



VEDANTA SOCIETY OF NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

2323 Vallejo Street (at Fillmore) San Francisco, CA 94123

Swami Tattwamayananda, Minister
Ramakrishna Order of India

FEBRUARY 2020

SUNDAY LECTURES: 11 A.M.

- February 2: "The Search for Happiness"
Swami Vedananda
- February 9: "The Ultimate Support"
Swami Vedananda
- February 16: "The Message of Shivaratri"
Swami Tattwamayananda
- February 23: "Parables from Sri Ramakrishna"
Swami Tattwamayananda

WEDNESDAY VESPERS: 7:30 P.M.

Worship, Devotional Singing, and Meditation
February 5, 12, 19, and 26.

BHAGAVAD GITA CLASS FRIDAYS, 7:30 P.M. OLD TEMPLE

Conducted by Swami Tattwamayananda
Class only on February 14. (No class on 7, 21 & 28.)

SHIVARATRI

(The night devoted to Lord Shiva)

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 21
7:30 – 10:30 P.M.

- Worship
- Devotional Singing
- Flower Offerings by Devotees
- Refreshments
- Temple Open for Meditation until 10:30 p.m.

CELEBRATION OF SRI RAMAKRISHNA'S BIRTHDAY

Saturday, February 29
10 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.

- Worship
- Devotional Singing
- Readings from the Life & Teachings of Sri Ramakrishna
- Flower Offerings by Devotees
- Prasad Luncheon



New Temple

✦ Shivaratri ✦

Friday, February 21, 7:30 p.m.

After the worship and meditation, there will be devotional singing, flower offerings by devotees, and refreshments. Afterwards, the temple will be open for meditation until 10:30 p.m.



In Celebration Of SRI RAMAKRISHNA'S BIRTHDAY

Saturday, February 29, 2020

10 a.m.

Formal Worship

11 a.m.

Devotional Singing

11:45 a.m.

Readings from the Life and Teachings
of Sri Ramakrishna

12:15 p.m.

Flower Offerings by Devotees

Prasad Luncheon

(Child care provided)

Wednesday evenings: Vespers & Meditation 7:30 – 8:15 p.m.

❖ Devotional Singing, Worship, and Meditation ❖

February 5, 12, 19, and 26

TEMPLE HOURS. The temple is open daily for meditation from 8 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. On Tuesdays the temple is closed.

INTERVIEWS with Swami Tattwamayananda may be scheduled by those who wish to know more about Vedanta. Specific instruction and guidance are given by the swami to anyone who earnestly desires to undertake spiritual practice. Those wishing to make appointments with the swami may do so by speaking with him after the services or by telephoning 415-922-2323 or by e-mailing: tattwa@sfvedanta.org.

MEMBERSHIP in the Society is open to anyone who accepts the principles of Vedanta, who can participate regularly in its activities, and who receives the recommendation of the swami in charge.

THE SRI SARADA LIBRARY is open on Sundays from 12:30 to 2:30 p.m., following the lecture, and at other times by appointment.

BOOKSHOP HOURS

Mondays: 2 – 5 p.m.

Tuesdays: CLOSED

Wednesdays – Fridays: 2 – 5 p.m.

Saturdays: 11 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Sundays: 1 – 5 p.m.

The bookshop carries translations of principal Vedantic scriptures, books on Vedanta and other world religions, and children's books. A large selection of books, incense, photos, etc., may be ordered online at sfvedanta.org. At present, more than 1400 titles are available. Orders may also be placed by phone, fax, or email: books@sfvedanta.org.

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classes, and retreats, please visit:

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THE EMBLEM of the Ramakrishna Order depicting the union of the four paths by which the Supreme Being may be realized is below. The waves are symbolic of unselfish action; the lotus, love of God; the rising sun, knowledge; the serpent, awakening of spiritual power; and the swan, the Supreme Self. The emblem was designed by Swami Vivekananda.





VEDANTA RETREAT

Olema, Marin County

The Society's retreat provides an opportunity to spiritual seekers of all faiths to meditate and study in a secluded area of meadows and forests away from the disturbances of urban life. The retreat is open daily from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. For more information, please visit our website: www.sfvedanta.org or phone: 415-922-2323.



OLD TEMPLE

2963 Webster Street
(Auditorium Entrance
on Filbert Street)

A CLASS on Vedantic scriptures is conducted on Fridays by Swami Tattwamayanda at 7:30 p.m. at the Old Temple. The text for study is the Bhagavad Gita. **There will be no class on February 7, 21, and 28.**

SUNDAY SCHOOL. Classes are held on Sundays from 11 a.m. to 12 noon for children in first grade through high

school to give them a general knowledge of Vedanta, to acquaint them with the basic teachings of the major living religions, and to inspire reverence for the great religious teachers of the world. Parents wishing to enroll their children are invited to speak to the secretary of the Society.

TWO CLASSES OF PARAMAHAMSAS

After attaining samadhi some souls of their own accord keep the 'ego of Knowledge.' But that ego does not create any attachment. It is like a line drawn on water.

Hanuman kept the 'servant ego' after realizing God in both His personal and His impersonal aspects. He thought of himself as the servant of God. The great sages, such as Narada, Sanaka, Sananda, Sanatma, and Sanatkumara, after attaining the knowledge of Brahman, kept the 'servant ego' and the 'ego of devotion.' They are like big steamships, which not only cross the ocean themselves but carry many passengers to the other shore.

There are two classes of paramahamsas, one affirming the formless Reality and the other affirming God with form. Trailanga Swami believed in the formless Reality. Paramahamsas like him care for their own good alone; they feel satisfied if they themselves attain the goal.

But those paramahamsas who believe in God with form keep the love of God even after attaining the knowledge of Brahman, so that they may teach spiritual truths to others. They are like a pitcher brimful of water. Part of the water may be poured into another pitcher. These perfected souls describe to others the various spiritual disciplines by which they have realized God. They do this only to teach others and to help them in spiritual life. With great effort men dig a well for drinking-water, using spades and baskets for the purpose. After the digging is over, some throw the spades and other implements into the well, not needing them anymore. But some put them away near the well, so that others may use them.

Some eat mangoes secretly and remove all traces of them by wiping their mouths with a towel. But some share the fruit with others. There are sages who, even after attaining Knowledge, work to help others and also to enjoy the bliss of God in the company of devotees. 'I want to eat sugar. I don't want to be sugar.'

– The Gospel of Sri Ramakrishna