Sri Sai Vrat Puja ★ 22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29

★ Mandir Event

○ Purnima

● Amavasya

Sai Baba explicitly asked for these two qualities from his devotees

Shraddha

'Shraddha' is faith with love and reverence. Such faith or trust is generated out of conviction, which may not be the result of any rational belief or intellectual wisdom, but a spiritual inspiration.

Baba reiterated that steadfast love in God is the gateway to eternity. He used the instance of a mother tortoise to illustrate this point. The mother - tortoise may be on the other side of the river, whereas her children are on the far side. She does not transfer food and water to her children by way of her loving glances. Yet, her loving looks are enough to protect the children. Similarly, people who lovingly look at God get his reciprocity. God's looks offer peace, protection and prosperity for his children. Baba's teaching, both direct and indirect explicate the significance of 'Shraddha'. Baba reiterates the spiritual guidance of Shri Krishna to Arjun - "Who is ever offers to Me with love or devotion, a leaf, a flower, a fruit or water, that offering of pure love is readily accepted by Me".

Saburi

'Saburi'; is patience and perseverance. Saburi is a quality needed throughout any path to reach its goal. As a hunter waits patiently and motionlessly for his target a devotee too has to wait patiently for attaining his goal. There are many trying situations in life. A test may come in the form of frustration, distress, agony, illness, mishaps, prolonged wait or a loss. In such moments we should seek support from the Guru and hold on him. Patience and faith will see us through every turmoil of life.

JULY 2024



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	 Canada Day Ekadashi 1	2	3	4	● 5	6
Jagannath Rath Yatra 7	8	9	10	11	12	Sri Sai Satcharitra Parayan 13
14	15	16	Devashayani Ekadashi 17	18	Guru Purnima Celebrations 19	Guru Purnima Celebrations 20
Guru Purnima Sai Nath Rath Yatra ○ 21	22	23	24	25	26	Sri Sai Vrat Puja 27
28	29	30	Ekadashi 31			

★ Mandir Event

○ Purnima

● Amavasya

Importance of Namasmaran

Namasmaran means remembering or chanting Sai Baba name repeatedly. It is an important spiritual practice for every aspirant endeavouring to reach Baba. Whenever his name is chanted, sung or remembered, it should have the feeling of pure love, bhava, with it. It should be a call for his divine love, from the very depth of our heart seeking his presence, his love and His grace.

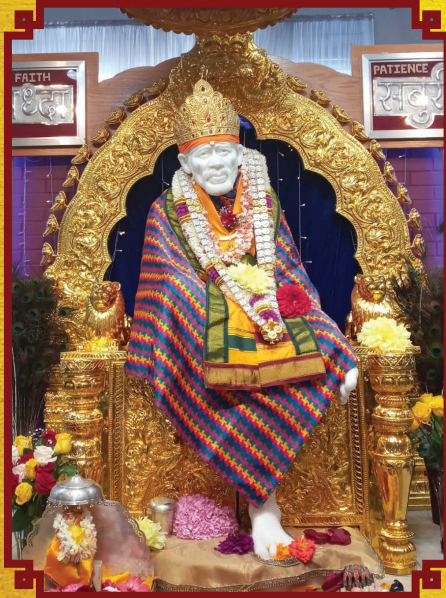
Chapter 3, Shri Sai Satcharita

"If a man utters my name with love, I shall fulfill all his wishes, increase his devotion. And if he sings earnestly my life and my deeds, him I shall protect him from all sides. Those devotees, who are attached to me, heart and soul, will naturally feel happiness, when they hear these stories. Believe me that if anybody sings My Leelas, I will give him infinite joy and everlasting contentment. It is my special characteristic to free any person, who surrenders completely to Me, and who does worship Me faithfully, and who remembers me, and meditates on me constantly".

"How can they be conscious of worldly objects and sensations, who utter my name, who worship me, who think of my stories and my life and who thus always remember me? I shall draw out my devotees from the jaws of death. If my stories are listened to, all the diseases will be got rid of. So, hear my stories with respect; and think and meditate on them, assimilate them. This is the way of happiness and contentment. The pride and egoism of my devotees will vanish, the mind of the hearers will be set at rest; and if it has wholehearted and complete faith, it will be one with Supreme Consciousness. The simple remembrance of my name as Sai, Sai will do away with sins of speech and hearing".



