

Vedanta Center of Greater Washington, DC

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April 2017 SCHEDULE

Minister: Swami Sarvadevananda

Resident Monks: Swami Atmajnanananda
Swami Brahmarupananda
Swami Chidbrahmananda



Ramakrishna Order of India

<u>Sunday Lecture 11:00 AM</u>	<u>Friday Class 8:00 PM</u>
2 Swami Brahmarupananda The Sage of Steady Wisdom II	7 <i>Satsang</i> with Swami Sarvadevananda
9 Ramnavami & Foundation Day Program See under <u>Special Programs</u>	14 <i>Gospel of Sri Ramakrishna</i>
16 Dr. Subhadra Desai* Songs of Indian Women Seers	21 <i>Bhagavad Gita</i>
*Dr. Subhadra Desai will be making her third visit to our center. She is a highly skilled Classical Hindustani Vocalist and scholar of Indian Music and Sanskrit.	28 <i>Life of Holy Mother</i>
23 Swami Chidbrahmananda Active Tranquility	<u>Wednesday Class 8:00 PM</u>
30 Swami Atmajnanananda The Holy Name of God III	<i>Vivekacudamani</i>

Ram Nam

Ram Nam will be held at the Center on **Saturday April 1** at 7:30 PM, immediately after evening *arati* and meditation. All are invited to stay for potluck dinner following the program.

Special Programs

8 Day Retreat with Swami Sarvadevananda* “Vasistha’s Instructions to Rama”

11 am: Opening song by Subhadra Desai
11:15 am: Meditation
11:30 am: Session I of Retreat
12:30 pm: Question and Answer
1 pm: Lunch
2 pm: Song by Subhadra Desai
2:15 pm: Meditation
2:30 pm: Session II of Retreat
3:30 pm: Question and Answer

* Swami Sarvadevananda is Spiritual Head of the Vedanta Society of Southern California. He will be visiting the center from April 7 to 14. We will have daily satsang and potluck dinner following evening meditation while he is here.

8 Classical Hindustani Vocal Concert by

Dr. Subhadra Desai
Krishna Ramdas: Tabla
Namita Kundu: Harmonium

7:30 pm: Concert
9 pm: Refreshments

9 Ramnavami & Foundation Day Celebration

11 am: Welcome by Swami Sarvadevananda
11:30 am: Puja
12:30 pm: Bhajans by Subhadra Desai
1 pm: Prasad lunch and video presentation:
“The First Twenty Years of the Center”

15 Workshop Retreat with Subhadra Desai

11 am: Forms of Tarana : Khayalnuma,
Tarana, Trivat and Chaturang
12:30 pm: Lunch
1:30 pm: Devotional Aspect in
Composition Forms

Karma Yoga

We invite you to join us Saturday mornings from 9 am to 1 pm in performing various weekly chores

of the center: maintenance, gardening and landscaping, cleaning, office work, etc.

Temple Hours

The temple will be open for morning meditation at 5 am and daily Puja at 7:45 am, and will remain open throughout the day until the close of evening meditation at 8 pm. Evening *arati* begins at 6:30 pm. Devotees may enter through the double doors at the main entrance to the temple or through the front door entrance to the Center. All are welcome.

Parents with small children are welcome to watch the Sunday lecture on the movie screen in the lower level of the temple while their children are free to quietly play.

Interviews

Those who would like to come to the Center for a private meeting with a resident swami or one of the visiting swamis may schedule an appointment either by phone or in person.

Social Service

The Vedanta Center participates in a volunteer program at Shepherd’s Table in Silver Spring. Please let us know if you would like to take part. Service is on the third Friday of the month.

Web Site

Please visit our Web Site at www.vedantadc.org. Listen to lecture recordings, see photographs of the center, and find out about upcoming events.

Grocery Gift Cards

We urge all of you to take part in our gift card program. Gift cards for Giant, Shopper’s, and Lotte/Assi Plaza may be purchased at the Center following the Sunday lecture or during visiting hours, and are used just like a debit card when purchasing groceries. This is an important part of our monthly income and a way to support the Center at no cost to you.

Vedanta Medical Clinic

The Vedanta Medical Clinic offers free medical services to all, regardless of income level, insurance coverage, or immigration status. Hours of operation are Wednesday morning, 9 am to 12 noon, and

Sunday afternoon, 2 to 5 pm. To make an appointment, please call 240-516-6726.

Swami Vivekananda: On Sri Rama

Rama, the ancient idol of the heroic ages, the embodiment of truth, of morality, the ideals son, the ideals husband, the ideal father, and, above all, the ideals all, the ideal king, this Rama has been presented before us by the great saint Valmiki.

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You have now to make the character of Mahavira your ideal. See how at the command of Ramachandra he crossed the ocean. He had no care for life or death! He was a perfect master of his senses and wonderfully sagacious. You have now to build your life on this great ideal of personal service. Through that, all other ideals will gradually manifest in life. Obedience to the Guru without questioning, and strict observance of Brahmacharya—this is the secret of success. As on the one hand Hanuman represent the ideal of service, so on the other hand he represents leonine courage, striking the whole world with awe. He has not the least hesitation in sacrificing his life for the good of Rama. A supreme indifference to everything except the service of Rama, even to the attainment of the status of Brahma and Shiva, the great World-gods! Only the carrying out of Sri Rama's best is the one vow of this life! Such whole-hearted devotion is wanted.

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