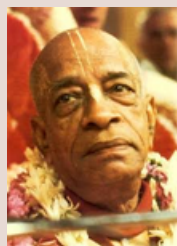




JANMASHTAMI 2026



International Society for Krishna Consciousness
Founder-Acharya: His Divine Grace A.C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupada



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a spiritual oasis in the valley of the sun





Happy Janmastami!

“Whenever and wherever
there is a decline in religious
practice, O descendant of Bharata,
and a predominant rise of irreligion –
at that time I descend Myself.

In order to deliver the pious
and to annihilate the miscreants,
as well as to reestablish the
principles of religion,
I advent Myself millennium
after millennium.”

Bhagavad-Gita 4.7-8

This is a statement made by Lord Krishna to Arjuna
at the battlefield of Kuruksetra over 5000 years ago.



The Lord incarnates to restore dharma (righteousness)
and reassures devotees that they are never alone,
and that divine help is always available
to guide and protect them.



As we celebrate the appearance
of Lord Krishna, we are reminded
of **His love, His mercy.**



We should always be
God-loving and not **God-fearing.**



Fear comes out of
guilt or ignorance; but
when we love, we automatically
**care, respect, protect, give
ourselves** and connect to the
cause of all causes, the **Supreme
Personality of Godhead.**



The abode of the Lord is
eternal & blissful, the Lord
Himself is Sac-Cid-Ananda,
full of eternity, knowledge
and bliss; He is omnipotent,
omnipresent, omniscient.

When we connect to the Lord,
when we love the Lord, then we also
love, care and protect His creation.

*May the Lord bless you
and your dear ones always!*



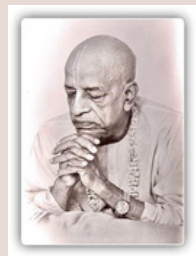
*Always remember Krishna,
never forget Krishna.*



ALWAYS REMEMBER KRISHNA, NEVER FORGET KRISHNA



Mārkine Bhāgavata-dharma written by
His Divine Grace A. C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupada



baro-kṛpā kaile kṛṣṇa adhamer prati
ki lāgiyānile hethā koro ebe gati

My dear Lord Kṛṣṇa, You are so kind upon this useless soul, but I
do not know why You have brought me here. Now You can do
whatever You like with me.

āche kichu kārja taba ei anumāne
nahe keno āniben ei ugra-sthāne

But I guess You have some business here, otherwise why would You
bring me to this terrible place?

rajas tamo guṇe erā sabāi ācchanna
bāsudeb-kathā ruci nahe se prasanna

Most of the population here is covered by the material modes of
ignorance and passion. Absorbed in material life, they think
themselves very happy and satisfied, and therefore they have no
taste for the transcendental message of Vāsudeva. I do not know
how they will be able to understand it.

tabe jadi taba kṛpā hoy ahaitukī
sakal-i sambhava hoy tumi se kautukī

But I know Your causeless mercy can make everything possible,
because You are the most expert mystic.





ki bhāve bujhāle tārā bujhe sei rasa
eta kṛpā koro prabhu kori nija-baśa

How will they understand the mellows of devotional service? O
Lord, I am simply praying for Your mercy so that I will be able to
convince them about Your message.

tomāra icch āya saba hoy māyā-baśa
tomāra icchāya nāśa māyār paraśa

All living entities have come under the control of the illusory
energy by Your will, and therefore, if You like, by Your will they can
also be released from the clutches of illusion.

taba icchā hoy jadi tādera uddhār
bujhibe niścai tabe kathā se tomār

I wish that You may deliver them. Therefore if You so desire their
deliverance, then only will they be able to understand Your
message.

bhāgavater kathā se taba avatār
dhīra haiyā śune jadi kāne bār bār

The words of Śrīmad-Bhāgavatam are Your incarnation, and if a
sober person repeatedly receives it with submissive aural reception,
then he will be able to understand Your message.



śṛṇu vatām sva-kathāḥ kṛṣṇaḥ
puṇya-śravaṇa-kīrtanaḥ
hṛdy antaḥ -stho hy abhadrāṇi
vidhunoti suhṛt satām

naṣṭa-prāyeṣv abhadreṣu
nityaṁ bhāgavata-sevayā
bhagavaty uttama-śloke
bhaktir bhavati naiṣṭhikī

tadā rajas-tamo-bhāvāḥ
kāma-lobhādayaś ca ye
ceta etair anāviddhaṁ
sthitaṁ sattve prasīdati

evaṁ prasanna-manaso
bhagavad-bhakti-yogataḥ
bhagavat-tattva-vijñānaṁ
mukta-saṅgasya jāyate

bhidyate hṛdaya-granthiś
chidyante sarva-saṁśayāḥ
kṣīyante cāsyā karmāṇi
dṛṣṭa evātmanīśvare



It is said in the Śrīmad-Bhāgavatam (1.2.17–21): “Śrī Kṛṣṇa, the Personality of Godhead, who is the Paramātmā [Supersoul] in everyone’s heart and the benefactor of the truthful devotee, cleanses desire for material enjoyment from the heart of the devotee who relishes His messages, which are in themselves virtuous when properly heard and chanted.

By regularly hearing the Bhāgavatam and rendering service unto the pure devotee, all that is troublesome to the heart is practically destroyed, and loving service unto the glorious Lord, who is praised with transcendental songs, is established as an irrevocable fact.

At the time loving service is established in the heart, the modes of passion [rajas] and ignorance [tamas] and lust and desire [kāma] disappear from the heart. Then the devotee is established in goodness and he becomes happy.

Thus established in the mode of goodness, the man rejuvenated by loving service to the Lord gains liberation from material association [mukti] and comes to know scientifically of the Personality of Godhead.

Thus the knots of the heart and all misgivings are cut to pieces. The chain of fruitive actions [karma] is terminated when one sees the Self as master.



rajas tamo hate tabe pāibe nistār
hṛdayer abhadra sab ghucibe tāhār

He will become liberated from the influence of the modes of
ignorance and passion and thus all inauspicious things accumulated
in the core of the heart will disappear.

ki ko're bujhābo kathā baro sei cāhi
khudra āmi dīna hīna kono śakti nāhi

How will I make them understand this message of Kṛṣṇa
consciousness? I am very unfortunate, unqualified, and the most
fallen. Therefore I am seeking Your benediction so that I can
convince them, for I am powerless to do so on my own.

athaca enecho prabhu kathā bolibāre
je tomār icchā prabhu koro ei bāre

Somehow or other, O Lord, You have brought me here to speak
about You. Now, my Lord, it is up to You to make me a success or
failure, as You like.

akhila jagat-guru! bacana se āmār
alañkṛta koribār khamatā tomār

O spiritual master of all the worlds! I can simply repeat Your
message, so if You like You can make my power of speaking
suitable for their understanding.

taba kṛpā ha'le mor kathā śuddha
habe śuniyā sabāra śoka duḥkha je ghucibe

Only by Your causeless mercy will my words become pure. I am sure
that when this transcendental message penetrates their hearts, they
will certainly feel englanded and thus become liberated from all
unhappy conditions of life.

