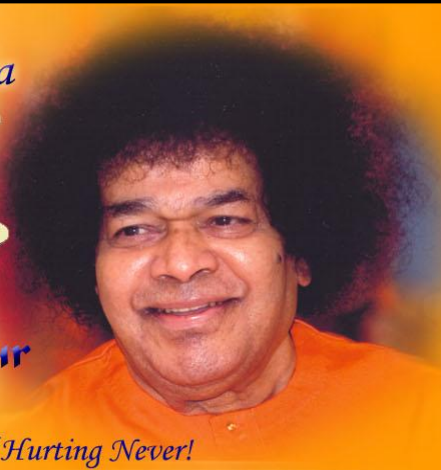


Aum Sri Sai Ram

Pranams at the Lotus Feet of Bhagawan Sri Sathya Sai Baba

Chicago Sai **WATCH**



Dear Swami, please help us to watch and control our Words, Actions, Thoughts, Character and Heart

So that we realize our inherent Divinity by Loving All, Serving All, Helping Ever, and Hurting Never!

Upcoming Events!

July 3rd Tuesday Guru Poornima: 7 PM to 9:30 PM

Devotional program followed by a drama "Guru Mahima"

By: The Alumni Of the Sathya Sai Institute Of Higher Learning (SSIHL)

Venue: Itasca Park District, 350 East Irving Park Road, Itasca, IL 60143

August 11th Saturday Walk For Values Walk: 12:30 PM to 3:30 PM

Venue: Richard J.Daley Center, 50 W. Washington St. Chicago, IL - 60602

August 31st Friday - September 3rd Monday (Labor Day Weekend)

22nd North Central Region Sai Conference and Retreat

Venue: JCYS Camp Henry Horner

26710 W. Nippersink Road, Ingleside, IL 60041

Theme: Love All, Serve All



Love All , Serve All

Date	Calendar of Events
07/01 – Sunday	09:00 am – 01:00 pm: Sunday Center Program
07/03 – Tuesday	07:00 pm – 09:30 pm: Guru Poornima at Itasca Park District, 350 East Irving Park Rd, Itasca, IL 60143
07/07 – Saturday	06:00 pm – 09:30 pm: Dinner Service Project at Northside Housing Men's Shelter (on Lawrence Ave.) 06:00 pm – 08:00 pm: Dinner Service Project at Sarah's Circle Women's Shelter (on N. Sheridan Rd.)
07/08 – Sunday	09:00 am – 01:00 pm: Sunday Center Program 10:00 am – 11:00 am: Bingo with Nursing Home Residents (on North Ave, Oak Park)
07/14 – Saturday	06:00 am – 08:00 am: Breakfast Service at Northside Housing Men's Shelter (on Lawrence Ave.)
07/15 – Sunday	09:00 am – 01:00 pm: Sunday Center Program
07/21 – Saturday	06:00 pm – 09:30 pm: Dinner Service Project at Northside Housing Men's Shelter (on Lawrence Ave.) 07:00 pm – 10:00 pm: Dinner Service Project at Jesus People USA Men's Shelter (on Kenmore Ave.)
07/22 – Sunday	09:00 am – 01:00 pm: Sunday Center Program
07/28 – Saturday	06:00 am – 08:00 am: Breakfast Service at Northside Housing Men's Shelter (on Lawrence Ave.)
07/29 – Sunday	09:00 am – 01:00 pm: Sunday Center Program
08/04 – Saturday	06:00 pm – 09:30 pm: Dinner Service Project at Northside Housing Men's Shelter (on Lawrence Ave.) 06:00 pm – 08:00 pm: Dinner Service Project at Sarah's Circle Women's Shelter (on N. Sheridan Rd.)
08/05 – Sunday	09:00 am – 01:00 pm: Sunday Center Program
08/11 – Saturday	06:00 am – 08:00 am: Breakfast Service at Northside Housing Men's Shelter (on Lawrence Ave.) 12:30 pm – 03:30 pm: Walk For Values Walk at Richard J.Daley Center, 50 W. Washington St. Chicago
	<p>Sunday Center Schedule: 09:00 am – 09:30 am: Center Setup 09:30 am – 10:25 am: Study Circle 10:30 am – 11:30 am: Devotional Singing</p> <p>Ongoing service projects on Sundays:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grocery collection for the needy families (Delivered at the end of every month) • Sandwich preparation & delivery for residents of Northside Housing Men's Shelter (Lawrence Ave.)



