



## Hindu Temple and Cultural Center

(A Non-Profit Organization Registered in the State of Washington)

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# Vaikuntha Ekādashi – Uttara Dwāra Darshanam

## Friday 29<sup>th</sup> December, 2017



In the above graphics - Lord Vishnu is in sleeping mode. Read below to know all about it and the significance of Vaikuntha Ekadashi and the legend behind it...

### Program Details

- ❖ 05:00 AM – Thiruppāvai seva Kaalam
- ❖ 05:30 AM - Sahasranāma Archana
- ❖ 06:00 AM - Ārati
- ❖ 07:00 AM - Uttara Dwāra/ Vaikuntha Door  
- Open to Devotees
- ❖ 10:00AM - Śrī Māha Lakshmi Abhishekam (*weekly rituals*)
- ❖ 11:00 AM - Archana, Ārati
  
- ❖ 06:30 PM - Śrī Vishnu Sahasranāma Pārāyanam
- ❖ 07:00 PM - Śrī Subrahmanya Abhishekam
- ❖ 07:30 PM - Skandha Sashti Kavacha Pārāyanam
- ❖ 08:00 PM - Archana, Ārati

### Sponsorship Opportunity

- ❖ Abhishekams (\$51.0), Archana (\$10.0)
- ❖ Pushpa Māla Alankāram
- ❖ Annadanam (\$151.0) Food Sponsorship

*Note: Contact Office for sponsorship details*

### All about Vaikuntha Ekādashi

(Sanskrit: वैकुण्ठ एकादशि; Telugu: వైకుంఠ ఏకాదశి; Kannada: ವೈಕುಂಠ ಏಕಾದಶಿ; Tamil: வைகுண்ட ஏகாதசி)

During the Krita Yuga, also termed the golden age, an asura called Muran harassed both Devas and Mortals. Unable to bear his tyranny, the Devas sought refuge in Lord Shiva. He directed them to approach Lord Vishnu. Lord Vishnu agreed to help the Devas and went out to battle with Muran.

During the long battle, which lasted one thousand celestial years, Lord Vishnu needed to rest for a while. He entered a beautiful cave called Himavati in Badarikashrama to sleep. Muran wanted to strike Lord Vishnu while he was sleeping. However, Shakti – Lord Vishnu's female energy - emerged out of his body and assumed the form of a beautiful damsel who fought Muran and vanquished him. When Lord Vishnu awoke he was very pleased and named this maiden as Ekadashi and granted her a boon. The maiden said, "O Lord, if you are pleased with me and wish to give me a boon, and then give me the power to deliver people from the greatest sins if they fast on this day".

Lord Vishnu granted her the boon and declared that people worshipping her would reach Vaikuntha. Thus, it is said, was born the first Ekadashi, which is Dhanurmāsa Sukla Paksha Ekadashi.

Lord opened the gate of Vaikuntham on that day called Vaikuntha Dwāra (Uttara Dwāra), to reach Vaikuntha as well. Temples all over India and abroad make a door entry kind of structure on this day for devotees to pass through that. Mark your calendars and join us early in the morning with your family and friends to see Lord Vishnu's beautiful swaroopam through Uttara Dwaram (North Entrance) of Sri Vaikuntham. Ensure to pass through this entrance to obtain Ekadashi and Lord's blessings to reach Vaikuntha.

In the evening – Join us during Śrī Subrahmanya Abhishekam, followed by Pārāyanams and obtain Lord's blessings.