āniyācho jadi prabhu āmāre nācāte
nācāo nācāo prabhu nācāo se-mate
kāṣṭhera puttali jathā nācāo se-mate

O Lord, I am just like a puppet in Your hands. So if You have
brought me here to dance, then make me dance, make me dance, O
Lord, make me dance as You like.





bhakti nāi beda nāi nāme khub daro
"bhaktivedānta" nām ebe sārthak koro

I have no devotion, nor do I have any knowledge, but I have strong
faith in the holy name of Kṛṣṇa. I have been designated as
Bhaktivedanta, and now, if You like, You can fulfill the real purport
of Bhaktivedanta.

Signed – the most unfortunate, insignificant beggar
A. C. Bhaktivedanta Swami, on board the ship Jaladuta,
Commonwealth Pier, Boston, Massachusetts, U.S.A.
dated 18th of September, 1965

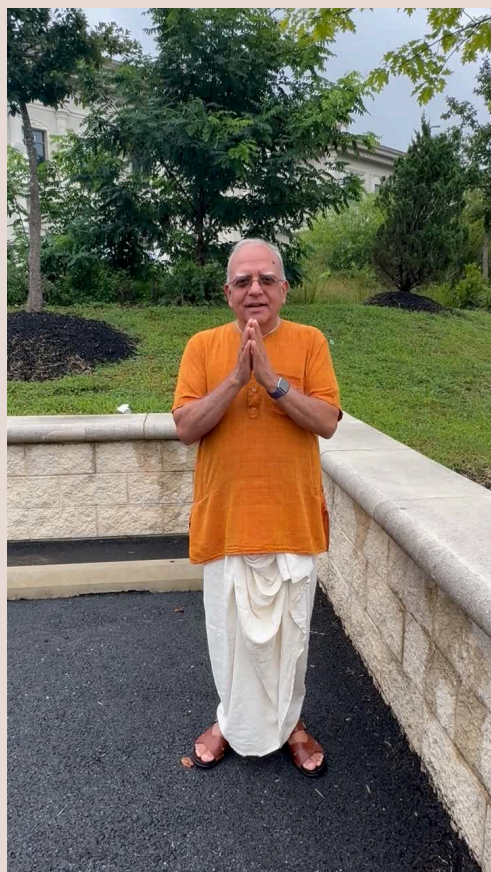


Sri Sri Radha Gopivallabha are the presiding Deities
of ISKCON Boston (Nava Gundica), personally
installed by His Divine Grace
A.C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupada in July 1971

HARE KRISHNA | HARE KRISHNA | KRISHNA KRISHNA | HARE HARE |
HARE RAMA | HARE RAMA | RAMA RAMA | HARE HARE



A Special Message by HG Rupanuga Das GBC Zone 5





Message from our Temple President

Hare Krishna!

Please accept my humble obeisances. All glories to Srila Prabhupada!

On this most auspicious occasion of Sri Krishna Janmastami, we joyfully celebrate the appearance of the Supreme Personality of Godhead, Lord Sri Krishna, Who mercifully appeared in this world to revive our eternal relationship with Him.

Janmastami is not simply a celebration of an historical event. It is an invitation to welcome Krishna into our hearts and into every aspect of our lives. As Srila Prabhupada so beautifully taught us, Krishna consciousness means remembering Krishna, serving Him with love, and sharing His message of devotion with others.

This year, as we celebrate together as the ISKCON Phoenix community, let us take this opportunity to deepen our sadhana, seva, and relationships with one another.

May our temple become a place where everyone (devotees, families, children, newcomers, and guests) feels welcomed, cared for, and inspired to take one more step toward Krishna.

Let us remember that the greatest offering we can make to Krishna is a sincere heart filled with devotion, gratitude, and the desire to serve.

On behalf of ISKCON Phoenix, I offer my heartfelt gratitude to all the devotees, volunteers, donors, families, and well-wishers whose service and support make this celebration possible. Every contribution, whether great or small, is an offering of love to Krishna.

May the appearance of Lord Krishna illuminate our hearts with love, compassion, wisdom, and devotion, and may His divine presence bless our families, our community, and all living beings.

With gratitude and prayers for your continued service,
Your servant in the service of Srila Prabhupada,

Premadhatri dasi



Excerpt from a class on Janmashtami

by HDG A.C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupada,
Montreal, August 1968



So today is that auspicious day, Janmāṣṭamī, when Lord Kṛṣṇa appeared five thousand years ago in India, Mathurā. Those who are Indian ladies and gentlemen present, they know very well where is Mathurā. It is about ninety miles south of New Delhi. Mathurā is still existing, and it is eternally existing. Kṛṣṇa appeared in Mathurā in His maternal uncle's house in a very precarious condition. That birthplace, Lord Kṛṣṇa's birthplace, is now maintained very nicely. One who goes to India, they see. So anyway, Lord Kṛṣṇa appeared on this planet five thousand years ago.

Now Kṛṣṇa says, janma karma me divyam ([BG 4.9](#)). Divyam means "not ordinary." It should not be understood just like we take our birth. Kṛṣṇa does not take His birth like us. That is also explained in the Bhagavad-gītā. When Arjuna inquired from Kṛṣṇa, "My dear Kṛṣṇa, You are speaking that formerly You spoke this yoga system of Bhagavad-gītā to the sun-god. That means it is millions and trillions years ago You spoke. How can I believe it?"

Because Kṛṣṇa was contemporary to Arjuna, so he was thinking that "Kṛṣṇa is my friend, is my cousin-brother. How it is possible that He spoke this Bhagavad-gītā yoga to sun-god?" So what was the reply? The reply was this, that "You also appear many, many times; I also appear many, many times. The difference is that I can remember; you cannot remember."

That is the difference between God and ordinary living creature, that we are also taking birth after birth. There are 8,400,000 species of life, and so long we are in this material world, we are cycling round this birth after birth. So Kṛṣṇa's birth is not like that.

