



# Vaisnava Calendar 2009

*Dates calculated for Wellington, New Zealand (174E46 41S17, Time zone = +12.00)*

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## About this Calendar

This is a standard monthly wall-calendar, listing public holidays and daylight savings dates. Also, for the convenience of Vaisnavas, the important dates of the Vaisnava calendar are listed, along with the tithi (moon phase) for each day.

Other calendars like this exist, for example both the BBT and ISKCON Sydney have professionally published Vaisnava calendars. Unfortunately the Vaisnava festival dates are specific to geographic location, and hence these calendars are not useful in other locations. The purpose of this calendar is not to compete with the glossy presentations available elsewhere, that is beyond the feasible scope. The intent is to provide a calendar that is functional and accurate for various New Zealand locations.

## Acknowledgements

This calendar is simply a different presentation of the the dates generated by the Vaisnava Calendar Program (Version 4.01). All the Vaisnava dates are as calculated by that program.

Vaisnava Calendar Program (Version 4.01) Written by Shyamasundara Dasa and Markandeya Rishi Dasa  
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## Key

The following colours are used in this calendar to highlight special days:

Public Holidays

Ekadasi Fast

Festivals, Appearances and Disappearances

*Note: when a festival falls on an Ekadasi, the day will be marked yellow, but remeber it's also Ekadasi (blue)!*

The following icons are used to indicate special months:



Indicates fast from from sak, green leafy vegetables, for first month of Caturmasya



Indicates fast from from yogurt for second month of Caturmasya.



Indicates fast from milk for third month of Caturmasya.



Indicates Kartikka month, also fast from from urad dal for fourth month of Caturmasya



Indicates Srila Prabhupada Christmas Book Marathon.  
The dates are not exact, it's just an indication.

