

MAJOR FESTIVALS IN THIS MONTH

Bhādrapada - The bestower of auspiciousness (Bhadra)

Śrāvaṇa - Bhādrapada

Śrāvaṇa Bahuḷa Daśami, Wednesday September 1, 2021 -

Bhādrapada Bahuḷa Navami, Thursday September 30, 2021

ŚRĀVAṆA MONTH

September 2, 2021 Thursday - Alabhya Yōgaṁ - Combination of ěkādaśi and Thursday is rare and called Alabhya Yōgaṁ. Performing even small virtuous act on this day grants infinite results.

September 3, 2021 Friday - Aja ěkādaśi - Observe Ekadashi Vrata worshipping Narayana with 'Janardana' nama.

September 4, 2021 Saturday - Śani Trayōdaśi - Following stipulated observances on this day in the month of Śrāvaṇa, dear to Śankara, removes the ill effects of Śani and bestows the grace of Śiva.

September 5, 2021 Sunday - Masa Sivaratri - Though this entire month is dear to Siva, worship of Siva on this day grants great merits.

September 6, 2021 Monday - Kuśa Grahanam, Pōla Vratam - This day is highly auspicious for the collection of sacred darbha grass. Since Lord Siva decreed to worship Nandi along with cows for his valor exhibited in the war with Andhakasura granting Him the tile 'Pōla', this day 'Pōla Vratam' in which cows and bulls are worshipped offering foods and clothes is celebrated.

BHĀDRAPADA MONTH

September 8, 2021 Wednesday - Kalki Jayanti, Chandra Darśanam - Worship Nārāyaṇa as the horse riding Kalki with Vishnu Sahasranama.



September 9, 2021 Thursday - Balarāma Jayanti, 16 rice balls Taddi (Śōḍaśomā vratam), Suvarṇa gaurī vratam, Haritālīkā vratam - Worship Gowri Devi, offer 16 rice balls, and read the vrata story. Place rice balls, footwear made with lac, black beads along with betel leaves and some money in winnowing basket and offer to sixteen women. Besides this, scriptures also prescribe Haritālīkā vratam.

September 10, 2021 Friday - Vināyaka Chaviti, Agastyārghyam, mahācaturthīnāma alabhyayōgaṁ - Gaṇapati, the primordial embodiment of Parabrahman, is worshipped as prescribed in the vrata, in the form of Siddhi Vināyaka, by invoking into an image made with clay. To obtain the grace of any deity, it is essential to obtain the grace of this Siddhi Vināyaka. For seven days before this Vrata, offer arghya to Agastya to get free from the debt of R̥ṣis.



September 11, 2021 Saturday - R̥ṣi Pañcami - Women out of menstruation cycle should worship saptar̥ṣis along their wives to get relief from any mistakes committed with or without being aware. Others should also reminisce saptar̥ṣis. On this day, bananas, ghee, sugar along with some money should be offered in charity to Brahmins.

September 12, 2021 Sunday - Sūrya ṣaṣṭhi, Skanda Darśanam - Śuklabhādrapadē ṣaṣṭhyām snānam bhāskara pūjanam | prāśanam pañcagavyasya cāzśvamēdha phalādikam ||



Perform bath with sankalp before sunrise, worship Sun, and partake panchagavya i.e., mixture of cow milk, curd, ghee, urine, and dung. This gives the merits of performing many Yajñās. On this day, Lord Subrahmanya should also be worshipped.

September 13, 2021 Monday - Āmuktābharaṇa santāna saptami vrataṁ -

This vrata is performed for obtaining progeny and for the welfare of existing progeny. Fast all day, worship Gowri and Parameswara in the evening with sandalwood paste, flowers, incense, lamp, and naivedya made with cow milk and jaggery followed by betel leaves with nuts. Place a red color thread in the worship and wear it later after the completion of puja.

September 14, 2021 Tuesday - dūrvāṣṭami, rādhāṣṭami - Worship of Gaṇapati with dūrvā (blades of grass) is preeminent. Devi Bhagavata stipulates to worship Sri rādhādevi and Sri Gowridevi, the principal forms of Divine Mother. Peace and prosperity reigns at that home where the worship is done with seven kinds of flowers and seven kinds of fruits are offered.



September 16, 2021 Thursday - Kṣīravratārambhaṁ, kēdāra vrataṁ- As part of Cāturmāsya vrataṁ, this vrataṁ is done in the second month. One should not take milk for this full month and do sankalpa with **Khṣīravratamidam dēva! Gṛhītaṁ puratastava, nirvighnaṁ siddhimāyātu prasādāttava ramāpatē!** After the completion of vrataṁ one should offer the fruit chanting **‘Pradyumna tē namastubhyaṁ māsamārabhya yatkṛtaṁ, iṣṭadō bhava sarvēśa! Gṛhītvātu payōvrataṁ.’** on Āsvayuja Śuddha Ēkādaśi day.

