

## JULY 2023

### ALL EVENTS IN PERSON AND ONLINE

UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED

Go to [vedanta.org](http://vedanta.org) for internet links

### HOLLYWOOD TEMPLE

#### SUNDAY SPIRITUAL TALKS 11 AM

- 2 **How to Worship God**  
**Swami Kripamayananda**  
**Vedanta Society of Toronto**
- 9 "Fear Not, O Learned One!"  
Swami Sarvadevananda
- 16 Let Thy Will Be Done  
Swami Sumanasananda
- 23 **One Existence appearing as Many**  
**Swami Sarvapriyananda**  
**Vedanta Society of New York**
- 30 Worship of the Spirit by the Spirit  
Pravrajika Sevaprana

#### Classes

##### Tuesdays 4:30 PM

- 4 **No Class**  
11,18,25 *Srimad Bhagavatam*  
Swami Sarvadevananda

##### Tuesdays 7:30 PM

- 4 **No Class**  
11,25 *Shanti Gita*  
Swami Sarvadevananda

**Special Series with Swami Sarvapriyananda**  
**18, 19, 20 Tues. Wed. Thur.**  
**Contemplating Non-duality at Dawn I, II, III**

### Wednesdays 7:30 PM

- Gospel of Sri Ramakrishna*  
5,12 Swami Sarvadevananda  
19 **See special series first column**  
26 Swami Medhananda

### Thursdays 7:30 PM

- 6 Vivekananda's "Hindu Dharma  
and Sri Ramakrishna": A Close  
Reading · Swami Medhananda
- 13 **In Search of the Hidden Manna**  
**Swami Shivarchanananda**  
**Vedanta Society of St. Louis**
- 20 **See Special Series first column**  
27 Karma Yoga  
Swami Mahayogananda

### Fridays 7:30 PM classes

*Suspended during July and August*

### OTHER EVENTS

- 22 Sat. 9 AM – 1 PM  
Karma Yoga Day

### Saturday chanting and retreat

- Online Only** Pravrajika Dayaprana  
1, 8, 29 2:30 – 4 PM Chanting Class  
22 Antaryoga Retreat on  
*Inspired Talks* 5:45 – 8:30 AM  
Register by July 20  
[dayaprana@vedanta.org](mailto:dayaprana@vedanta.org)

### Sundays 9 to 10:30 AM Sanskrit Class

- Sukirtha Alagaraswamy  
Contact: [sukirtha@vedanta.org](mailto:sukirtha@vedanta.org)
- 28 **Friday Vigil 7 AM**  
29 **7:30 PM Special Kirtan with**  
**Swami Nirvanananda Saraswati**  
**from Italy**

## SANTA BARBARA TEMPLE

### SUNDAY SPIRITUAL TALKS 11 AM

- 2 From Will-Power to Love  
Swami Arupeshananda
- 9 **A Message from the Divine Mother**  
**Swami Shivarchanananda**  
**Vedanta Society of St. Louis**
- 16 What is Spirituality?  
Swami Vedarupananda
- 23 Mindfulness with a Vedantic Twist  
Swami Medhananda
- 30 "Fear Not, O Learned One!"  
Swami Sarvadevananda

### Classes and Other Events

#### Wednesdays 5 PM

*Memories of a Loving Soul:*  
*Swami Premananda*  
by Swami Prabhavanada  
Pravrajika Krishnaprana

#### Friday 5 PM

- 21 **Emptiness**  
**Swami Sarvapriyananda**  
**Vedanta Society of New York**

#### Saturdays 5 PM

- 1 **Simplicity for Simplicity**  
**Swami Kripamayananda**
- 8, 15 *Gospel of Ramakrishna*  
15 9 AM – Noon  
Karma Yoga Day
- 22 **Fullness**  
**Swami Sarvapriyananda**
- 29 *Bhagavad Gita*  
Swami Sarvadevananda

## VIVEKANANDA HOUSE

309 Monterey Rd  
South Pasadena, CA 91030

### VIVEKANANDA DAY OPEN HOUSE

**Saturday July 8, 4 pm**

Special Worship, Reading,  
and Refreshments  
All are invited to attend

## RAMAKRISHNA MONASTERY

Orange County

### ANNUAL 4TH OF JULY CELEBRATION

**Honoring Swami Vivekananda**

**Tuesday July 4**

**12 Noon** Worship  
**1:30 PM** Prasad Lunch  
**2:30 PM** Special Program  
**Swami Vivekananda's**  
**Vision for the West**