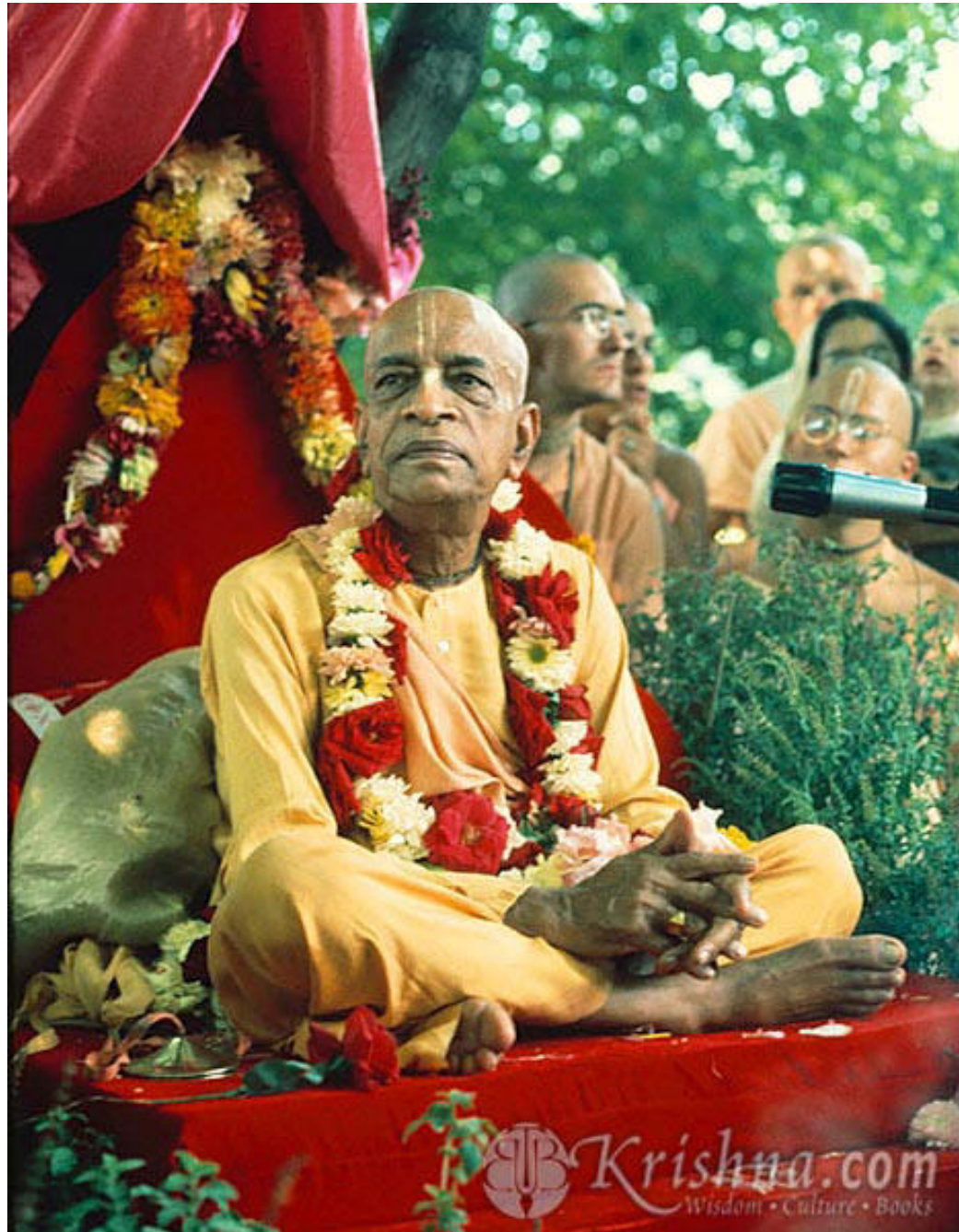
## Dedication

This calendar is dedicated to His Holiness Devamrita Swami Maharaja and all the devotees running the Gaura Yoga Center, Wellington. I am very grateful and eternally indebted to the many persons who have helped me in my spiritual life.



# January - 2009

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
			1 - Caturthi New Years Day Narayana Masa starts	2 - Pancami Day after New Years Day	3 - Sasti	4 - Saptami
5 - Astami	6 - Navami	7 - Dasami	8 - Mahadvadasi Trisprsa Mahadvadasi Fasting for Putrada Ekadasi Sri Jagadisa Pandita - App.	9 - Trayodasi Break fast 04:59 - 09:58 (Daylight saving not considered).	10 - Caturdasi	11 - Purnima Sri Krsna Pusya abhiseka
12 - Pratipat Madhava Masa starts	13 - Dvitiya	14 - Tritiya - Makara Sankranti (Sun enters Capricorn) -	15 - Pancami Sri Ramacandra Kaviraja - Disapp. Srila Gopala Bhatta Gosvami - App.	16 - Sasti Sri Jayadeva Gosvami - Disapp.	17 - Saptami Sri Locana Dasa Thakura - Disapp.	18 - Astami
19 - Navami	20 - Dasami	21 - Dasami	22 - Suddha Ekadasi Fasting for Sat-tila Ekadasi	23 - Dvadasi Break fast 05:15 - 10:07 (Daylight saving not considered).	24 - Trayodasi	25 - Caturdasi
26 - Amavasya Ganga Sagara Mela	27 - Pratipat	28 - Dvitiya	29 - Tritiya	30 - Caturthi	31 - Pancami Vasanta Pancami Sarasvati Puja Srila Visvanatha Cakravarti Thakura - Disapp. Srila Raghunatha Dasa Gosvami - App.	



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# February - 2009

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
						1 - Sasti
2 - Saptami Sri Advaita Acarya - App. (Fasting till noon)	3 - Astami Bhismastami	4 - Navami Sri Madhvacarya - Disapp.	5 - Dasami Sri Ramanujacarya - Disapp.	6 - Suddha Ekadasi Waitangi Day Fasting for Bhaimi Ekadasi	7 - Dvadasi Break fast 05:34 - 10:15 (Daylight saving not considered). Varaha Dvadasi: App. of Lord Varahadeva (The fast is observed till noon on the Ekadasi.) (Feasting is done today.)	8 - Trayodasi Nityananda Trayodasi: App. of Sri Nityananda Prabhu (Fasting till noon)
9 - Caturdasi Sri Krsna Madhura utsava Srila Narottama Dasa Thakura - App.	10 - Pratipat Govinda Masa starts	11 - Dvitiya	12 - Tritiya	13 - Caturthi - Kumbha Sankranti (Sun enters Aquarius) -	14 - Pancami Sri Purusottama Das Thakura - Disapp. Srila Gour Govinda Swami - Disapp. Srila Bhaktisiddhanta Sarasvati Thakura - App. (Fasting till noon)	15 - Sasti
16 - Saptami	17 - Astami	18 - Navami	19 - Dasami	20 - Ekadasi	21 - Mahadvadasi Unmilani Mahadvadasi Fasting for Vijaya Ekadasi	22 - Dvadasi Break fast 05:53 - 08:51 (Daylight saving not considered). Sri Isvara Puri - Disapp.
23 - Trayodasi	24 - Caturdasi Siva Ratri	25 - Amavasya	26 - Pratipat Srila Jagannatha Dasa Babaji - Disapp. Sri Rasikananda - Disapp.	27 - Dvitiya	28 - Tritiya	



