## Vaikunta Ekadasi Celebrations

Abhisekham Uttara Dwara Darshanam Samoohika Vishnu Sahasra Naama Laksha Archana Deepalankara Seva Garuda Vahana Seva



# Austin Hindu Temple & Community Center Jan 11 2014

na GaayathryA para manthra: na Maathu para dhaivatham na KaasyA: paramam theertham na EkAdasyA: samam vratham

(There is no manthram that is superior to Gaayathri manthram; there is no dhaivam superior to one's mother; there is no sanctifying theertham better than Kaasi and there is no vratham that is more sacred than EkAdasi Vratham.

#### **Morning Program**

6:30 AM: Thiruppavai

7:00 AM : Sri Venkateswara Abhishekam &

**Special Alamkaram** 

8:30 AM: Parama Pada Dwara Darshanam (Uttara

**Dwara Darshanam**)

10:00 AM - Samoohika Vishnu Sahasra Naama

Archana - Batch 1

11:00 AM: Bhogam & Theertha Prasadam

Archanas - All Day

#### **Evening Program**

5:00 PM – Samoohika Vishnu Sahasra Naama Archana – Batch 2

7:00 PM – Deepalankaara Seva

7:30 PM – KaLa Archana – Classical Dances 8:00 PM: Garuda Vahana Procession

8:30 PM: Final Archana, Maha Mangala Harathi and

Prasadam

Akhanda Vishnu Sahasra Naama Parayana - All Day

### Samoohika Vishnu Sahasranaama Lakshaarchana (chanting of Lord's name, 100K times) 10 AM – Batch 1 & 5 PM – Batch 2

(a unique Vishnu Sahasra Naama archana where devotees perform archana with flowers after chanting every name in Vishnu Sahasranaamam and finally offer flowers at the Lord's feet. AHT is calling for at least 108 devotees to participate in this unique seva. A devotee can participate in either the 10 AM batch, 5 PM batch, OR both batches. **Participation in this seva is Free. Please bring some flowers and fruits to offer. AHT requests devotees to pre-register for this seva by filling out the following form.** Pre-registrations help AHT to make seating arrangements accordingly)

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/144HfNmldaVNwfPO846dvgBy4EA ko0HldytaGbl8NQ4/viewform

The Dhanurmasa sukla paksha ekadasi is called **Vaikunta Ekadasi**. On this day the Lord is brought from the inner shrine through the northern gate known as the parama pada Dwaram (the gateway to salvation) or 'the Gate of Vaikunta'. Typically this gate which remains closed throughout the year, is opened only on this occasion. Devotees pass through this gate and attain punya. Lord Vishnu will confer all happiness in their present life as well as liberation after death.

The importance of the *ekadasi vrata* is that one can conquer rajasic and tamasic tendencies in us through fasting. This helps us reach our ultimate destination, Vaikunta, which is the place or stage of no *'kuntitha'* or dullness, stupidity and misery.

Please join to travel with the Lord thru parama padha Dwaram and get Moksha Siddhi.

Also, please mark your calendar for the Andal (Goda Devi) Kalyanam at 7 PM on Monday Jan 13 2014