AUGUST 2024



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1	2	3
● 4	Civic Holiday 🇨🇦 5	6	7	8	Naga Panchami	Sri Sai Satcharitra Parayan
11	12	13	14	Ekadashi 15	Varalakshmi Vrat 16	Sri Sai Naam Puja ★ 17
18	Gayatri Jayanti Raksha Bandan ○ 19	20	21	22	23	Sri Sai Vrat Puja ★ 24
25	Janmashtami ★ 26	27	28	Ekadashi 29	30	Gopal Kala Annakkut ★ 31

★ Mandir Event

○ Purnima

● Amavasya

Pitru Paksha

Pitru Paksha, also known as Mahalaya Paksha, is a sacred period observed to pay homage to one's ancestors.

The Significance of Pitru Paksha

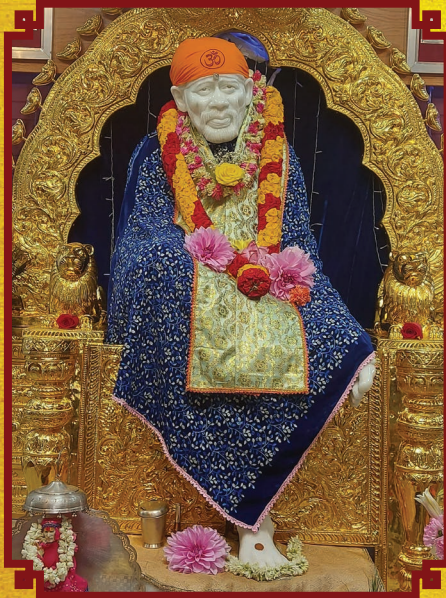
Pitru Paksha occurs during the waning phase of the moon in the Hindu month of Bhadrapada, usually in September / October. It is believed to be a time when the gates of the ancestral realm open, allowing the souls of the departed to temporarily visit the earthly plane. During this period, Hindus perform various rituals like Tarpan, Shradh ceremonies to honor their forefathers and seek their blessings.

Pitru paksh 2024 will start on September 18, 2024, and end on October 2 2024 .This is considered an auspicious time to perform rituals likes Pitru Tarpan, Shardh or Pind Dan. The last day of Pitru Paksha, known as Sarvapitri Amavasya or Mahalaya Amavasya, is the most significant day of Pitru Paksha.

**Mandir will organise rituals for pitru tarpan on
October 1,2024 - Sarvapitri Amavasya
for more details visit our website.**



SEPTEMBER 2024



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	Labour Day 🇨🇦				Ganesh Chaturthi	
1	● 2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	Sri Sai Satcharitra Parayan Ekadashi ★ Onam 14
15	Ananta Chaturdashi	○ 17	Pitru Paksha Begins 18	19	20	Sri Sai Naam Puja ★ 21
22	23	24	25	26	Ekadashi 27	Sri Sai Vrat Puja ★ 28
29	National Day For Truth And Reconciliation 30					

★ Mandir Event

○ Purnima

● Amavasya

Mandir Timing

Mon | Tue | Wed | Fri | Sun
7:00 am – 8:30 pm

Thursday | Saturday
7:00 am – 10:00 pm

Aarti Timing

Mon | Tue | Wed | Fri | Sun

7:00 am Kakad Aarti, Abhishek Puja
12:00 Noon Madhyan Aarti
6:00 pm Dhoop Aarti
8:00 pm Shej Aarti

Thursday | Saturday

7:00 am Kakad Aarti, Abhishek Puja
12:00 Noon Madhyan Aarti
7:30 pm Dhoop Aarti
9:30 pm Shej Aarti

Directions – Arriving By TTC:

Take Markham Rd N Bus 102 or 102B or 102C or 102D (Except 102 A) from Warden station on Bloor-Danforth subway line. After crossing Finch Ave. East, get off at Nashdene Rd. Mandir is 2 mins walk towards East from the Bus stop. Please refer to TTC website for weekend and updated schedules.

Interested in volunteering at Baba's Mandir?

Visit Volunteering at Baba's Mandir page at www.theshirdisaimandir.ca and submit your details.

Duties are assigned by the Mandir's Volunteer Coordination committee after successful completion of security clearance formalities as per Mandir policies.