# March - 2009

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
30 - Caturthi	31 - Pancami Sri Ramanujacarya - App.					1 - Caturthi Sri Purusottama Dasa Thakura - App.
2 - Pancami	3 - Sasti	4 - Saptami	5 - Astami	6 - Dasami	7 - Suddha Ekadasi Fasting for Amalaki vrata Ekadasi	8 - Dvadasi Break fast 06:10 - 10:25 (Daylight saving not considered). Sri Madhavendra Puri - Disapp.
9 - Trayodasi	10 - Caturdasi	11 - Purnima Sri Gauranga Mahaprabhu - App. *** Gaura Purnima *** (Fasting till moonrise)	12 - Pratipat Visnu Masa starts Festival of Jagannatha Misra	13 - Dvitiya	14 - Tritiya	15 - Caturthi Daylight Savings Ends - Mina Sankranti (Sun enters Pisces) -
16 - Pancami	17 - Sasti	18 - Saptami	19 - Astami Sri Srivasa Pandita - App.	20 - Navami	21 - Dasami	22 - Suddha Ekadasi Fasting for Papamocani Ekadasi
23 - Dvadasi Break fast 08:38 - 10:27 (Daylight saving not considered). Sri Govinda Ghosh - Disapp.	24 - Trayodasi	25 - Caturdasi	26 - Amavasya	27 - Pratipat	28 - Dvitiya	29 - Tritiya



# April - 2009

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
		1 - Sasti	2 - Saptami	3 - Astami	4 - Navami Rama Navami: App. of Lord Sri Ramacandra (Fasting till sunset)	5 - Dasami
6 - Mahadvadasi Trisprsa Mahadvadasi Fasting for Kamada Ekadasi Damanaka-ropana dvadasi	7 - Trayodasi Break fast 06:42 - 10:30 (Daylight saving not considered).	8 - Caturdasi	9 - Purnima Sri Balarama Rasayatra Sri Krsna Vasanta Rasa Sri Vamsivadana Thakura - App. Sri Syamananda Prabhu - App.	10 - Pratipat Good Friday Madhusudana Masa starts	11 - Dvitiya	12 - Tritiya
13 - Caturthi Easter Monday	14 - Pancami - Mesa Sankranti (Sun enters Aries) - Beginning of Salagrama and Tulasi Jala Dana	15 - Pancami	16 - Sasti	17 - Saptami Sri Abhirama Thakura - Disapp.	18 - Astami	19 - Navami
20 - Dasami Srila Vrndavana Dasa Thakura - Disapp.	21 - Suddha Ekadasi Fasting for Varuthini Ekadasi	22 - Dvadasi Break fast 06:58 - 10:33 (Daylight saving not considered).	23 - Trayodasi	24 - Caturdasi	25 - Amavasya ANZAC Day Sri Gadadhara Pandita - App.	26 - Pratipat
27 - Dvitiya	28 - Tritiya Aksaya Tritiya. Candana Yatra starts. (Continues for 21 days)	29 - Pancami	30 - Sasti			