Therefore Kṛṣṇa says, janma karma me divyaṁ yo jñānāti tattvataḥ ([BG 4.9](#)). Tattvataḥ means "in truth," not superficially. Scientifically, one who knows, he can get immediately liberation. And how one can understand the same truths? That is also explained in the Bhagavad-gītā: bhaktyā māṁ abhijānāti yāvan yaś cāsmi tattvataḥ ([BG 18.55](#)). Again the same thing, tattvataḥ, in truth. If anyone wants to know God, or Kṛṣṇa, in truth, not superficially, then he has to undertake the process of devotional service, bhaktyā.

In another place Kṛṣṇa says, patraṁ puṣpaṁ phalaṁ toyam yo me bhaktyā prayacchati ([BG 9.26](#)): "Any person who gives Me a little fruit, little flower, little water, but with devotion, bhaktyā . . ." that is the only qualification. So Kṛṣṇa says, tayā bhaktyā upāhṛtam aśnāmi: "Because he brings it with devotion and faith and love, I eat." Kṛṣṇa eats.

We are offering in the temple prasādam. So He eats, because He says "I eat." How you can say that He does not eat?

Some gentleman asked me that, "Swāmījī, you offer prasādam in the temple, but do you think Kṛṣṇa or God eats?" I answered, "Yes, why not? He says, 'I eat.' How you can say He does not eat? But you do not know how He eats."

Due to poor fund of knowledge, you think that God does not eat. But eat . . . His eating process is different. That is answered in the Brahma-saṁhitā. Brahma-saṁhitā, it is said, aṅgāni yasya sakalendriya-vṛtti-manti (Bs. 5.32). God's senses, Kṛṣṇa's senses, are as powerful as other senses. Just like I can see with my eyes, but Kṛṣṇa can eat also with His eyes. That is . . . aṅgāni yasya sakalendriya-vṛtti-manti.

Just like . . . there is many examples. Kṛṣṇa, or Viṣṇu, the first creation is that Garbhodakaśāyī Viṣṇu lying on the ocean, and Brahmā was created from His navel. There was a lotus stem grown from the abdomen of the Lord, and Brahmā was born. Now Lakṣmī, the goddess of fortune, was just sitting.

But as we understand that if we beget child, we require the cooperation of wife, but here we see that wife was sitting, but He begot Brahmā from the navel. This is called sarva-śaktimān. He does not require anyone's help. He can beget child, not exactly as we beget child. Therefore janma karma me divyam (BG 4.9). He is within your heart, He is everywhere, so He can appear from everywhere. Just like sun rises from the eastern side. It does not mean that eastern side is the mother of sun. We simply see that sun is rising from the eastern side. In this way, if we try to understand in truth, then we can understand what is God. Superficially, if we try to understand by our experimental knowledge, then it is not possible to understand God.

panthāstu koṭi-śata-vatsara-sampragamyo
vāyor athāpi manaso muni-puṅgavānāṁ
so 'pyasti yat prapada-sīmny-avicintya-tattve
govindam Adi-puruṣaṁ tam ahaṁ bhajāmi
(Bs. 5.34)

The Brahma-saṁhitā said that if one starts on the chariot of air and makes progress on the speed of mind, still one cannot understand what is God.

Vedeṣu durlabham adurlabham ātma-bhaktau
(Bs. 5.33). He cannot be understood simply by studying Vedas. Traiguṇya viśayā vedah
nistraiguṇyo bhavāṛjuna (BG 2.45).



One has to transcend the position of Vedas also. Then one can understand what is God, or what is Kṛṣṇa. So that process is explained in the Bhagavad-gītā, that bhaktyā māṁ abhijānāti yāvan yaś cāsmi tattvataḥ (BG 18.55).

So this bhakti, devotional service of Kṛṣṇa, is so nice. And under that bhakti category, this Janmāṣṭamī . . . of course, this Janmāṣṭamī ceremony is observed by all Hindus.

Irrespective of becoming Vaiṣṇava or not, this ceremony is observed in India, every home. Just like in your Western countries the Christmas is observed in every home, similarly, Janmāṣṭamī is observed in every home. Today is a great ceremonial day...



*“Wisdom begins with understanding the spirit self, animating the body and the mind. The basis of authenticity is to understand on who we really are and connect with other people on that basis, while recognizing the differences. All living entities are connected to the same source. Bhakti Yoga: How we act in a relationship with the ultimate connection with Kṛṣṇa”
(Romapada Swami)*

Seven Purposes of ISKCON



International Society for Krishna Consciousness
Founder-Acharya: His Divine Grace A.C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupada



Cleansing the Heart: Lessons from Guṇḍicā-marjana



In a class, His Holiness Niranjana Swami spoke on the beautiful pastime of Guṇḍicā-marjana, the cleansing of the Guṇḍicā temple by Sri Caitanya Mahāprabhu. Drawing from Caitanya-caritāmṛta and the teachings of Śrīla Prabhupāda and Śrīla Bhaktisiddhānta Sarasvatī Ṭhākura, Maharaja highlighted the deeper significance of this seemingly simple act of cleaning.

Śrī Caitanya Mahāprabhu personally led the devotees in cleansing the temple before Lord Jagannātha's arrival. He did not merely instruct others—He Himself picked up a broom and worked harder than everyone else. He carefully removed the dust, sand, weeds, and other impurities. Even after the temple appeared clean, Mahāprabhu asked the devotees to clean it again, demonstrating the level of attentiveness expected in devotional service.

Maharaja explained that this pastime is an instruction about cleansing the heart.

Śrī Caitanya Mahāprabhu taught: ceto-darpaṇa-mārjanam, “Cleansing the mirror of the heart.”

Just as the Guṇḍicā temple had to be thoroughly cleansed before welcoming Lord Jagannātha, our hearts must be cleansed of unwanted desires, selfish motivations, pride, envy, and other impurities that prevent us from experiencing Krishna's presence more deeply.

Krishna is already present within the heart as the Supersoul. Yet when the heart becomes purified, we become increasingly conscious of His presence and more capable of hearing and following His direction. The purpose of cleansing the heart is therefore not simply to remove unwanted things, it is to prepare ourselves for a deeper and more intimate relationship with Krishna.

Maharaja also connected this pastime with the mood of Vṛndāvana. During Rathayātrā, Lord Jagannātha travels to the Guṇḍicā temple, which is understood to represent Vṛndāvana. Vṛndāvana is characterized by the spontaneous love and affection of Krishna's devotees. When the heart is cleansed, we become more capable of developing the humility and selflessness necessary for such loving service. Another powerful lesson Maharaja drew from Mahāprabhu's example was the importance of leading by example. Sri Caitanya Mahāprabhu praised those who cleaned attentively and encouraged them to teach others through their example. When someone was not performing properly, He corrected them—not out of resentment, but for their benefit.