Swami's Quotes on Human Values



Truth, righteousness, peace and love - these are the four pillars on which the mansion of happiness is built.

- **From the discourses of Sri Sathya Sai Baba**

Sathya is what I teach; Dharma is the way I live
Shanti is the mark of my personality, Prema is my very nature.

- **From the discourses of Sri Sathya Sai Baba**

When lust envelopes the heart of man,
Truth, Justice, compassion and peace flee from it.

-**From the discourses of Sathya Sai Baba**

The cultivation of Human Values alone is Education. Cultivate the heart to raise a harvest of Truth, Righteousness, Peace and Love. This crop has to be raised in your heart and should be shared with others. Everyone has Love towards something or other, and that Love is a spark of the Divine; everyone has ultimately to base his life on some Truth; that Truth is God. Our life is like a block of ice which is melting away every moment. Before it spends itself, devote it to the service of others. Education in Human Values is designed to prepare everyone for this life of dedicated service. So long as man is capable of Prema, Dharma will exist, do not doubt it. When that Prema is fixed on the Lord, your mental make-up will slowly and steadily undergo a revolutionary change; then, man will share in the sorrows and joys of his fellow-beings; thereafter he contacts the very source of the Bliss that is beyond the temporary gains and losses of this world. Wherever Sathya [Truth], Dharma [Righteousness], Shanti [Peace] and Prema [Love] are emphasized, in whatever religion or language, there we have Sanathana Dharma [the Eternal Gospel]. Whoever tries to understand these Human Values, practices these Human Values and propagates them with zeal and sincerity can alone be described as a truly educated person.

- **Sri Sathya Sai Baba, 24 March 1958**

You may have the best vegetables, you may be the most capable cook, but, if the copper vessel in which you prepare the vegetable soup is not tinned, the concretion you cook will be highly poisonous! So 'tin' your heart with truth, right conduct, peace and divine love; it will then become a vessel fit for repeating holy name or symbols, meditation, religious vows, pilgrimage, ritualistic worship and the other dishes that you prepare in it.

- **Sri Sathya Sai Baba, 13 January 1965**

Whatever happens, the path of virtue should not be given up.

- **Sri Sathya Sai Baba, 31 March 1965**

Some consider themselves great because they have vast territory, some because they have finance, some because they have arms, some because they have vast populations, but, the real wealth, real greatness is virtue which earns the Grace of God.

- **Sri Sathya Sai Baba, 4 April 1965**

An empty iron box gets valued when it contains jewels; the body is honored when it contains the jewel of consciousness and the valuables called virtues. Life has to be lived through, for the sake of the chance to unfold the virtues. Otherwise, man is a burden upon the earth, a consumer of food. When fire rages, you try to put it out by throwing sand or water, and you keep a stock of these in readiness. But, you have six fires raging inside you - lust, anger, greed, attachment, pride and hatred. What have you in store to put them out? Keep ready Sathya, shanthi, dharma and prema. They will help you scotch the flames; they are effective extinguishers.

- **Sri Sathya Sai Baba, 6 April 1965**

Man's sense of values is so degraded that he does not revere the Geetha, as much as he values and scans the pages of the daily newspaper. This is to be attributed to sheer ignorance and perversity, or pitiable fate. The fear and anxiety that infect humanity today are the results of this degradation of values, this ignorance of what is of significance and what is not, this want of faith in what the elders and sages have handed down as the wisdom of ages. People prefer what is pleasing to what is beneficial.

