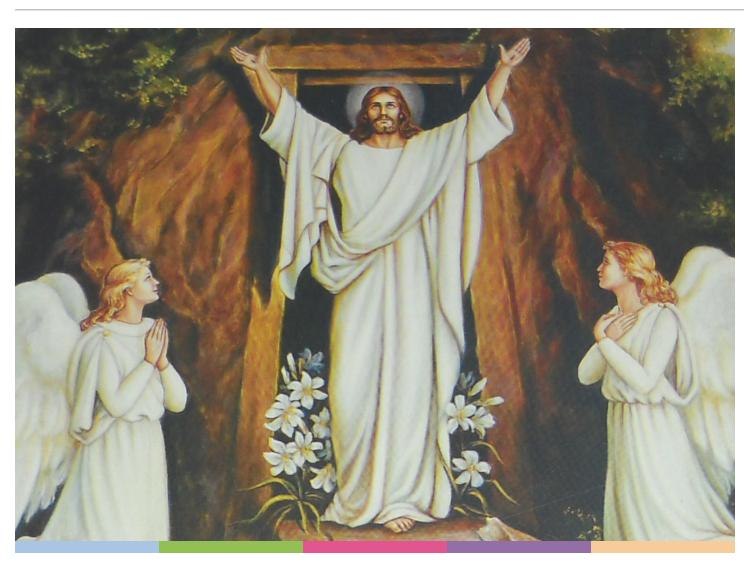




P3 / MAHA SAMADHI DAY P4 / GAMES CORNER

# Sai Dharmam

SRI SATHYA SAI BABA CENTRE OF COOKSVILLE



Easter, the day when Christians across the world celebrate not only the life but also the resurrection of Jesus Christ. Jesus had lived his life in service to humanity and taught those surrounding him the message of love. The Sunday following his crucifixion, some of his disciples had returned to visit his tomb but to their surprise found that

he was no longer there. Instead, they came upon an angel who addressed to them that Jesus was no longer physically present on earth, however, has risen. He is God, and is now, one with God. From that day onwards, Easter Sunday was to be celebrated every year. Jesus had no ill will for anyone. He even conveyed that he loved those who came forward to kill him and wound him. That is the power of love. Sathya Sai Baba has shared stories of Jesus' life to respective devotees and has always stated, "Be a good Christian. Be a true Christian. Be a better Christian." Likewise, he would say, all other followers should also practice the same for their respective devotees.

## Rama Navami

On April 5th, Hindus all over the world will celebrate Rama Navami. Each year, it is celebrated on the ninth day of the Hindu calendar. Sri Rama Navami is the festival that celebrates the birth of Lord Sri Rama, the Avatar of the Treta age. At the time of his return to Ayodhya, the citizens of Ayodhya celebrated it by lighting up the entire town with lamps and candles and conducted many festivities. Today, not much has changed. Those who celebrate, sing bhajans about Lord Rama and Mother Sita and decorate altars of them with garlands of flowers. Poojas are also performed towards them, offering fruits and sweets. A marriage of Rama and Sita idols can also be conducted. In some areas, communities celebrate Rama Navami by holding a parade with loud music, altars of Lord Rama and Mother Sita and many happy people. Just like many years ago, people are still happy to celebrate that Lord Rama is with them, either in his physical form or divine one. \*\*



## **Devotee Speaks**





I started following Swami in 1985. Everytime I went to I Puttaparthy or Whitefield to see him, I was completely at bliss and was even fortunate enough to receive padanamaskar. From 1984 to 1991, I completed my higher studies in India and did my Bharatanatyam diploma there as well. Therefore, my parents and I were really blessed to see our dear lord atleast twice a year while in India. Swami would always walk slowly, talking to a few devotees and materialize vibhuti for others. Today I am so happy to say that I have been given many opportunities to teach children Bharatanatyam because I feel that my studies in this field was truly a gift to me by Swami himself. My arangetram was completed in Trichy, India with his blessings and I know I couldn't have done it without his guidance. I can honestly tell my fellow sai sisters and brothers that I've

experienced several hardships in the past couple of years and almost gave up in life. I didn't know what to do, especially when I recently lost my mother and felt that she was the only guide I had during those tough times. But I know it is Swami who literally held my hand every step of the way. I sometimes do get upset with Baba for taking my mother away from me, and it's the only worry I have now, but I can't explain his miracles. He is omnipresent, and I know he will never let go.