This illustrates an important principle emphasized repeatedly by Śrīla Prabhupāda: example is more powerful than precept. A devotee who sincerely works to purify his or her own heart becomes a much more effective instrument for helping others.

This naturally brings us to another teaching of Sri Caitanya Mahāprabhu:

tṛṇād api sunīcena
taror api sahiṣṇunā
amāninā mānadena
kīrtanīyaḥ sadā hariḥ

One should be humbler than a blade of grass, more tolerant than a tree, offer respect to others, and not expect respect for oneself.

Maharaja emphasized that a Vaiṣṇava does not intentionally cause pain to another living being. Even when correction or chastisement is necessary, it should come from a desire for the person's welfare—not from anger, pride, or the desire to see someone suffer.

Thus, the cleansing of Guṇḍicā becomes a powerful mirror for our own spiritual lives.

Are we willing to look honestly at what is accumulating within our hearts? Are we willing to remove what prevents us from serving Krishna and others with love?

The lesson of Guṇḍicā-marjana is not simply to clean a temple. It is to clean the heart, serve attentively, lead by example, accept correction with humility, and act for the welfare of others.

As we prepare to welcome Krishna more fully into our hearts, may we follow the example of Sri Caitanya Mahāprabhu and continually engage in the sacred work of ceto-darpaṇa-mārjanam—the cleansing of the mirror of the heart.

*"If we are motivated by what is favorable for us,
we are not striving for pure devotion;*

*if we are motivated by what is favorable for Krishna,
then we are moving toward pure bhakti.*

*Examining our motives
is part of devotional practice. "*
(Niranjana Swami)





VYASA PUJA 2025

*nama om vishnu-padaya krishna-preshthaya bhu-tale
srimate bhaktivedanta-svamin iti namine
namas te saraswate deve gaura-vani-pracharine
nirvishesha-shunyavadi-pashchatya-desha-tarine*

Dear Srila Prabhupada,

With deep reverence and gratitude, we offer our humble obeisances at your divine lotus feet.

You have gifted the world with the priceless treasure of Krishna consciousness, lighting up the path for us all to follow. Your tireless dedication, boundless compassion, and firm faith and commitment to the mission of Lord Caitanya have transformed our lives and the lives of countless souls across the globe.

We thank you from the core of our hearts for the priceless gift of the holy names of the Lord, for your teachings that guide us through the turmoil of this material world, and for the practical instructions that allow us to remain hopeful and afloat in this age of hypocrisy.

As we navigate the daily challenges of preserving your divine mission, we pray for your eternal blessings. Please guide us to keep your vision and your mission alive in our hearts, that we may always act in service to your instructions and the glorious legacy you've left behind.

You have shown us the way on how to care for one another, please help us to do the same, to uplift each other, to imbibe the essential values of cooperation, humility, and selflessness that you have taught us.

May we be inspired by your example of compassion and dedication, so that we may truly do justice to your instructions and remain steadfast in the service of Lord Krishna and His devotees.

Please empower us to be worthy instruments in your hands to continue your mission with sincerity, determination, and love.

We pray that you continue to guide us, that you forgive our many shortcomings.

We pray that we may serve you and the devotees in the spirit of unity and devotion.

We pray that by your mercy we may always remember Krishna, never forget Krishna.

With outmost respect, gratitude and love,

Your aspiring servants at ISKCON Phoenix (Arizona)



I offer my respectful obeisances unto His Divine Grace A.C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupada, who is very dear to Lord Krishna, having taken shelter at His lotus feet. Our respectful obeisances are unto you, O spiritual master, servant of Bhaktisiddhanta Saraswati Goswami. You are kindly preaching the message of Lord Chaitanyadeva and delivering the Western countries, which are filled with impersonalism and voidism.

Daily Schedule

4:30 AM : Mangala Arati

5:00 AM : Tulsi Puja

5:15 AM : Japa Meditation

7:00 AM : Deity Greeting & Sundara Arati

7:05 AM : Guru Puja & Kirtan

7:35 AM : **Srimad Bhagavatam Class**
(explicating select verses from this spotless and greatest Purana)

8:00 AM : Dhupa Arati

12:00 PM : Rajbhoga Arati

4:30 PM : Dhupa Arati

6:30 PM : Sandhya Arati

7:00 PM : Bhagavad Gita Class

8:30 PM : Sayana Arati



Darsana Times

4:30 AM to 5:00 AM

7:00 AM to 11:20 AM

12:00 PM to 12:30 PM

5:00 PM to 6:00 PM

6:30 PM to 7:00 PM

8:30 PM to 8:45 PM

Sunday Feast Schedule

5:00 PM : Sandhya Arati

5:35 PM : Sunday Feast Class

6:45 PM : Prasadam Feast

7:00 PM : Temple Closed

8:30 PM : Sayana Arati



Darsana Times

5:00 PM to 7:00 PM

8:30 PM to 8:45 PM

***** Temple is closed everyday from 12:30 pm to 5:00 pm *****

"One who neither hates nor desires the fruits of his activities is known to be always renounced. Such a person, free from all dualities, easily overcomes material bondage and is completely liberated, O mighty-armed Arjuna". BG 5.3



FROM OUR KITCHEN TO YOURS

mahā-prasāde govinde
nāma-brahmaṇi vaiṣṇave
svalpa-puṇyavatāṁ rājan
viśvāso naiva jāyate



sarira abidya-jal, jodendriya tahe kal,
jibe phele bisaya-sagore
ta'ra madhye jihva ati, lobhamoy sudurmati
ta'ke jeta kathina somsare

krsna baro doyamoy, karibare jihva jay,
swa-prasad-anna dilo bhai
sei annamrta khao, radha-krsna-guna gao,
preme dako caitanya-nitai

Recipes



MAHA-

KI JAI

PRASADAM

"O King, for those who have amassed very
few pious activities, their faith in maha-
prasada, in Sri Govinda, in the Holy Name,
and in the Vaisnava is never born."

"This material body is a network of ignorance, and the senses are
one's deadly enemies, for they throw the soul into the ocean of
material sense enjoyment. Among the senses, the tongue is the most
voracious and verily wicked; it is very difficult to conquer the tongue
in this world."