- **Sri Sathya Sai Baba, 30 September 1965**

Virtue is the fragrance of the flowers which the tree of life puts forth. Educated people must be identified in society by their strict adherence to virtue, not by more skilled methods of escaping the consequences of vice.

- **Sri Sathya Sai Baba, 14 November 1965**

Sacrifice, so that you may be saved. You have to sacrifice, not a bleating sheep or a horse or a cow, but your animalism, the bestial lust and greed, hate and malice. Sacrifice these and you earn the heaven of unflinching peace.

- **Sri Sathya Sai Baba, 23 November 1965**

Sathya, Dharma, Shanghai and prema are the hall-marks of a purified heart, a heart where God is enshrined and is manifest.

- **Sri Sathya Sai Baba, 23 November 1966**

If there is righteousness in the heart,
There will be beauty in character;
If there is beauty in character
There will be harmony in the home.
When there is harmony in the home
There will be order in the nation.
When there is order in the nation
There will be peace in the world.

So, be righteous; avoid all prejudices against others on the basis of caste, creed, color, religion, status, degree of affluence. Do not look down on any one; look upon all as divine as you really are.

- **Sri Sathya Sai Baba, 13 January 1970**

Truth is man's nature; to be untrue is to be false to one's nature. dharma (Right Action) is the practical application in real life of the ideal of truth. Shanthi (Peace) is the result of Dharma and Prema (Love) is the effluence of Shanthi.

- **Sri Sathya Sai Baba, 16 March 1973**

Every child is born not only with a stomach that has to be catered to, it is also endowed with two hands which can work and produce the food for the stomach. The hands have to be given the strength and skill; they have to learn the lesson of self-reliance. They should never be lazy or slothful. Then, there can be no deficiency in food and no problem of underfeeding.

- **Sri Sathya Sai Baba, April 1979**

Human nature is an amalgam of animal, human and divine characteristics. Love, compassion, humility, charity - these are all divine. One has to cultivate these, in order to be at peace, with oneself and others. One has to visualize God in every living being and worship Him through love. Therein lies the supremacy of man. Ownership of enormous wealth is a dangerous burden; authority over many men is a dubious asset. Love is the most precious treasure to be sought after. Virtue is the wealth to be won.

- **Sri Sathya Sai Baba, 21 June 1979**

Man must saturate his daily life in truthful speech, virtuous acts and holy thoughts.

- **Sri Sathya Sai Baba, 22 November 1979**

- **Excerpts from <http://www.saibaba.ws/quotes/humanvalues.htm>.**



Sow The Seeds Of God's Name In Your Heart



God's Grace Can Make Destiny Inoperative

Though I have been coming to this city for over twenty years now, this is the first time I am speaking to a gathering of people living here. The time, the need and the deed have to coincide; and today they have. Guru Purnima has provided all three and collected together in this sea of humanity the waters of many areas through many channels and tributaries. Mysore city has earned fame by its devotion to music, sculpture and other fine arts. But there is an art finer than all these: the art of living. Many persons skilled in other fields are a failure in so far as this art is concerned. They live miserably, without a trace of joy, contentment or peace. They know only pain and give only pain to others.

Mysore is famous for the fragrance of its sandalwood. But I would like the fragrance to emanate from your feelings and thoughts and deeds, not so much from the trees that grow in the forests. Then only is the fame fully deserved. If the sense of beauty and the sense of harmony are not translated into the daily life of men and women and children, then that life is a waste, a burden, a hoax. Man has to lift himself from the animal level through his own Sadhana. There are three types of men: the Pashavi or the animal type, the Sahaja or the human type and the Divya or the divine type. Man has evolved from stone through plant and tree, worm and insect, bird and mammal; but some are still groveling in the early stages though they have achieved the human form.