On this day, performing kēdāra vrataṁ as prescribed, grants all merits.

September 17, 2021 Friday- Parivartana Ēkādaśi, Dāna Ēkādaśi, Viṣṇuśṛṅkhalanāma Alabhya Puṇyakālaṁ, Vāmana Jayanti- Nārāyaṇa, who took to Yoga sleep on Aṣāda śuddha ēkādaśi, turns to one side on this day. Hence, this ēkādaśi is celebrated as ‘parivartana ēkādaśi’. This is the central day in the period of cāturmāsya i.e the four-month sleep period of Nārāyaṇa. Worship Nārāyaṇa in the evening chanting the sloka **vāsudēva jagannātha prāptēyaṁ dvādaśi tava | pārsvēna parivartasya sukhaṁ svapihi mādharma ||**

On this day, the stories of Krishna are exhibited with the title ‘dāna līla’ in Brindavanam. Hence, worship of Sri Krishna on this day grants great results.



Vāmana Jayanti is celebrated when dvādaśi tithi and śravaṇa star occur together. Fasting on this day gives the merits of fasting on the ēkādaśi day occurring one day before. On this day giving curd in charity is meritorious. Offer arghya chanting as below

"Dēvēśvarāya dēvāya dēvasambhūti kārīṇē, prabhavē sarvadēvānāṁ vāmanāya namō namaḥ."
"Namastē padmanābhāya namastē jalasāyīnē, tubhyamarghyaṁ pradāsyāmi bālāvāmanarūpiṇē".

September 19, 2021 Sunday - anantapadmanābha svāmi vrataṁ - On this day, worship of anantapadmanābha svāmi reclining on snake-bed in whose navel lotus is Brahma, along with Mahālakshmi is performed as stipulated in the vrata. In some places, it is traditional to draw Ādiśēṣa with rice powder and turmeric in all His seven hoods and worship accordingly. River Yamuna is invoked into the kalasa waters, thread with 24 knots is placed in worship, and later wife and husband tie this thread to other’s hand chanting the sloka below –

**dāridrya nāśanārthāya putra pauṭra pravṛddhayē |
 anantākhyamidam sūtraṁ dhārayāmyahamuttamaṁ ||**



September 20, 2021 Monday - Umāmahēśvara Vrataṁ, Upāṅgalalitāgaauri Vrataṁ - Lord Śiva mentioned about this umāmahēśvara vrataṁ to Pārvati to be performed on this day in which the complete power of the month is present. One should worship umāmahēśvara, and tie the thread with fifteen lines and fifteen knots, and later offer fifteen kinds of eatables as naivedya.

Scriptures also prescribe the worship of Lalita Devi along with Her entire retinue on this day.

September 21, 2021 Tuesday - Mahālayapakṣa Prārambhaṁ From this day, for next fifteen days, it is called Mahālaya Pitṛapakṣa. **"Mahat alam yāt iti mahālayaḥ"**. Since ancestors obtain satisfaction with the tarpana and other rituals performed by their descendants, everyone should perform Pitṛ śrāddham to the best of their ability. Those who could not perform for all the fifteen days should certainly perform at least on one day.

September 23, 2021 Thursday - Undralla Tadiya -This observance is also known by the name ‘Modaka Trutiya’. Fasting till evening followed by worship of Gowri Devi with all sixteen Upacharas, women should offer five rice cooked balls (undrallu) to God and give five each to five women. This should be done for five years culminating with udyapana. Those not married shall beget virtuous husband. Those already married flourish along with their husband and family.

September 24, 2021 Friday – Saṅkaṣṭahara Caturthi Vrataṁ, Bharaṇi mahālayaṁ - Performing saṅkaṣṭahara caturthi vrataṁ on this day following all the prescribed procedures bestows the grace of Gaṇapati by removing all obstacles and granting success all along.



September 28, 2021 Tuesday - vyatīpāta mahālayaṁ - Performing rituals towards pitṛs on this day when there is presence of vyatīpāta yoga during this mahālaya pitṛapakṣa bestows distinct merits of pitṛs.

September 29, 2021 Wednesday- Budhāṣṭami, Ārdrāṣṭami- Performing holy bath, charity, japa, homa, and worship even in small measure on this day when there is rare combination of Wednesday and Aṣṭami yields infinite merits.

September 30, 2021 Thursday – Avidhava Navami – Scriptures prescribed special śrāddham on this day in Pitṛ pakṣa to those who left this world as ‘Sumangali’. This is more prevalent in Northern Bharatadesa. A Sumangali is offered food and clothes on this day in honor of the departed Sumangali.