Lord Krsna is very merciful-just to control the tongue He has given us the remnants of His
own food! Now please eat these nectarean grains while singing the glories of Their
Lordships Sri Sri Radha and Krsna, and in love call out "Caitanya! Nitai!"

WHOLE MOONG DAL DOSA (PESARATTU)

INGREDIENTS

- Whole Moong Green Dal
- Green Chillies
- Ginger
- Cumin Seeds
- Salt

METHOD

- Soak 1 cup of whole green moong dal overnight
- Next day wash them thoroughly and grind the whole moong dal along with 2-3 green chillies, and ½ inch ginger by adding water.
- Make the batter consistency as dosa batter. Add salt according to the taste and add a tea spoon of cumin seeds.



by Lilavati devi dasi

TO MAKE DOSA

- Take a ladle full of dosa batter and spread on the pan
- Apply oil or ghee along sides of the pan
- Wait until it turns golden brown
- Flip on the other side and wait until it cooks
- Pesarattu is ready and can be served with coconut/peanut/ginger chutney

HOME MADE ICE CREAM

What is more delicious than ice cream to beat the heat of summer? Home made ice cream is not only delicious but also free from any preservatives.

INGREDIENTS

- Heavy whipping cream: 32 oz
- Condensed milk: 2 cans
- Evaporated milk: 2 cans
- Vanilla essence: 1 tsp
- Cardamom powder: 1 tsp

DIRECTIONS

- Beat the whipping cream using electric mixer to get cool whip out of it, mix condensed milk and evaporated milk to it n beat it again.
- Add cardamom powder n vanilla essence to it. This is basic Vanilla ice cream, you can transfer it to a container, cover with lid and keep in freezer for overnight.
- If you want different flavors then add ingredients accordingly to the basic vanilla liquid mixture.

Variations:

For Saffron pistachio aka Kesar-Pista : Soak saffron in warm milk to get a nice color, add this along with chopped pistachio n tutti-frutti. Store it in freezer for overnight n Kesar Pista ice cream is ready.

Mango : add sweetened mango pulp ,tutti-frutti, chopped pistachio to get Mango ice cream.

Rose: add rosé syrup and gulkand to get Rose ice cream.

Once ice cream is ready offer it to the Lord and honor the prasadam.

Jai Jagannath!



By: Madhumayi Shri Lakshmi dd



The Power of Prasadam



"A person who honors the prasadam (Mercy of the Lord) and regularly eats it, not exactly in front of the Deity, along with caranamrta [the water offered to the lotus feet of the Lord, which is mixed with seeds of the tulasi tree], immediately can achieve the results of pious activities which are obtained through ten thousand performances of sacrificial rites." Padma Purana

"...We should
never waste
Krishna prasadam"
Srla Prabhupada



"If one offers Me with love and devotion a leaf, a flower, a fruit or water, I will accept it." BG.26

Nurturing the Seeds of Devotion

Sunday School



Sunday School is much more than a class. It is an opportunity to help children develop a loving relationship with Krishna and grow up feeling that Krishna consciousness is a natural and joyful part of their lives.

Just as a gardener carefully waters a seed, protects it, and gives it the right nourishment to grow, our teachers lovingly nurture the seed of devotion in each child. Through Krishna's pastimes, bhajans, stories, activities, friendship, and the example of dedicated devotees, children receive spiritual nourishment that can remain with them throughout their lives.

At ISKCON Phoenix, our Sunday School is organized into three groups, allowing the children to learn and grow according to their age and stage:

- Gopala Class
- Giri-Govardhana Class
- Damodara Class

Our teachers offer their time, creativity, patience, and love to create a joyful environment where children can ask questions, make friends, learn about Krishna, and experience the warmth of devotee association. Every class is another opportunity to water the seed of bhakti.

When parents and teachers work together to nurture that seed, we give our children something precious, not simply knowledge about Krishna, but the foundation for a lifelong relationship with Him and the way we relate with others, understanding that everything and everyone is part of Krishna's creation.

Thank you for allowing us to continue to water, nurture, and protect these precious seeds of devotion, we pray that one day they may blossom beautifully in the hearts of our children.

Meet the Teachers



Suresh Prabhu
Lead Teacher
Gopala Class
(4-6 yrs old)



Smita Mataji
Lead Teacher
Giri-Govardhan Class
(7-9 yrs old)



Sobhamayi devi dasi
Lead Teacher
Damodar Class
(10-12 yrs old)



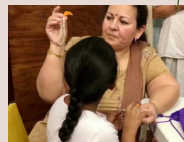
Karunamrta devi dasi
Giri Govardhan Class
(7-9 yrs old)

*Our teachers have received Child Protection training as required by
ISKCON Child Protection Office*



A Journey of Service: Investing in Our Children

By: SyamaMohinī devi dasi



After many years of service as a Sunday School teacher, I would like to take a moment to express my deepest gratitude to everyone who has been part of this journey.

My service began many years ago at ISKCON Boston, at the lotus feet of Sri Sri Radha-Gopivallabha, and, after 23 years of teaching and serving our children as a Sunday School teacher, it now comes to an end at the lotus feet of Sri Sri Radha-MadhavaHari at ISKCON Phoenix.

What a beautiful journey Krishna has given me!

I am especially grateful to the temple managements both in Boston and Phoenix who entrusted me with this sacred service, to all the parents who placed their faith in us, and most of all, to the children who taught me far more than I could ever teach them. Their innocence, questions, enthusiasm, and love for Krishna have been a constant source of inspiration.

I am also deeply grateful to my husband, KanhaPriya das and my daughters, Vidya & Divya, whose love, encouragement, patience, and support made it possible for me to dedicate so many years to this service. Their support was an important part of this journey, and I carry that gratitude in my heart.

As I step away from this particular service, I feel even more strongly that our work with children must continue and must become an even greater priority. Srila Prabhupada writes in his purport to Srimad Bhagavatam 1.8.5:

“The protection of children gives the human form of life its best chance to prepare the way of liberty from material bondage.”

In this age of Kali, planting the proper seeds and making the right investment is more important than ever. The human form of life is an extraordinary opportunity, to come out of the cycle of birth and death and to reconnect with the Supreme Lord. Krishna has given each of us the wonderful gift of free will. It is therefore our responsibility to help our children understand how to use that gift wisely, not misuse or abuse it.

When we protect and nurture our children, we are not simply caring for the present generation. We are caring for the generations that will come after them and contributing to the future of our entire society.

We often say, “our children are the future of our society.” But we must also ask ourselves: Are we giving them the tools, values, spiritual foundation, and safe environment they need to navigate the difficult waters of Kali-yuga?



