

Greater Baltimore Temple Newsletter



2909 Bloom Road, P.O. Box 690, Finksburg, MD-21048
Tel: (410)861-8387, Web: baltimoretemple.org, Email: info@baltimoretemple.org

Sept to Dec 2025

VOL 36, ISSUE 3



Navagraha Prana Pratishtha



Invitation

With the divine blessings of Bhagwan, we are delighted to invite you and your family to the Navagraha Pranaprathistha Mahotsav, a sacred and auspicious event marking the installation and consecration of the Navagraha deities. The Moortis/deities have been hand crafted in India with attention to every Graha detail as well as its identity.

This spiritual event includes:

**Vedic rituals and homas
Prana Prathistha ceremony
Devotees active participation
Bhajans & devotional programs
Maha Aarti and Prasadam
Spectacular Cultural Programs**

We humbly request your gracious presence and active participation in this sacred occasion. Let us come together to receive the blessings of the Navagrahas and invoke peace, health, and prosperity in our lives. All devotees and members of the public are welcome and can participate in vedic rituals and homas. Greater Baltimore Hindu-Jain Temple is aiming to meet the needs of every devotee whilst creating a place of worship for present and future generations. We have also organized special cultural programs throughout these three days, which will showcase rich culture and heritage of great dance forms of different parts of India.

Dress Code: Traditional Indian Attire for Hindu religious event is encouraged.

Contents

2	Upcoming Events
4	Fundraiser Dinner Invite
5	Balvihar
6	Recurring Events
6	Useful Information
7	Presidents Message

Upcoming Events



Donation Appeal

If you would like to contribute, please mail your donation or visit the temple website at www.baltimoretemple.org or scan the following QR code from your cell phone photo app.



Ganesh Chaturthi Cultural Program

Saturday, September 6, 2025
3.00PM onwards

Singing, dancing, instrumental performance items accepted, they should relate to Lord Ganesha.

Solo - 3 mins/ each, Group - 5 mins/ each. Refer to temple website for registration.

Registration \$10/each. Visit temple website for registration link.

Contact: Donika Patel 410-926-5855; Sanjeev Gholap 240-381-6122



Children Navratri Raas Garba

Sunday, September 14, 2025
3.00PM to 7:30PM

Join us for a fun-filled evening of Raas Garba for Children of 3 years to 12 years, accompanied by their parent or guardian. Children will learn about Navratri and the fundamental basic steps of Raas Garba. The program will end with Aarti.
\$10 / child to participate, no charge for adults/parents.

Registration instructions are available on website.

Sponsorships are welcome



Navratri / Sharad Purnima Raas Garba

Friday, Sept 26, 2025
Friday, Oct 3, 2025
Friday, Oct 10, 2025
8:30 PM Onwards

Join us to celebrate the spirit of Navratri with music and dance.

Raas Garba Fee: \$10 per person.
Please bring in dry fruit, prasada and snack items to share with attendees.
Follow temple website to register.



Sharadeeya Navratri Celebration

Monday, Sept 22, 2025 to
Wednesday, Oct 1, 2025

Daily puja starting at 6:00 pm followed by the following chanting, Aarti and Garba.

Mon Sept. 22nd
Durga Sahasranaama Chanting
10:30 am Ghatasthapana

Tue Sept. 23rd
Sri Lakshmi Sahasranaama Chanting

Wed Sept. 24th
Saraswati Sahasranaama Chanting

Thu Sept. 25th
Devi Stotra Group Chanting

Fri Sept. 26th
Deeparadhanam And Lalitha Sahasranaama Chanting

Sun Sept. 28th
Chandi homam at 11:00 am
Devi Pooja 4:00PM
Mata Ki Chowki 5:00PM

Mon Oct. 1st
Vijaya Dashami / Dasara / Ravan Dahan

Puja sponsor: \$51/day, for all 9 days \$201,
Archana: \$21

Garba in the prayer hall after the Aarti

Upcoming Events



Mata Ki Chowki

Sunday, September 28, 2025
5.00PM onwards

With the divine blessings of Maa Durga, we invite you and your family to join us for a blissful evening of Mata Ki Chowki, filled with devotion, bhajans, and blessings, followed by Aarti & Mahaprasad.

Multiple sponsors are encouraged.

Grand sponsors: \$1,001 each
Mahaprasad sponsors: \$251 each
Sponsor: \$101; Donor: Any amount
Contact: Pankaj Grover 410-419-0336,
Atul Patel 410-978-6472



Gandhi Jayanti

Sunday, September 28, 2025
3.00PM onwards **Cultural Program**

Please join us to celebrate 156th birthday of Mahatma Gandhi.

