

*Amma Sri Karunamayi New York Programs*  
*Sri Mathrudevi Viswashanti Ashram Trust (SMVA Trust)*

|| Jai Karunamayi ||

**VARA LAKSHMI VRATAM HOMA—A VERY SPECIAL SACRED FIRE CEREMONY**

This is a special holy day to honor Sri Lakshmi and all women. Sri Maha Lakshmi Homa will be one of several conducted by HH AMMA Sri Karunamayi.

**FRIDAY, AUGUST 16 from 9 AM – 2 PM**

at **ANANDA ASHRAM / YOGA SOCIETY OF NEW YORK, INC.**

13 Sapphire Road, Monroe, NY 10950

**NOTE:** Parking at Sapphire Elementary School, 159 Harriman Heights Road, Monroe, NY

**To REGISTER, PLEASE GO TO:** [www.karunamayi.in/world-tour/north-america/](http://www.karunamayi.in/world-tour/north-america/)

Pre-registration is Free and essential for us to plan.

To Sponsor a Homa, please write to [newyork@karunamayi.org](mailto:newyork@karunamayi.org) ASAP.

We welcome everyone to our very special Homa – Sacred Fire Ceremony – conducted by HH AMMA Sri Karunamayi, who has returned to North America again after 3 years of deep meditation and silence to give her blessings to all. This is a FREE event. RAIN OR SHINE! Open to people of all faiths and paths.

There will be several havan kundas/homa pits. Amma will perform the Homa herself in the main havan kunda.

Everyone may attend the Homa free of charge and receive the powerful blessings of the Homa.

Sponsors who wish to perform the Homa themselves in one of the adjacent fire pits may do so. This is first come first served and there is limited space so please let us know right away if you plan to sponsor and participate directly at a homa kunda/fire pit.

**The Homa sponsorship levels for this event are as follows:**

- \$5004 to do the homa at AMMA's kunda. There will be a limited number of seats. Please let us know right away if you are interested. We will let you know if you have been approved.
- \$1008 to do a homa at a shared kunda.
- \$504 to do a homa similarly at a shared kunda.

Please sign up with us by sending an email to [newyork@karunamayi.org](mailto:newyork@karunamayi.org) so we can be prepared. We will need your email address and phone no and whether you have WhatsApp. Thank you.

The number of homa kundas we prepare will be determined by your early response! So, we really need homa sponsors to inform us right away. All proceeds will be directed to AMMA's Gokulam Project in India.

Additionally, there are several other sponsorship levels offered to those who would like to receive various specially blessed prasadam for their participation. To read more about the Gokulam Project, please go to [www.srimcenter.org](http://www.srimcenter.org) and scroll down to Gokulam Project.

The Homa will be held at idyllic Ananda Ashram, a yoga retreat and spiritual educational center located just over one hour northwest of New York City. Sacred fire ceremonies have been performed for millennia to promote universal and individual peace and healing. Benefits extend to all those who participate and to our entire world family and the environment.

Please plan on coming early, preferably by 8.00-8.30 A.M. We will have to be very quiet till 10 AM as the Ashram is having special ceremonies on this day.

The fire ceremony will be conducted under a large, open-air tent. A light lunch will be served after the ceremony. Come prepared to sit outdoors for an extended period of time. Be sure to protect yourself from the weather as well as insects. Bring hats, blankets, cushions, folding chairs, water bottles, insect repellents, sunscreens, umbrellas and raincoats, as needed. Those coming by car may wish to bring their own chairs or extra chairs to share with others. A limited number of chairs are provided. Please give priority to seniors and people with health issues.

## **TRANSPORTATION**

**There will be no Charter Bus this year. Please carpool or choose Public bus to attend from NY. Trains are available from NJ.**

- **Public Bus:** Coach USA/ Short Line Hudson, Port Authority, South terminal, 8th Ave@ 41st, Manhattan, NYC. Ticket windows 11-15.
- **Friday, AUG 16, 2023** – Please check bus schedules the week of Aug 12.
  - Lv 7:50 am from Port Authority to Millpond Rd, Bus Terminal, Arrv 9:13 am, 2 mi. to Ananda Ashram. or
  - Lv 9:10 am from Port Authority Arrv 10:33 am, 2 mi to Ananda Ashram.
- **Return same day:** Ashram to bus stop 1.5 mi. Rt17M & Church St, Harriman.
  - Lv 4:32 pm bus to Port Authority Arrv 6:25 pm. Last bus, Ashram to Port Authority, Rt 17 M & Church St., Harriman.
  - Lv 8:12 pm Arrv Port Authority, 10:25 pm.