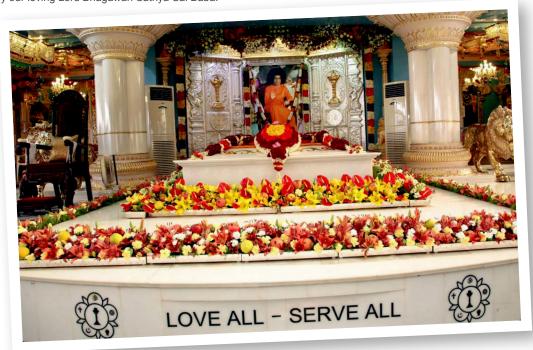
April 2017

## Maha Samadhi Day



Swami's Samadhi day is a very important day that every devote should know about. On April 24 at 7:40AM, Swami left his physical form. Sathya Sai devotees all over the world remember the day swami left his physical form by practicing the teachings of the Lord Sathya Sai. This year, Aradhana Mahotsavam will be remembered through the days of March 28th to April 27th. Sathya Sai International Organization recommends to take 30 days of intense spiritual practice to express our gratitude and unconditional love showered upon us by our loving Lord Bhagawan Sathya Sai Baba.

With this intense sadhana, we should live by the Swami's words. There are more activities that Sathya Sai devotees are encouraging us to do. For instance, remembering and counting the blessings received from Bhagawan during our lifetime. Or daily chanting of "Om Sri Sai Ram", "Sai Gayathri" and "Samastha Loka Sukhino Bhuvantu" and many more. The Nine Point Code of Conduct is an excellent resource to practice during this time. If you stay on track with that, you are practicing all of Swami's teachings. \*\*



#### **BHAJAN**

Rama Rama Sai Rama
Parthipurisha Sai Ram
Rama Rama Sai Rama
Madhura Manohara Sundara Naam
Shyamala Komala Nayanabhi Ram
Ravikula Mandana Rajana Rama
Parama Pavana Mangala Dham

Hail to Rama and to Sai; Sai, who is Lord of Puttaparti; His very sweet, beautiful name enchants the mind; His cloud-like soft complexion pleases our eyes; Descendent of the race of the sun, favourite Lord; Supreme purifier, abode of all good.



### ∃□ GAMES CORNER

#### Fill in the Blanks **WORD BANK** was a devotee of Lord Shiva. To impress god, he sacrificed his head. Ravana This happened ten times after which Lord Shiva gave him all those heads. Krishna 2. Rama's principle devotee was \_\_\_\_\_, a symbol of devotion and right Swami Hanuman 3. After defeating the evil Ravana, Rama ruled his kingdom \_\_\_ Ayodhya years of complete peace and prosperity Puttaparthi Matching a. Faster the conscious departure from the physical body of a realized soul but also the shrine where the physical body is buried. b. Mahasamadhi Sunday, April 16 November 23, 1926 in the village of Puttaparthi, in the state of c. Jesus Andhra Pradesh in South India. a religious leader whose life and teachings are recorded in the d. Bhagavad Gita Bible's New Testament. It is a celebration of Jesus Christ returning from the dead. e. Resurrection Day Christians believe that it is the holiest day in the year. 700-verse Hindu scripture in Sanskrit that is part of the Hindu f. Sri Sathya Sai Baba epic Mahabharata 1. "Every profession, every stage of life, each gender, each period of life as fixed **WORD BANK** by age - childhood, boyhood, adolescence, youth, middle age, old age - has duties and obligations, which set the norm and guide the individual to benefit Sathya himself and society." - Swami

2. "Truth is that which is not modified by time, space or guna (attribute). It is the same forever, unaffected and unchanging; it is never proved false by some subsequent event or knowledge."

3. "When man thinks, speaks, and acts along virtuous lines, his conscience will be clean and he will have inner peace. Knowledge is power, it is said; but virtue is peace."

4. "I must tell you of the paramount importance of love. Love is God; live in love. God is the embodiment of perfect love. He can be known and realized, reached and won, only through love. You can see the moon only with the help of moonlight; you can see God only through the rays of love." - Ref: "Sathya Sai Speaks", Vol. – XII, Chapter - 11

5. "Another facet of Sathya (Truth). When once you are aware of the kinship of all the beings, the fundamental Atmic unity and their oneness with God, you will not knowingly cause pain or distress to another." - Ref: "Sathya Sai Speaks", Vol. – VII, Chapter – 46.

Dharma

Shanthi

Prema

Ahimsa

April 2017