Contact:
Bhupendra Mehta 410-771-0251;
Dhaivat Maharaja 410-526-8387



Shree Durga Ashtami Puja

Tuesday, September 30, 2025
6.00PM onwards

Shree Durga Puja: 6:00PM followed by group Devi chanting followed by Aarti and Mahaprasad.

Program sponsor: \$251
Puja sponsor: \$51
Archana: \$21
Donor: Any amount



Maha Navami Puja & Vijayadashami/ Dussehra Mahotsav

Wednesday, October 1, 2025
6:00PM onwards

Devi Puja: 6:00pm
Dussehra Utsav & Ravan Dahan:
7:30pm

Dussehra Utsav & Ravan Dahan:
7:30pm
We will celebrate Dusshera utsav by burning the effigy of Ravan to symbolize the defeat of evil. Please bring your children and enjoy the event.
Puja Sponsor: \$51

Temple cafeteria will be for dinner



Karva Chauth

Thursday, October 9, 2025
5.00PM onwards

Puja starts at 6:00pm

Karva Chauth is observed by married women for ensuring wedded bliss and for wishing long life for their husbands and children. Married women, who observe the Karva Chauth Vrat, acquire saubhagya, progeny and lasting prosperity.

Sponsor \$21 per person.



Diwali Cultural Program

Saturday, November 1, 2025
4.00PM onwards

Singing, dancing, instrumental performance items accepted, they should relate to Diwali Celebration.
Solo - 3 mins/ each, Group - 5 mins/ each
Registration link will be provided on the flyer. Free participation.
Sponsor: \$101

To participate, contact:
Bhavesh & Donika Patel 410-926-5855

Upcoming Events



Deepwali Celebrations

Saturday, October 18, 2025
Dhanteras

Sunday, October 19, 2025
Narakchaturdasi

Monday, October 20, 2025
Deepawali / Mahalakshmi Puja

Group puja: \$51/ couple followed by
Aarti & Mahaprasad



Govardhan Puja & Annakut

Tuesday, October 21, 2025
6.00PM onwards

Please deliver Samagri by 4:00 pm,
SriNathji Abhishekam 6:00 pm
followed by Bhajans, Aarti &
Mahaprasad

Sponsorships:

Grand Program Sponsor: \$1001
Mukhya Manorathi: \$151
Saha Manorathi: \$101
Sevak: \$51

Contact:

Priti Parikh (410-419-3393),
Anuradha Patel (410-833-1375), Rita
Patel (410-807-2073), Bhanuben
Patel (410-833-1330)

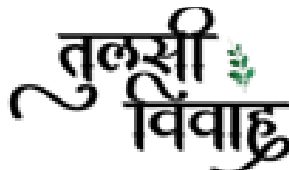


Navsmaran - Jain New Year Celebration

Wednesday, October 22, 2025
5.00PM onwards

The Greater Baltimore Hindu Jain Temple will celebrate the Jain New Year. The Jain New Year begins on the day after Shri Mahavirswami's Nirvana in the lunar month of Ashwin on Amavasya Day (New Moon Day). We will chant Navsmaran, Aarati and then Swamivatsalya.

For further information &
sponsorship please contact,
Bhupendra Mehta (410-241-0673),
Sadhana Shavdia (410-952-7526), or
Kanan Shah (443-676-6611).



Tulasi Vivah / Tulsi Kalyanam

Saturday, November 1, 2025
5.00PM Onwards

Please join us to celebrate the vivah
of the Tulsi Devi to Lord Vishnu or his
avatar Lord Krishna.

Vivah Puja starts at 5 pm followed by
Aarti and Mahaprasad.
Shri Tulsi & Shri Krishna vivah
sponsor \$501/ each
Fruits & Flower sponsor \$ 151
Kanyadaan \$101
Mahaprasad sponsor \$251/ each.



Annual Fundraiser Dinner

Saturday, November 8,
2025
5.00PM onwards

**An Evening of Annual
Fundraising Dinner,
Music & Giving
Saturday, November 8,
2025 5:00 pm**

Join us for a **special
fundraising evening** in
support of our temple.

Highlights of the Evening:

- Delicious catered dinner
- Live musical performances
- Stories of impact from our community
- Opportunity to make a difference through donations & pledges

Details will follow in the
flyer & an invitation.
Your presence will help
us continue our work
and touch more lives.

Upcoming Events



Lord Ayappa Puja

Saturday, December 6, 2025
10:30AM Onwards

Please join us with your family & friends to participate in the auspicious Ayyappa Puja ceremony.