OCTOBER 2024



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		Sarva Pitri Amavasya	Pitru Paksha Ends	Navratri Begins	Garba Dandiya	Garba Dandiya
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	Durga Astami Dassera Celebrations	Navami Dassera Celebrations	Sri Sai Satcharitra Parayan Vijaya Dasami
Ekadashi	Thanksgiving 🇨🇦		Sharad Pournima/ Kojagiri Pournima	★ 10	★ 11	★ 12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
Karwa Chauth						Sri Sai Vrat Puja
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
Ekadashi		Dhanteras	Narak Chaturdashi	Diwali Lakshmi Puja		
27	28	29	30	31		

★ Mandir Event

○ Purnima

● Amavasya

Salient features of Baba's Mandir

Objective: Establish and operate a Mandir (Temple) dedicated to Sri Shirdi Sai Baba, promote His philosophy and provide services that encourage spiritual development for all.

- Launch Date: Vijaya Dashami (October 12, 2005)
- Guiding Principles: Shraddha (firm faith) and Saburi (patience or perseverance)
- Rituals: Similar to current practices in Shirdi Sai Baba Samadhi Temple, Shirdi, India.
- Legal Status: Registered not-for-profit, charitable organization (CRA# 83545 2145 RR0001)
- Source of Income: Donations from devotees and membership subscriptions.
- Tax-deductible Donations: Donations are tax-exempt, tax receipts will be issued.
- Membership: Available to those who meet the criteria set and in accordance with Mandir's eligibility requirements.
- Operated By: A growing team of dedicated volunteers and devotees.
- Code of Conduct: To be adhered in all Mandir activities.
Visit www.theshirdisaimandir.ca to review Code of Conduct.
- No Solicitation. Bye-Law #1.3: The Shirdi Sai Mandir and all its holdings, real or personal without limitation shall not be used by any individual or a corporation or a business entity for their personal gain or otherwise whatsoever.

Services

Paduka for Worship: padukas@theshirdisaimandir.ca

Shawl Offering: shawl@theshirdisaimandir.ca

Prasad Offering: prasad@theshirdisaimandir.ca



NOVEMBER 2024

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					Bali Pratipada Gujrati New Year 1	Bhaiya Dooj Annakut ★ 2
3	4	5	6	7 Chhath Puja	8	Sri Sai Satcharitra Parayan ★ 9
10	Remembrance Day Deva Utthan Ekadashi 11	12	13	14	Kartika Purnima Satyanarayan Vrath ○★ 15	Sri Sai Naam Puja ★ 16
17	18	19	20	21	22	Rudra Abhishek ★ 23
24	25	Ekadashi 26	27	28	29	Sri Sai Vrat Puja ●★ 30

★ Mandir Event

○ Purnima

● Amavasya

Guidelines for all devotees

This is Baba's Mandir and the employees and volunteers are here to make your visit memorable. Please maintain sanctity of the temple and be aware of your surroundings. We request your support and cooperation, which is your sewa towards other devotees.

Please:

- Join the queue for Baba's darshan patiently and wait for your turn. Everybody will get a chance to offer worship to Baba.
- Watch over your children and ensure that they do not disturb other devotees in the Mandir.
- Do not use your cell phone on Mandir premises and disturb other devotees.
- Park on Baba's land. Parking is not permitted in the Mandir condominium complex.
- Do not waste Prasad and take only one container per person. After eating Prasad, dispose off garbage in the waste bin and stack used plates / containers / glasses near the garbage bins as directed by volunteers. Do not throw garbage on the Mandir premises or Mandir parking lot.
- Do not leave valuables and keys in your jacket pockets.
- Email feedback and suggestions for improvement to info@theshirdisaimandir.ca



DECEMBER 2024



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1	2	3	4	5	6	Volunteer Appreciation Day ★ 7
8	9	10	Gita Jayanti Ekadashi 11	12	13	Sri Sai Satcharitra Parayan Dattatreya Jayanti ★ ○ 14
15	16	17	18	19	20	Sri Sai Vrat Puja ★ 21
22	23	24	Christmas Day Bhajanotsav 🇨🇦 ★ 25	Boxing Day Ekadashi 🇨🇦 26	27	Sri Sai Naam Puja ★ 28
29	● 30	31				

★ Mandir Event

○ Purnima

● Amavasya

Proposed Sai Niwas



The Shirdi Sai Mandir and Cultural Centre

2721 Markham Rd, Unit 8, Toronto, Ontario, M1X 1L5, Canada

www.theshirdisaimandir.ca Email: info@theshirdisaimandir.ca Tel: (647) 444-4724