

## FEBRUARY 2017 NEWSLETTER

### RATHA SAPTAMI

February 03, 2017

This festival falls on the seventh day of the bright half of the month of *Magha*. It is celebrated as *Surya Jayanti* or Surya's birthday. This is also regarded as the day when the sun's chariot turns northward. This chariot is said to be drawn by seven white horses. The seven horses and the seventh day of the month are perhaps a reference



to the seven colors of the rainbow and the seven suns – *Aroga, Bhraja, Pathara, Patanga, Svarnara, Jyotisiman and Vibhasa*. In Hindu numerology, seven is a significant number as there are seven *Rishis*, seven oceans, seven islands, seven *kaandams* of the Ramayana etc. *RathaSaptami* is dedicated to *Surya Bhagavan*, and the Lord is worshipped for good health and well-being. This day is marked by the recitation of *Aruna Prashnam* with *Namaskarams* at the end of each *anuvakam* (section.) The temple conducted a special *puja* with the chanting of *Aruna Prashnam, Navagraha and Naksatra Suktams*.

### MAHASIVARATRI

February 24- 25 2017

On the morning of Feb 24th, *Mahasivaratri* celebrations started with *Kalasa sthapanam, Ganapathi homam, Sri Rudra homam, avahanam, archana and arati*. *Mahasivaratri* was celebrated in a grand manner in the temple from the evening of February 24th through the dawn of February 25th. The first (*Prathama*) *kaala puja* preceded

with the chanting of *Mahanyasam and Lalita Sahasranama*.



**Lord Chandramoulisvara  
adorned after *abhishekam***

The *first kaala puja* started with chanting of the sacred hymn *Sri Rudram* 11 times (*ekadasarudra parayanam*). While the hymn was chanted, *Panchamritha abhishekam* was performed to Lord *Chandramoulisvara*. This was followed by a grand *kalasabhishekam*, when the sacred waters from 108 kalasas was used to perform the *abhishekam*.

In the second (*dwitiya*) *kaala puja*, *Rudra Trishati archana* was performed after the *abhishekam* along with *Sri Rudram/Chamakam* chanting. In the third (*tritiya*) *kaala puja* *Rudra Krama archana* was performed after the *abhishekam* along with *Sri*

*Rudram/Chamakam* chanting. In the fourth (*chathurtha*) *kaala puja*, *Bilva Ashtothara archana* was performed after the *abhishekam* along with *Sri Rudram/Chamakam* chanting. During the early morning (*usha*) *kaala puja*, obeisance was offered to *Devi* by chanting of *Lalita Sahasranama* followed by *Sri Siva Kavacha parayanam*. The *Mahasivaratri* program concluded with *Sri Nandikeswara abhishekam* and pujas for *Sri Nandikeswara* and *Sri Chandikeswara*. All *kaala pujas* ended with *siva bhajans, arati, mantrapushpam* and *prasadam*.

## MARCH 2017

### Calendar of Events

- March 14 2017

*Karadyar Nonbu*

- March 28 2017

*Ugadi New Year - Hevalambi*

*Nama Samvatsram*

## NEWS HIGHLIGHTS

### SRINGERI, INDIA

February 2017

### Sri Sringeri Sharadamba Swarna

### Shikhara Kumbhabhisheka

Jagadguru Shankaracharya Sri Sri Bharati Tirtha Mahasannidhanam and Jagadguru Shankaracharya Sri Sri Vidhushekhara Bharati Sannidhanam of the Dakshinamnaya Sri Sharada Peetham, Sringeri performed the *Swarna Gopura Kumbhabhisheka* at Goddess Sharadamba temple in Sringeri on February 1, 2017 – the auspicious *Lalita Panchami* day.

More details and photos at:

<http://www.sringeri.net/2017/02/01/news/sri-sringeri-sharadamba-swarna-shikhara-kumbhabhisheka-feb-1-2017.htm>

## Advaita Sharada Project Second

### Release

Jagadguru Shankaracharya Sri Sri Bharati Tirtha Mahasannidhanam released the second version of the *Advaita Sharada* Project of the Sringeri Math on February 2, 2017 as part of the ongoing *Sharadalaya Swarna Shikhara Kumbhabhisheka* celebrations. The *Advaita Sharada* project is available at <http://advaitasharada.sringeri.net/>