Grand sponsor: \$501
Mahaprasadam sponsor: \$251
Puja sponsor: \$ 101
Archana: \$21
Donor: Any amount



Hanuman Jayanti

Saturday, December 20, 2025
5:00PM onwards

5:00PM Abhishekam
Group Chanting of Hanuman Chalisa
Parayana/Path and Shree Rama
Taraka
Mantra Chanting and Sankeertanam
followed by Aarti & Mahaprasad

Sponsorship:
Vadmala offering (54 Vadas) @ \$131
Abhishekam \$51
Group Archana \$21



Vaikuntha Ekadashi

Tuesday, December 30, 2025
Morning

Morning
9:00 AM Shri Venkateshwara (Balaji)
Abhishekam
5:30pm Vishnusahaasranama,
Archana & Aarti

Sponsorship:
Grand Sponsor \$1001
Mahaprasad Sponsors \$251 each
Puja Sponsor \$101
Abhishekam \$51
Group Archana \$31

Balvihar Classes - 2024-25

In-person Bal Vihar classes will resume on 8th September 2024. The classes start at 10:00 am every alternate Sunday at the temple. The most recognizable attribute of this program success is the parents, who devote their time & effort in nurturing our children with so many facets of volunteering. Please share the information with your family and friends to register for Bal Vihar Program at our temple. Visit the temple website at gbtbalvihar@baltimoretemple.org for information about the program and for enrollment form.

Sunday Bhajan Sandhya

Every Sunday 5:00PM followed by Arti and Mahaprasad

Singing bhajans as a group can help to quieten the mind so that the heart can open to the divine, allowing us to taste the blissful reality. It is a participatory spiritual practice in which everyone is encouraged to sing and express their inner joy. Attending Bhajan is also a form of meditation, brings peace tranquility in Individual and family. Please consider joining with your family and children. Families and friends interested in organizing bhajans in memory of their beloved ones can also think of organizing special pujas followed by singing bhajans during this time slot. Interested individuals and families can reach out to the Bhajan coordinator Pundit Joshiji by calling temple - 410-861-8387

For Mahaprasad Sponsorship, contact Pundit Joshiji.

Contact: Temple 410-861-8387

Recurring Events

Sri Venkateshwara Abhishekam

10:30AM – Every Saturday

Hanuman Chalisa – 1st Saturday of the month

3:00PM – Sept 6th, Oct 4th, Nov 1st, Dec 6th

Sri Lalitha Sahasranama Archana - 1st Friday of the month

6:00PM – Sept 5th, Oct 3rd, Nov 7th, Dec 5th

Murugan Abhishekam Krittika Nakshatram

6:00PM – Sept 12th, Oct 10th, Nov 6th, Dec 3rd

Jain Bhavana

11:30AM – Sept 14th, Oct 12th, Nov 9th, Dec 6th

Sri Satyanarayana Puja -

6:00PM – Sept 6th, Oct 6th, Nov 4th, Dec 4th

Sri Ganesh Abhishekam -

6:00PM – Sept 10th, Oct 9th, Nov 8th, Dec 7th

Senior Citizens Program

10:00AM – Sept 7th, Oct 12th, Nov 2nd, Dec 7th

Bi-weekly Geeta Paath

Every alternate Sunday. Check website for details.

Community Hall - Facility Rental

Promotional Rates for Community Hall Rental - Promotional Rates are valid only till December 31, 2025, if booked by October 15, 2025. Visit the temple website or temple office for additional information.

Volunteers

If you would like to join our volunteers' group, please send your name, cell phone number and email address to info@baltimoretemple.org or text on GBT – WhatsApp group

Priest Services

Priest services are available for Pujas and ceremonies at the temple and outside locations. Please visit the temple website at www.baltimoretemple.org and click under Services and fill in the form to request a service. Also, call temple at 410-861-8387 to discuss with priest.



ELINE
FUNERAL HOME

Finksburg – Hampstead – Reisterstown

Family Owned & Operated for 6 Generations: Since 1863

"Honoring Every Life, Embracing Every Tradition."

On premises crematory, at our Hampstead location offering dignified chapel services for all faiths.

ElineFuneralHome.com

410-239-8163



Outreach and Interfaith Committee Activities Jan- Aug 2025.

The Outreach and Interfaith committee have been busy doing charitable work in the local community on behalf of our temple. In March the committee donated basic needs such as soaps, towels, washcloths etc to East side family shelter in Baltimore County.

GBT is blessed to join a consortium of faith-based organizations in Carroll County in providing a hot midday meal on Fridays for the needy at a soup kitchen in Carroll County. Approximately 60 to 65 meals are served at Westminster United Methodist Church in downtown Carroll County. Our group participates about four to five times a year. Members plan, cook, serve heart vegetarian meals.