The World is a Huge Hospital Chief Minister Jatti has said that you are all like boulders, rough and hard, and that Bhakti has the power to make you soft and smooth. Now, what does a sculptor do when he sees a good boulder? He pictures in his mind the lovely idol of God that is sleeping inside it. He becomes possessed with the idea of liberating the idol from the hard clasp of the stone. He takes up his chisel and removes the extra stone that lies around the beautiful figure; at last, he liberates the image. The boulder has to suffer all that hard chiseling in order to become the image of God; so, too, you should cast off all the impediments, all the encumbrances that drag you down and make you a boulder instead of a Bhakta (devotee), a Paramahansa (realized person of the highest order) or even Paramatma (Supreme Being).

The world is a huge hospital and humanity is bedridden. Some are writhing in the pain of envy, some are bloated with pride, some are losing sleep through hate, some have become blind through miserliness, some are struck down by selfishness; everyone has some illness or the other. On this Guru Purnima day, you have to render gratitude to the doctors who diagnose your diseases and prescribe remedies, and the nurses who tend you back to health. You should also resolve today to follow the treatment recommended and the regimen ordered. It is not enough if you learn the prescription by heart or read the label on the bottle three times a day or visit the hospital every day. Praising the doctor or worshipping him might induce him to take pity on you, but your illness can be cured only by your taking the drug and obeying the restrictions on food and drink and on your habits.

While talking of doctors, I must also say that doctors, who fight for the patient's purse or who try to grab a patient before a rival appropriates him, are a danger to society. The doctor who despises other doctors or sticks to his own patent cures irrespective of the experience of failure, or who is guided more by his whims, fancies and prejudices, or who considers the patient's caste rather than his disease as more important; such men are also dangerous. Today we find doctors and Gurus who have deteriorated to the level of wrangling for patients and their purses, and for the sale of their own or other people's patent remedies.

Vyasa is the Greatest of Spiritual Doctors

This is the day when mankind pays homage to the greatest of spiritual doctors, Sage Vyasa, for he put together the Vedas and composed the Puranas and the Mahabharata and gave humanity the Bhagavata. He is the primal Guru for all who walk on the path of God. He planted the seed of theism and nurtured it through Sruti (revealed texts) and Smriti (texts composed by sages), Sastras (scriptures) and Puranas (mythological texts). He gave the world the Bhagavadgita and the Brahma Sutras, the idea of the immanent Atma, the story of the Divine Leelas of the Lord, the secret of this changeful creation. He lived around 3800 B.C.; he was the great grandson of Sage Vasishtha, the son of Parasara and the father of that celebrated gem among Rishis, Suka. His life story is a series of miracles, a divine saga. He came from Vasudeva, recounted the Leela of Vasudeva to all and finally merged in Vasudeva. He established the era of Nama Parayana (recitation of Lord's Name) and made all mankind aware of the sweetness of the Name of the Lord, which evokes His Form and His Grace.

Offer Prayer Daily to God

It was Vyasa who first revealed to man the secret of making the mind as clear and as full of cool rays as the moon on a full-moon night. That is why this Purnima is associated with him and with all Gurus. Today every Astika (theist) must refuse to be content with a feast and a lecture. He should try to sow today the Nama Bija (seed of Lord's Name) in his well-prepared heart, devoid of the thorns of egoism, water it with Prema (love), fence the sprout with Sraddha (steadfast faith), nourish it with the fertiliser of Smarana (remembering the Name), and from the grown-up tree of the Mantra, pluck the fruit of Ananda (bliss) and relish the sweetness. A person may boast of vast treasures in the vaults of his bank, but he will get credit only for that which he has actually earned and deposited therein. Do not fritter away the time allotted to you. Offer it to Keshava, who is Kala Swarupa (embodiment of time). Know that waking from sleep is birth and going to sleep is death. On waking up every morning of your life, pray, "Oh Lord, I am born now from the womb of sleep. I am determined to carry out all tasks this day as offerings to Thee, with Thee ever present before my mind's eye. Make my words, thoughts and deeds sacred and pure; let me not inflict pain on anyone; let no one inflict pain on me; direct me, guide me, this day." And when you enter the portals of sleep at night, pray, "Oh Lord! the tasks of this day, the burden of which I placed on You this morning, are over. It was You who made me walk and talk and think and act; I therefore place at Thy Feet all my words, thoughts and deeds. My task is done. Receive me; I am coming back to You." Adopt these as your daily prayers. The best thing is to have your own Self as the source of light, as the Guru. The inner intelligence, the inner Guru will reveal the Truth. This prayerful attitude will so educate your impulses that the inner intelligence will be fully revealed.

