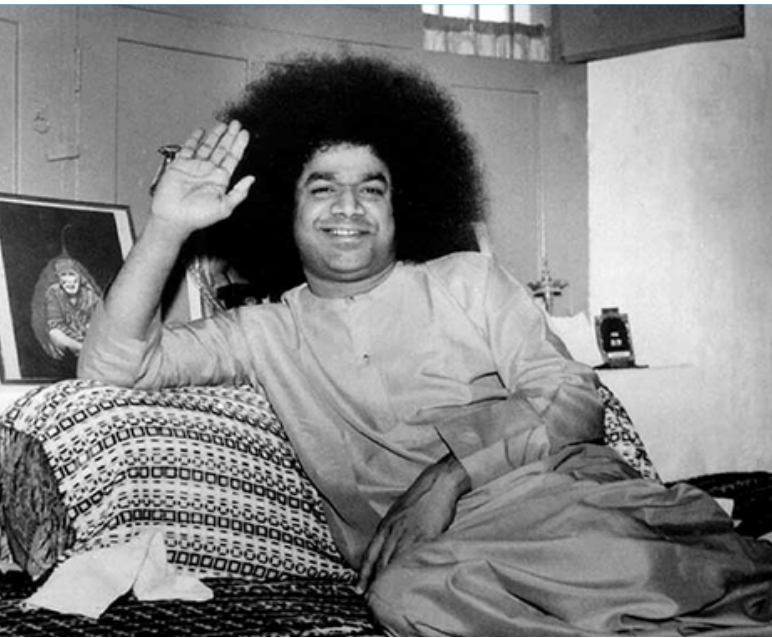


SAI DHARMAM

SRI SATHYA SAI BABA CENTRE OF COOKSVILLE



AVATAR

When the Divine comes down as Avatar - whether it be as Rama or as Krishna, Matsya (fish), Varaha (boar) or Vamana (dwarf) - it is only for one purpose. You recognise only the momentary results of the advent. But you should note that the Divine comes as Avatar only to teach mankind the truth about love. "Oh man, it is because you lack love and are filled with selfishness that the world is plunging into so much conflict and chaos. It is only when you develop love and the spirit of sacrifice that you will realise the divinity that is in the human." The man who has no spirit of thyaga (sacrifice) will be a prey to all ills. A man without love is a living corpse. It is love and sacrifice which makes man divine. Love alone is the fruit of love. Love is its own witness. There is no trace of self-interest in it. Because love exists, for its own sake, it has no fear. It is to teach humanity the way of love that Avatars come in the world. The world displays the diversity that has emanated from the One. The Divine demonstrates the unity that subsumes the diversity. Recognition of this "Unity in Diversity" can be learnt only from the Divine. The Krishna Avatar has been described in various ways: As a sport of the Divine in human form, as an ideal for the world, as a sacred ruler, as a manifestation of the Atma. The Divine comes as Avatar to proclaim the pure, unsullied and disinterested love of devotees towards God. People may consider that the Avatar's activities include punishment of the wicked, protection of the good, weeding out of unrighteousness and restoration of righteousness. This is how they may look at the Avatar's doings. But that is not the way the Lord sees things. There is nothing bad in God's view. Hence there should be no hatred or ill-will towards any being. It is only when you love all, that you can be said to love God.

September 3, 1988

Reflection Questions:

1. "It is love and sacrifice which make man divine". As a human, how can we demonstrate love, be selfless, and the spirit of sacrifice?
2. As a society, we view our actions as either good or bad and/or right or wrong based on our morals, values, and beliefs. All that are deemed as "bad" or "wrong" are known as actions that receive hate as it does not line up with society's values. However, God does not view the world through punishments or hatred, only through love. How can we as a society refrain from hatred and having ill-intentions towards each other?

Reference: https://archive.sssmediacentre.org/journals/vol_11/017AN13/new-year-message-sathya-sai-baba-radiosai.htm

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*"I have work
to do. My
devotees are
calling"*

SATHYA SAI BABA



DEVOTEE SPEAKS

“Why fear when I am here?”. This quote has guided me all my life. Throughout the trials and tribulations that life offers, knowing that Swami will always be by my side in those moments have given me a peace of mind. However, one should not only recognize the Divine in times of trouble. Although it is sometimes natural for humans to do this, we must remember to recognize Him in all times of our lives, especially in times of gratitude. I think everyone has their own personal relationship with God. I see Him as my best friend; someone who I talk to everyday and someone who I can talk to anything about. Others may recognize the Divine while singing bhajans or going to the temple. Whatever the case is, making sure that you recognize the Divine Being in all moments of your life is crucial. Once I understood this, I found myself going through life with Him always holding my hand right by my side. What does this bring me? This brings me peace. As I navigate through adulthood through this materialistic society, I always have the comfort of knowing that He is always by my side. It is with His guidance that I feel comforted, no matter what I go through. This would be the benefit that I derive from Him.