On April 27th, the committee conducted the Annual Interfaith Dialogue at GBT on the topic of the role of music and dance in worship and spirituality. Seven religious groups participated enthusiastically.

Member Ram Shankar hosted students from Maryvale Preparatory School and Boys Latin School at our temple at the request of their history teacher. He gave them a temple tour and a talk on Hinduism.

Some committee members have been attending meetings of the Carroll County Interfaith Alliance for Racial Justice.

Upcoming activities

July/ August. Student backpacks filled with school supplies will be donated to the indigent children in Carroll County through the Shepherd Staff organization in downtown Westminster.

On September 21 – All are welcome to register for the Alzheimer's Walkathon at Centennial Park in Howard County.

October. The Annual Diwali Food and Clothing Drive will take place at our temple.

For suggestions on building and improving community engagement, please e-mail sraja12345@gmail.com

Thank you!
Geetha Raja
(for the Outreach and Interfaith Committee).

Presidents Message

I am deeply honored to have served as president of our temple. The dedication of our priests, trustees, manager, volunteers, donors, and devotees has allowed us to enhance religious festivals, cultural activities, attendance, and donations over the past two years.

We have focused on revitalizing the temple through improved marketing, encouraging greater religious participation and volunteerism, and introducing programs that combine spiritual celebrations with cultural music and dance—creating a more enriching experience for devotees. We successfully hosted many festivals, including Kumbhabhishekam, Bhagwat Katha, Shivaratri, Ram Navami, Mahavir Janma Kalyanak, Srinathji Patotsav, Lord Murugan, Shri Balaji, Navratri, Durga Ashtami, Dussehra, Diwali, Pongal, and more, with attendance ranging from 100 to 500.

We've worked closely with community leaders to plan unique celebrations for each group. Under Pankaj Grover's leadership, we launched the Sunday Langar program, which has been well received and fully sponsored through November. Our Balvihar program, led by Manu Agarwal and a team of devoted teachers, just concluded the 2024-25 year. We continue to focus on improving the curriculum and boosting attendance. Looking ahead, we're planning the Navgraha Pranaprathistha in early October and completing the Navgraha room renovations. Our Capital Project Committee is working on replacing the HVAC system and roof, with a fundraising goal of \$500,000.

I'd like to express heartfelt thanks to retiring trustees Praful Vani, Sanjeev Gholap, Sai Batchu, and Srinivas Mallampalli. Praful and Sanjeev will continue supporting temple activities in various roles.

We warmly welcome new trustees Anurag Maheshwari, Bhanu Villuri, Bhavesh Patel, Ketan Parikh, Lilly Engineer, Sachin Hebbar, Sadhana Shavdia, and Vinod Makkam. I also extend my gratitude to our current board members and Board of Governors for their unwavering support.

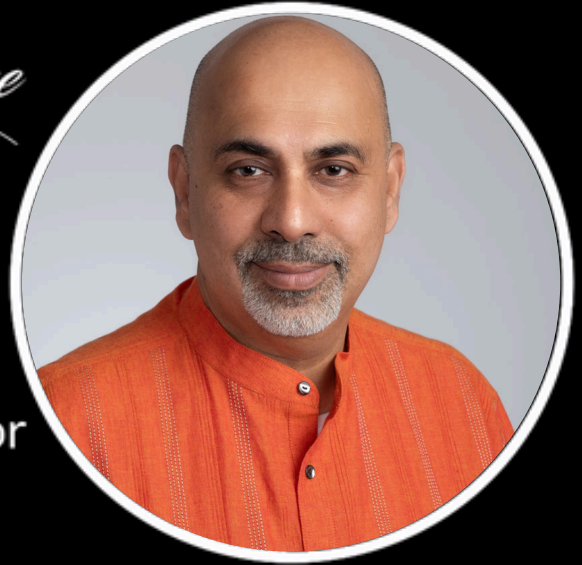
Atul Patel,
President

Buy and Sell with Confidence
with

PANKAJ GROVER

REALTOR

Your Trusted Neighborhood Realtor
Serving Maryland for 8 Years



WE PLEDGE TO DONATE A PORTION OF
EVERY SALE PROCEED TO GREATER
BALTIMORE TEMPLE.

DIRECT: 410-419-0336
OFFICE: 1-800-913-4326
GROVERREALTOR@GMAIL.COM

THE GREATER BALTIMORE TEMPLE
2909 BLOOM ROAD
PO BOX 690
FINKSBURG, MD 21048

PLEASE DELIVER IMMEDIATELY
TIME SENSITIVE MATERIAL
RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

NON-PROFIT ORG
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
FREDERICK, MD
PERMIT NUMBER 2036