A bar of iron sinks in water; but beat it into a hollow vessel and it will float merrily and even carry some weight. So, too, man's mind sinks easily in the sea of senses. Beat it hollow, hammering it with the Name of the Lord. Then, it will float safely on the sea of troubles. Do not be like gramophone records singing someone else's song, ignorant of the genuine thrill of music. Sing of the grace and glory of the Lord from your own experience. If you win the grace of the Lord, even the decrees of destiny can be overcome. There are certain drugs which come in bottles on which the manufacturer has given an expiry date, beyond which the drug loses its efficacy. Of course, the drug will be in the bottle, but would no longer be effective. Similarly, Lord's grace can make the destiny inoperative. The Guru is one who shows you the path for getting that grace, and to such a great one this day is dedicated.

- Excerpt From Bhagavan's Divine Discourse at Mysore on the occasion of Guru Purnima on 27th July 1961.



Put Into Practice



One day, an old lady came to Ramakrishna Paramahansa with her 10 year old grandson. She prostrated before him and said: "Master! This boy is my grandson. He lost his father and mother when he was just a child of five. I have been taking care of him. He is very fond of sweets. The doctors have advised him not to eat sweets but this fellow does not pay any heed to their advice. However, he has great respect and admiration for you. So I have come to request you to stop the boy from eating sweets. I am sure, you alone can do this". Ramakrishna said: "Mother, don't worry, come with your grandson after a month. The old woman thanked him and took leave of him.

She came with her grandson exactly after a month. Ramakrishna made the boy sit beside him and said: "My dear boy! Remember, one's real wealth is health. Unless you take proper care of your health, you will not be able to grow into a strong and healthy young man. When something that we eat does not suit our constitution, we should give up eating that item. From tomorrow you should not eat sweets. After some time you may eat moderately. You are a nice boy and will listen to me, will you not?" The boy nodded his head and promised that he would not eat sweets.

"Master! May I ask you a question?" said the old woman. "Certainly mother", replied Ramakrishna. "Master! You could have given me this advice last month itself. Why did you ask me to come again after a month? I don't understand". Ramakrishna replied with a smile: "Mother! I myself eat lot of sweets. How can I advise the boy to do something that I am not doing myself? One has no right to preach anything to others before practicing it himself. So I asked for some time. This one month I did not eat sweets. So I have earned the right to advise your grandson." The old woman marveled at the righteous conduct of Ramakrishna. She fell at his feet and took leave of him.

Devotional Activities in Chicago and Suburbs

Activity	Time	Venue	Contact
Every Monday – Bhajans	07:00 pm to 08:00 pm	Aurora (Shirdi Mandir)	630-854-2004
Every Wednesday – Bhajans	07:30 pm to 08:30 pm	Hoffman Estates	847-519-1631
Every Friday – Bhajans	08:00 pm to 09:00 pm	Oak Brook	630-655-1718
1st Thursday of the Month – Bhajans	07:30 pm to 08:30 pm	Hoffman Estates	847-695-7110
1st Saturday of the Month – Bhajans	03:30 pm to 04:30 pm	Glenview	847-729-2779 / 773-510-5936
Monday, July 23 rd	07:30 pm to 08:30 pm	Hoffman Estates	847-874-4850
Saturday, July 28 th – Padhuka Puja	03:30 pm to 05:30 pm	Bolingbrook	630-819-9081

For more information, please contact any of the Center Officers

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