In SB 12.2.1, Sukadeva Goswami explains that religion, truthfulness, cleanliness, tolerance, mercy, longevity, physical strength, and memory will gradually diminish. How, then, can we strengthen these pillars of dharma?

By investing in our children.
By protecting them.
By creating healthy and safe environments for them.
By teaching them Krishna consciousness.
And, perhaps most importantly, by giving them our own good example.

This is not the responsibility of one person, one department, or one group of volunteers. We are all in this together!

It makes a tremendous difference when temple management, Child Protection Team and Child Protection Office, Sunday School teachers, parents, and the broader devotee community work together with a common purpose: to protect, nurture, educate, and inspire our children.

Sunday School is one important part of that investment. Every story told, every bhajan sung, every question answered, every friendship formed, and every loving interaction with a devotee can become another drop of water nourishing the seed of devotion within a child's heart.

After 23 years, I may be stepping away from the classroom, but I certainly do not feel that the service is finished. Rather, I hope that this next chapter will allow me to continue supporting the larger vision of Investing in Our Children, Investing in Our Society, because there is no greater investment we can make for the future of our Krishna conscious community.

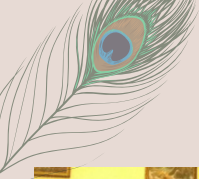
To all who have walked beside me on this journey: thank you! Thank you for your trust, your encouragement, your friendship, and the opportunity to serve your children.

May the blessings of SriSri Radha-Krishna and the protection of Lord Nrsimha be with all our children and guide us to become worthy caretakers of these precious souls.

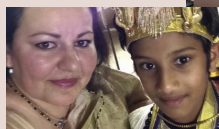
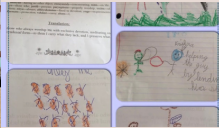
Let us continue planting the seeds of devotion, watering them with love and good example, and creating the safe and nurturing environment and memories in which they can grow.

Our children are not simply our future. They are Krishna's precious gifts entrusted to our care today.





Collage of Memories





International Society for Krishna Consciousness
Founder-Acharya: His Divine Grace A.C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupada

ISKCON PHOENIX Child Protection Team

The purpose of the ISKCON PHOENIX Child Protection Team (CPT) is to provide community members a place to report any concern of child abuse or neglect. The CPT also helps create an environment that is safe for children through awareness education and child safety policies. The CPT follows the ISKCON Child Protection Office Guidelines, which include confidentiality and reporting to local legal authorities when appropriate.

The CPT serves under the mission of the ISKCON Central Office of Child Protection:

To protect the children of Srila Prabhupada's movement from child abuse and neglect. By doing so, we strengthen the future of the movement—the children—while providing an example to the world of a spiritual society that practices compassionate care and protection.

Serving on the ISKCON PHOENIX Child Protection Team are:

Syama Mohini devi dasi (habla español) * Nama Priya devi dasi * Rasa Krida das

Please contact us regarding any concern of child abuse or neglect you may have at iskconphxcpt@gmail.com.

What is a Child Protection Team?

The Child Protection Team is a group of devotees chosen by the local ISKCON community who have the initial responsibility for responding to reports of child abuse. CPT members are reasonably knowledgeable about appropriate responses, can offer guidance to parents and community members, and will follow up to help ensure that proper procedures have been followed. Temples are required to have a Child Protection Team by GBC resolution.

It is every GBC's duty to ensure there are active and trained CPTs in place at the temples, projects, and schools under their supervision, with support and reminders from the central and/or regional Child Protection Office.

An Ounce of Prevention Is Worth a Pound of Cure

In an effort to increase awareness, support, and healthy family dynamics, we periodically hold educational seminars within the ISKCON Phoenix community. Please watch for these opportunities and help spread the word. Even if some events do not directly relate to your life, you may be able to help a friend or family member navigate a difficult situation someday.



Child Safety Policy

ISKCON Phoenix welcomes children of all ages. We are committed to providing a safe, respectful, and pleasant environment for everyone. To help us maintain a safe temple for all visitors, please observe the following guidelines:

1. Parental Supervision

Parents or legal guardians must accompany and directly supervise children 12 years of age and under at all times.

2. During Temple Programs

Please remain with your child while in the temple room and provide a quiet activity to help them participate respectfully.

3. Respect for the Temple

Please help children understand:

- How to behave respectfully in the temple room.
- Not to handle or damage musical instruments.
- Where they may and may not play.

4. Designated Play Areas

Children may play only in the designated play area located on the north side of the temple (swing set area).

Children may not play in the Tulasi pavilion, flower beds, parking lots or driveways, climb or damage trees, run inside the temple room, bathrooms, or the prasadam hall.

5. Prohibited Activities

For everyone's safety, bicycling, skateboarding, rollerblading, and riding scooters are not permitted on temple grounds.

6. Restricted Areas

Children are not permitted to enter:

- Ashrams (resident rooms)
- Kitchen
- Pujari Room

7. Temple Grounds

Children are welcome to admire the flowers but should not pick them.

8. Responsibility

Temple residents, staff and/or youth **are not** responsible for children who are unsupervised or members unaccompanied.

9. Unattended Children

If an unattended child is found, temple staff or residents will make every reasonable effort to locate the child's parent or legal guardian. If a parent or guardian cannot be located, the appropriate authorities may be contacted.

Our Commitment

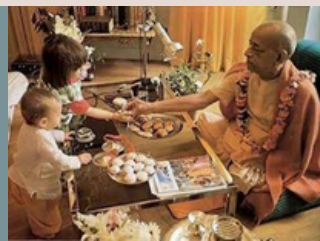
ISKCON Phoenix reaffirms the following:

- a) ISKCON Phoenix is committed to abiding by the ISKCON Child Protection Office Policy and Operational Guidelines.
- b) ISKCON Phoenix is committed to supporting the efforts of the Child Protection Team to raise awareness and help create a safe and nurturing environment for our children's growth in Krishna consciousness.
- c) ISKCON Phoenix Management is committed to working with the Child Protection Team to ensure that our yatra remains in full compliance with the ISKCON Child Protection Office.
- d) ISKCON Phoenix will continue to support programs that benefit our children through our "Invest in Our Children" initiative.
- e) ISKCON Phoenix will not host, engage, or permit participation by any visitor, guest speaker, saṅkīrtana leader, or other individual who has an outstanding case with the Child Protection Office or who has not received clearance from the Child Protection Office.
- f) ISKCON Phoenix acknowledges that no ecclesiastical or managerial authority is above the law.
- g) ISKCON Phoenix is committed to fostering a culture of prevention, transparency, accountability, and compassionate care, recognizing that safeguarding children is a shared responsibility of every member of our community.