**TAXIs from bus stop at Millpond Parkway, Monroe, NY to Ananda Ashram, 13 Sapphire Road, Monroe, NY:**

### **Taxi Services:**

- Speedica car service (24hr service) - notify ~30mins prior to pickup. 845-783-4444. Taxi-\$15, Minivan \$20 (max 6 ppl).
- Village Taxi - notify ~2hr prior to pickup. 845-783-6112. Taxi -\$16, Van cost depends on the owner & can hold up to 14ppl (est cost. ~\$4/person).
- Geo Taxi Service - notify ~30mins prior to pickup. 845-213-5639. Taxi- \$15, Minivan \$20 (up to 7 ppl).
- Santiago's Taxi - notify ~2hr prior to pickup. 845-407-7471. Taxi- \$10, Minivan \$20 (up to 7ppl).
- By Car. Easily accessible. For directions see [www.anandaashram.org](http://www.anandaashram.org) or use WAZE or GOOGLE

## **Parking – IMPORTANT!!**

*It is important to follow all parking and no parking signs posted at the Ashram, as well as these directions. Please do not double park. There is no street parking on Sapphire Road outside the Ashram or on village roads. That is a tow away zone! We regret that cars parked on the village roads may be towed at the owner's expense. Only service vehicles and cars of ashram overnight guests, handicapped or elderly guests or ashram staff are permitted to enter the grounds on Homa day. The driveway entrance/exit near the Homa site will not be accessible. Thank you for your cooperation!*

Parking at Sapphire Elementary School [159 Harriman Heights Road, Harriman, NY](#)

***All cars must park in Sapphire Elementary School's parking lot, which is within easy walking distance. NOTE THAT THE PARKING COMES UP ON YOUR RIGHT BEFORE YOU TURN INTO SAPPHIRE ROAD!***

Parking Directions at Sapphire Elementary School, [159 Harriman Heights Road](#)

1. Drive up Harriman Heights Road. Near the top of the hill, a few hundred feet before reaching Sapphire Road, Sapphire Elementary School will be on the right. (The entrance also has a sign for Harriman Learning Center.)
2. Turn right into the Sapphire Elementary School driveway.
3. Bear right within the school driveway and park 'toe-in' (not parallel to curb) to fill the spaces on the right side of the lot. Additional parking is available in back of the school.

## **Walking Directions from Sapphire Elementary School to Homa at Ananda Ashram**

1. Go to the end of the School driveway and turn right onto Harriman Heights Road.
2. Continue to walk .1 (1/10th) mile. Turn left onto Sapphire Road.
3. Continue .05 mile on Sapphire Road, then enter the first driveway on the left. Event signage will be posted.
4. Follow the large U-shaped main driveway, passing various internal 'sub'-driveways that branch off to other ashram buildings.
5. Continuing around the main driveway to the opposite side of the 'U,' you will find the large, white Main House. The Homa site is on the lawn in front of the house. Welcome!

If you are arriving by cab, please have the driver let you off on Sapphire Road at the first driveway on your left and follow the driveway to the large white house and white tent around the U of the main driveway.

## **VOLUNTEERS**

Volunteers are needed throughout Amma's New York event weekend, beginning early Friday, (6.30 AM) August 16 and extending through Sunday evening, August 18. There will be a variety of site setup, maintenance, disassemble and clean up needs.

Volunteers are also needed the week before the Homa Ananda Ashram for digging and preparing the homa kundas, and myriad other set up arrangements. This is a blessed opportunity to participate in the homas through service/seva.

If you can kindly help with these or other seva opportunities, please contact Radha at [radha@babatrust.org](mailto:radha@babatrust.org) as soon as possible. Or send an email to [newyork@karunamayi.org](mailto:newyork@karunamayi.org)

**DIRECTIONS – please note:** directions will be also be provided for 159 Harriman Heights Road, Monroe NY, where parking is located at Sapphire Elementary School. If you are planning to walk, consider arriving early, as it is a safe road.

As a help to keep this sacred event peaceful and conducive to the homa's benefits, no drones, skateboards, hover boards or similar transportation, or other similar toys. Please help us to keep this sacred event.

## **Accommodations for Amma Sri Karunamayi New York Programs**

### **Ananda Ashram / Yoga Society of New York**

Overnight accommodations are available directly through the Ashram. Reserve in advance by calling the reception office at 845-782-5575. If the line is busy, leave a message mentioning "Amma's Homa" and your phone number. Separate rates apply for weekends and weekdays. For general information, visit [www.anandaashram.org](http://www.anandaashram.org).

### **Hotels (other than Ananda Ashram):**

1. **America's Best Value**
  - Double: \$114.99 + tax for August 24th; \$129.99 + tax for August 25th or 26th
  - King rooms available with an additional \$10 charge
2. **Hampton Inn**
  - **Hampton Inn & Suites by Hilton Central Valley**
    - Address: 139 NY-32, Central Valley, NY 10917
    - Distance from Ananda Ashram: 3.5 miles
    - Phone: 845-928-2266
    - Website: [www.hilton.com/search/hp/us/ny/central\\_valley/0/0/0/0/0/0/20?WT.srch=1](http://www.hilton.com/search/hp/us/ny/central_valley/0/0/0/0/0/0/20?WT.srch=1)
  - **Hampton Inn Harriman Woodbury**
    - Address: 60 Centre Drive, Central Valley, NY
    - Distance from Ananda Ashram: 3 miles
    - Phone: 845-782-9600
    - Website: [www.hilton.com/search/hp/us/ny/central\\_valley/0/0/0/0/0/0/20?WT.srch=1](http://www.hilton.com/search/hp/us/ny/central_valley/0/0/0/0/0/0/20?WT.srch=1)

In Amma's Seva  
Amma's New York Organizers