"My Life is My Message."

SATHYA SAI BABA

SERVICE WING MESSAGE

An 'Avatar' is defined as the incarnation (bodily manifestation) of the Supreme Being. The word 'Avatar' is derived from the Sanskrit word 'Avataram' which means 'descent', and usually implies a deliberate descent of the Divine into the mortal realms to reveal the Absolute Truth to humanity and remind them of their true divine nature. Though Avatars may appear in different forms at different times, places and circumstances, yet they are all the manifestations of the One Supreme Lord.

Bhagawan Sri Sathya Sai Baba, the Avatar of the Age, has succinctly explained the meaning and the reason for the descent of the Avatar in the following verse:

"Avatarinchuta yanutalo Arthamemi?
Janulapai Preethi Vaatsalya Paratha
thoda
Vaari Sthaayaiki Daivambu Vachchu
Bhuviki
Jeeva Prajnatho baatuga Daiva prajna"

He says that Formless God takes a form and descends upon the Earth as an expression of His boundless love and affection towards humanity. The Avatar is an enigmatic, yet delightful blend of individual consciousness and the Divine Consciousness. The Avatar behaves in a human way so that mankind can feel kinship with Him, but rises to His super-human heights so that mankind can aspire to reach those heights.

This doctrine of Avatarhood has had a great impact on the Hindu religious life, for, it means that God manifests Himself

in a form that can be appreciated even by the least sophisticated. Rama and Krishna have remained prominent as beloved and adored manifestations of the Divine for thousands of years among Hindus.

Activities of Service Wings:

The service wing has been a pillar in the Cooksville Sai Centre and is involved in all the functions and activities organised in the centre. We not only coordinate, facilitate and help for the smooth running of the centre, we also do the routine maintenance which is the key aspect for keeping the centre functioning.

Past completed projects:

1. Installation of new white cabinets in the Pooja room.
2. Installing backsplash in the Pooja room.
3. Running new ECOBEE compatible wires for the furnaces.
4. Installing a new central vacuum cleaner in the hall.
5. Installing a new dishwasher in the kitchen.
6. Moving of props items from storage to one devotee basement.

Upcoming Projects:

1. Building new shelves for Shirdi and Ganapati Babas statues.
2. Tidying up at the back of the altar for the props woods.
3. Working on getting a new mixer for the centre audio system .
4. Planning up for the summer activities, tree planting or beach cleaning.

MONTHLY CALENDAR

FEBRUARY

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1	2 BHAJANS - YOUTH ADULT	3 UNIVERSAL HEALING PRAYERS	4 SSE CLASSES VIRTUAL SSE GROUP 2 AT CENTRE
5 SHIVARATHRI BHAJAN PRACTICE	6	7	8	9 BHAJANS - SSE STUDENT	10	11 SSE CLASSES VIRTUAL SSE GROUP 3 AT CENTRE
12 SHIVARATHRI BHAJAN PRACTICE	13	14	15	16 BHAJANS - ADULTS STUDY CIRCLE	17	18 NO SSE MAHA SHIVARATHRI
19	20	21	22	23 BHAJANS - MIXED BHAJAN <small>30mins- Gayathri Chanting</small>	24	25 SSE CLASSES VIRTUAL SSE GROUP 4 AT CENTRE
26	27	28	1	2 BHAJANS - YOUTH ADULT	3 UNIVERSAL HEALING PRAYERS	4 SSE CLASSES VIRTUAL SSE GROUP 2 AT CENTRE





GAME

Scan the QR Code or click on the URL to play Avatar Matching Game.

URL

<https://interacty.me/projects/ebd663296af931b6>

BHAJAN

Sai Baba Sai Baba Sathya Sai Avatar of the Lord
Rama Krishna Jesus Mohammad Buddha Zorastra Sai Ram
Every Name Is Your Holy Name Sai Every Form Is Your Form Divine
Sai Baba Sai Baba Sathya Sai Avatar of the Lord
Let Me Reach You Dear Sai Let Me Reach You Let Me Reach You Inside of My Heart
Let Me Please You Dear Lord With My Service Let Me Serve You Dear Lord With My Love
I Surrender to You, I Surrender to You, Lord Sri Sai Ram (2)