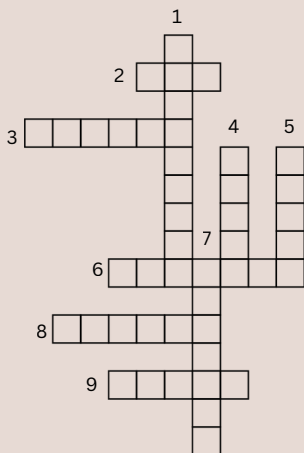
**Thank you for helping us maintain a safe, welcoming, and
spiritually uplifting environment for everyone visiting
Sri Sri Radha-Madhavahari at ISKCON Phoenix**

"Please take care of the children and make them perfectly Krishna conscious. That is a very great service. If, by your endeavor, one or two souls who come under your protection become liberated in this life, that is a great transcendental service to the Lord." —
Sri la Prabhupada, Letter to Hamsaduta, September 30, 1969





Puzzle Time



Down:

1. Hill lifted by Krishna
4. Krishna loves to play this instrument
5. love to serve Radha & Krishna,
7. the all attractive,

Across:

2. one of our seven mothers,
3. Krishna's foster mother,
6. love to eat butter with Krishna,
8. Krishna's birth mother,
9. Krishna's energy,



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**CHECK OUT OUR SATURDAY AND
WEEKDAY LUNCH SPECIALS!**

HOW TO PLACE MY ORDER:

Radharani's Kitchen makes it easy for you to enjoy your busy weekend schedule. Simply place your orders by 8PM the day before and pick up is at the temple every weekday and Saturday from 11AM-1PM!

WHERE/WHEN TO PICK UP MY ORDER:

You can pick up your order from Radharani's Kitchen between 11AM-1PM at the Temple:
**100 S Weber Dr
Chandler, AZ 85226**



ISKCON Phoenix Youth Group: Growing Together in Krishna Consciousness

Hare Krishna!



The ISKCON Phoenix Youth Group is building a vibrant future by creating a space where young devotees can grow spiritually, develop leadership skills, serve together, and build meaningful friendships.

Meeting online every Sunday, the group studies Srimad Bhagavatam chapter by chapter, creating an environment where everyone has an opportunity to participate and share their understanding.

Each week, a different member takes responsibility for leading the discussion, encouraging confidence, teamwork, leadership, and a spirit of cooperation. Through this shared responsibility, the youth are not only learning about Krishna, they are learning how to serve, lead, listen, and support one another.

With compassion and a genuine desire to help create a safe environment for younger devotees, they have embraced this responsibility and are learning that protecting children is an essential part of building a healthy spiritual community.

The Youth Group has also enthusiastically participated in Ratha-Yatra, taking part in the many services surrounding the festival and contributing their youthful energy and enthusiasm to this joyful celebration. Beyond Ratha-Yatra, the group organizes the Balarama Purnima festival and regularly looks for opportunities to serve.

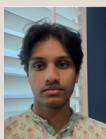
They enthusiastically lead bhajans and kīrtans at the temple, at home programs, and during special programs. They also look forward to their day retreats, where they have the opportunity to participate in the morning program, enjoy devotee association, and be inspired by uplifting talks and discussions.

What makes the Youth Group special is that service and spiritual growth go hand in hand. Through their activities, our young devotees are discovering that they have an important place and an important voice within the ISKCON community.

As they look toward the future, the Youth Group hopes to expand its service, strengthen its relationships, welcome more young people, and become an increasingly active part of the temple community.

When young devotees are given opportunities to learn, lead, serve, and be heard, they don't simply become the future of ISKCON, they become an important part of its vibrant present. Their enthusiasm, ideas, and dedication can help build a stronger, more united, and spiritually thriving community for generations to come.

For more information please contact Bhakta Nikhit or Nama Priya devi dasi



*“...if these young people are instructed about bhakti-yoga,
Kṛṣṇa consciousness, the instructions will certainly be
effective...” Srila Prabhupada*



Educating Girls, Empowering Women, Transforming Communities

By Jiya P.



According to UNICEF, 119 million girls are not in schools worldwide. In fact, Unicef continues by stating that only 48% of countries have gender parity in primary schools and 24% in higher secondary education. In other words, 52% of countries lack gender parity in primary schools and 76% in secondary schools. This is alarming because that means millions of girls are either removed from school or were never enrolled whether it was for child marriage, social restrictions, poverty, violence, etc. Every time a girl leaves the classroom, the world loses a mind capable of changing it. Millions of dreams, untapped ideas, inventions, and leaders are destroyed. That is why education for women is so important. Every child deserves the opportunity to be educated and to make a difference.

Education, specifically, is one of the most important factors in women empowerment. According to the World Bank Group, women with a secondary education are more likely to work and earn twice as much as those with no education. This is important because oftentimes women are forced to remain in abusive households or are financially dependent on their husbands because they lack the education necessary to have higher paying jobs in the formal economy. In other words, education allows women to take control over their lives since they can choose financial decisions that will impact their lives.

Some may argue that there are other methods for women to improve their conditions. After all, the 21st century is marked by humanity's ability to create new opportunities. However, education is the strongest catalyst for improving women's economic position. In a 2024 address at the United Nations' Transforming Education special event, UN Secretary-General António Guterres described education as "the single-most important investment any country can make—in its people and in its future." It is evident that education is the primary path to empower women.

But why should this matter to us as followers of Krishna consciousness?

In the Bhagavad Gita, Lord Krishna states: *niyataṁ kuru karma tvaṁ/karma jyāyo hy akarmaṇaḥ/śārīra-yātrāpi ca te/na prasidhyed akarmaṇaḥ*. The English translation is "Perform your prescribed duty, for doing so is better than not working. One cannot even maintain one's physical body without work". In his purport, His Divine Grace A.C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Srila Prabhupada explains that Lord Krishna does not encourage passivity, dependency, or neglect of one's responsibilities. One must engage in their prescribed duty with sincerity and dedication. Therefore, educating women can be viewed as part of fulfilling one's responsibilities since it allows women to take charge of their lives. While the results of our efforts remain in Lord Krishna's hands, we must perform our duties sincerely and to the best of our ability. Empowering women with education is not only a social responsibility but also a means of fostering confidence, independence, and responsible stewardship.