Regular Sunday Spiritual Talks are  
suspended for July and August

## SAN DIEGO CENTER

See [sandiegovedanta.org](http://sandiegovedanta.org) for listings  
See [vedantalifeacademy.com](http://vedantalifeacademy.com) for courses

Regular Saturday Spiritual Talks are  
suspended for July and August

## THE VEDANTA SOCIETY ONLINE

For information: [www.vedanta.org](http://www.vedanta.org)

For books: [www.vedanta.com](http://www.vedanta.com)

Watch live and past programs at  
[youtube.com/vedantaorg](http://youtube.com/vedantaorg)

### About the Vedanta Society

Vedanta teaches that humanity's real nature is divine, that the true object of human life is to unfold and manifest this divinity, and that truth is universal. Vedanta accepts all the religions of the world and reveres the great prophets, teachers and sons of God, because it recognizes the same divine inspiration in all.

**The Vedanta Society of Southern California** was founded in 1930 and incorporated as a non-profit religious corporation in 1934. The Society maintains a temple, convent, and monastery in both Hollywood and Santa Barbara; a monastery and shrine each in San Diego and Trabuco Canyon; and the Vivekananda House in South Pasadena. There are a number of official Vedanta societies in the United States, Europe and South America. Although the societies are under the spiritual guidance of the Ramakrishna Order of India, each is an independent, self-supporting unit.

**Membership** is open to those who are seriously interested in the teachings of Vedanta and have attended lectures and classes for some time. In addition, an in-

terview with Swami Sarvadevananda is required. Applications are available in the Society office and/or bookshops.

**Private instruction** in spiritual practice is available by appointment from Swami Sarvadevananda to those who have attended classes and lectures for some time and want to deepen their spiritual life in the path of meditation. There is no charge for this instruction. Appointments may be made at the local centers

**Information and a large selection of books** on Vedanta and other religions are available at the Hollywood, Trabuco and Santa Barbara bookshops. Some books are also available at the San Diego Center. Check our website for current hours. Some of our centers maintain a lending library for the use of members.

### From Swami Vivekananda's "Paper on Hinduism" read at the Parliament of Religions in 1893

The Vedas teach that the soul is divine, only held in the bondage of matter; perfection will be reached when this bond will burst, and the word they use for it is therefore, Mukti — freedom, freedom from the bonds of imperfection, freedom from death and misery.

And this bondage can only fall off through the mercy of God, and this mercy comes on the pure. So purity is the condition of His mercy. How does that mercy act? He reveals Himself to the pure heart; the

pure and the stainless see God, yea, even in this life; then and then only all the crookedness of the heart is made straight. Then all doubt ceases. He is no more the freak of a terrible law of causation. This is the very centre, the very vital conception of Hinduism. The Hindu does not want to live upon words and theories. If there are existences beyond the ordinary sensuous existence, he wants to come face to face with them. If there is a soul in him which is not matter, if there is an all-merciful universal Soul, he will go to Him direct. He must see Him, and that alone can destroy all doubts. So the best proof a Hindu sage gives about the soul, about God, is: "I have seen the soul; I have seen God." And that is the only condition of perfection. The Hindu religion does not consist in struggles and attempts to believe a certain doctrine or dogma, but in realising—not in believing, but in being and becoming.

Thus the whole object of their system is by constant struggle to become perfect, to become divine, to reach God and see God, and this reaching God, seeing God, becoming perfect even as the Father in Heaven is perfect, constitutes the religion of the Hindus.

And what becomes of a man when he attains perfection? He lives a life of bliss infinite. He enjoys infinite and perfect bliss, having obtained the only thing in which man ought to have pleasure, namely God.

## Monthly Bulletin

# JULY 2023



Vivekananda House, South Pasadena

**Vedanta Society  
of Southern California  
Ramakrishna Order of India**

**Minister  
SWAMI SARVADEVANANDA**

**Assistant Minister  
SWAMI SUMANASANANDA**

**Hollywood · Orange County**

**Santa Barbara · South Pasadena**

**San Diego · High Desert**