As a society, we can start by recognizing education as a form of empowerment rather than taking our own educational opportunities for granted. We can mentor younger girls, volunteer with organizations that support education, support programs that provide educational resources, and speak up when social expectations prevent girls from pursuing their potential. Most importantly, we can change the way we think about empowerment. When we educate a girl, we are not simply helping one student pass a test.

We are investing in a person, a family, a community, and a future. And when we use our own opportunities to help others receive theirs, we are not only creating social change, we are fulfilling our spiritual responsibility to serve others with sincerity and compassion.



*"Every time a girl leaves the classroom, the world
loses a mind capable of changing it."*



Women in Krishna Consciousness - WIKC



The Women in Krishna Consciousness initiative at ISKCON Phoenix provides a nurturing space for women to grow in spiritual knowledge, build meaningful relationships, share their experiences, and support one another in devotional service.

Through a variety of programs, we seek to create an environment where every woman feels welcomed, valued, heard, and inspired.

Our Reading Group offers an opportunity for women to deepen their understanding of Srila Prabhupada's teachings through regular study and discussion. We are currently exploring Sri Caitanya-Caritamrta learning together and reflecting on how its teachings can enrich our daily practice and service.

Talks & Crafts provides a more informal and personal setting, a time to come together, connect, and enjoy devotee association, along with creative activities and inspiring discussions.

The initiative also helps women connect with the Vaishnavi Ministry, providing representation and a voice for local Vaishnavis. Lilavati devi dasi, our local Vaishnavi representative, is available to help connect women with resources, support, and opportunities for service and engagement.

ISKCON Phoenix has embraced the Intimate Partner Abuse (IPA) Prevention Policy, reflecting our commitment to fostering a safe, respectful, and supportive community. SyamaMohini devi dasi serves as our local IPA Representative, providing a confidential and compassionate point of contact for those who may have concerns, need guidance or support, or would like to learn more about resources for preventing and addressing intimate partner abuse.

Throughout the year, we also organize special programs and gatherings celebrating Vaishnavi contributions, spiritual growth, friendship, and service.

At the heart of Women in Krishna Consciousness is a simple desire: to create a strong and caring community of Vaishnavis where women can grow together in Krishna consciousness and inspire one another in service.

By learning together, supporting one another, and creating safe and nurturing spaces, we strengthen not only the women in our community but the entire ISKCON Phoenix family.

Together, we learn. Together, we serve. Together, we grow in Krishna consciousness.



Lilavati devi dasi
Local Rep
VMNA



SyamaMohini devi dasi
IPA Rep & IPA WG



GBC Resolution on Intimate Partner Abuse - Domestic Abuse

“Intimate partner abuse is indefensible, illegal in many countries, and never accepted within the International Society for Krishna Consciousness (ISKCON). Any interpretation of Vaishnava religious or social teachings that condones, endorses, or justifies domestic abuse is rejected by the Governing Body Commission.”

— March 2020 GBC Resolution

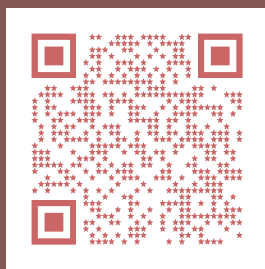
DOMESTIC ABUSE IS A SEVERE VIOLATION OF THE ESSENTIAL PRACTICES OF KRISHNA CONSCIOUSNESS AND VAISHNAVA CULTURE. IF YOU ARE IN AN ABUSIVE RELATIONSHIP AND FEAR FOR YOUR SAFETY, CONTACT THE POLICE (911) OR YOUR LOCAL IPA REPRESENTATIVE.



**Good relationships begin
with respectful relationships**

**“Domestic abuse should not be tolerated on temple property, either between couples or within families living on temple property, or by those visiting our communities” (Governing Body Commission - GBC)
Domestic Abuse Policy - Feb 2020**

There is never, ever an excuse for any type of abuse, including emotional and psychological abuse. To disclose that you are in an abusive situation to someone you trust like a close friend, spiritual guide, a Vaishnavi Minister, or a professional, is not acknowledging personal failure or shortcomings, but is a positive step towards healing.



Sharing is Caring

Got books?



Distributing Srila Prabhupada's precious gems is one of the ways we can help others receive a spiritual vision. By hearing the Holy Name of Krishna, a connection may be awakened. A seed of devotion can be planted in the heart, and our responsibility is to continue watering that seed—with the Holy Name, loving association, and Krishna consciousness—so that it may one day blossom.

With Gratitude for Every Service

Hare Krishna!

As we reflect on all that has been accomplished at ISKCON Phoenix throughout the year, we would like to take a moment to express our deepest gratitude to every devotee and well-wisher whose service, support, and presence help make our temple a home for Krishna consciousness.

There are so many services that take place, some visible and others quietly offered behind the scenes. From our pujaris and temple residents, to those serving in Bhakti Vṛkṣa, Social Media, Sunday School and education, Srimad Bhagavatam class, reading Srila Prabhupada's books, Sunday Feast classes, the garden, cleaning, boutique, home programs, college outreach, Food for Life, Devotee Care, Youth programs, cooking, festivals, and so many other areas, each service is an essential part of the beautiful offering we make to Sri Sri Radha-Madhava-Hari.

It would be difficult to list everyone's name—and perhaps it is better that we don't try, because no one is behind and no service is insignificant. Every person who gives their time, talent, resources, prayers, encouragement, or simply their loving presence is contributing to the spiritual life of our community.

A devotee may cook a meal, clean a room, welcome a newcomer, teach a child, lead kirtan, care for another devotee, plant a flower, manage a social media post, serve prasadam, organize a festival, open their home, or quietly offer support when it is needed. Krishna sees every offering made with sincerity and love.

We also extend our heartfelt appreciation to all our well-wishers, families, children, youth, seniors, and devotees of every age who continue to support and participate in the life of our temple. Your contributions—large and small—are noticed, valued, and deeply appreciated throughout the year.

On behalf of the temple community, we humbly say:

Thank you for your service.

Thank you for your trust.

Thank you for your love.

Thank you for helping make ISKCON Phoenix a place where devotees can serve, families can grow, and Krishna consciousness can flourish.

May Sri Sri Radha-Madhava-Hari shower Their blessings upon you and your loved ones, give you strength and inspiration in your service, and bless you with ever-deepening devotion, good association, and the joy of serving Their mission.

Every service matters. Every devotee matters. Every offering of love matters.

With heartfelt gratitude and prayers,

ISKCON Phoenix



an oasis in the valley of the sun