# May - 2009

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
				1 - Saptami Jahnu Saptami	2 - Astami	3 - Navami Srimati Sita Devi (consort of Lord Sri Rama) - App. Sri Madhu Pandita - Disapp. Srimati Jahnavi Devi - App.
4 - Dasami	5 - Suddha Ekadasi Fasting for Mohini Ekadasi	6 - Dvadasi Break fast 07:13 - 10:36 (Daylight saving not considered). Rukmini Dvadasi	7 - Trayodasi Sri Jayananda Prabhu - Disapp.	8 - Caturdasi Nrsimha Caturdasi: App. of Lord Nrsimhadeva (Fasting till dusk)	9 - Purnima Krsna Phula Dola, Salila Vihara Sri Paramesvari Dasa Thakura - Disapp. Sri Sri Radha-Ramana Devaji - App. Sri Madhavendra Puri - App. Sri Srinivasa Acarya - App.	10 - Pratipat Trivikrama Masa starts
11 - Dvitiya	12 - Tritiya	13 - Caturthi	14 - Pancami Sri Ramananda Raya - Disapp. End of Jala Dana	15 - Sasti - Vrsabha Sankranti (Sun enters Taurus) -	16 - Saptami	17 - Astami
18 - Astami	19 - Navami	20 - Dasami	21 - Suddha Ekadasi Fasting for Apari Ekadasi	22 - Dvadasi Break fast 07:28 - 07:56 (Daylight saving not considered). Srila Vrindavana Dasa Thakura - App.	23 - Caturdasi	24 - Amavasya
25 - Pratipat	26 - Dvitiya	27 - Tritiya	28 - Caturthi	29 - Pancami	30 - Saptami	31 - Astami



# June - 2009

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
<p>1 - Navami Queen's Birthday</p>	<p>2 - Dasami Sri Baladeva Vidyabhusana - Disapp. Ganga Puja Srimati Gangamata Gosvami - App.</p>	<p>3 - Suddha Ekadasi Fasting for Pandava Nirjala Ekadasi. (Total fast, even from water, if you have broken Ekadasi)</p>	<p>4 - Dvadasi Break fast 07:39 - 10:46 (Daylight saving not considered).</p>	<p>5 - Trayodasi Panihati Cida Dahi Utsava</p>	<p>6 - Caturdasi</p>	<p>7 - Purnima Snana Yatra Sri Mukunda Datta - Disapp. Sri Sridhara Pandita - Disapp.</p>
<p>8 - Pratipat Vamana Masa starts Sri Syamananda Prabhu - Disapp.</p>	<p>9 - Pratipat</p>	<p>10 - Dvitiya</p>	<p>11 - Tritiya</p>	<p>12 - Caturthi</p>	<p>13 - Pancami Sri Vakresvara Pandita - App.</p>	<p>14 - Sasti</p>
<p>15 - Saptami - Mithuna Sankranti (Sun enters Gemini) -</p>	<p>16 - Astami</p>	<p>17 - Navami</p>	<p>18 - Dasami Sri Srivasa Pandita - Disapp.</p>	<p>19 - Suddha Ekadasi Fasting for Yogini Ekadasi</p>	<p>20 - Dvadasi Break fast 07:47 - 10:50 (Daylight saving not considered).</p>	<p>21 - Trayodasi</p>
<p>22 - Caturdasi Sri Gadadhara Pandita - Disapp. Srila Bhaktivinoda Thakura - Disapp. (Fasting till noon)</p>	<p>23 - Pratipat Gundica Marjana</p>	<p>24 - Dvitiya Ratha Yatra (Hera Pancami after 4 days) (Return Ratha after 8 days) Sri Svarupa Damodara Gosvami - Disapp. Sri Sivananda Sena - Disapp.</p>	<p>25 - Tritiya</p>	<p>26 - Caturthi</p>	<p>27 - Pancami</p>	<p>28 - Sasti Sri Vakresvara Pandita - Disapp.</p>
<p>29 - Saptami</p>	<p>30 - Astami</p>					



# July - 2009

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
		1 - Navami	2 - Dasami	3 - Suddha Ekadasi Fasting for Sayana Ekadasi	4 - Dvadasi Break fast 07:47 - 10:53 (Daylight saving not considered).	5 - Trayodasi
6 - Caturdasi	7 - Purnima Guru (Vyasa) Purnima Srila Sanatana Gosvami - Disapp. First month of Caturmasya begins. (Fast from sak, green leafy vegetables, for one month.) (Caturmasya is not observed during Purusottama Adhika Masa.)	8 - Pratipat Sridhara Masa starts	9 - Dvitiya	10 - Tritiya	11 - Caturthi	12 - Pancami Srila Gopala Bhatta Gosvami - Disapp.
13 - Pancami	14 - Sasti	15 - Saptami	16 - Astami Srila Lokanatha Gosvami - Disapp.	17 - Navami The incorporation of ISKCON in New York - Karaka Sankranti (Sun enters Cancer) -	18 - Ekadasi	19 - Suddha Ekadasi Fasting for Kamika Ekadasi
20 - Trayodasi Break fast 07:40 - 10:51 (Daylight saving not considered).	21 - Caturdasi	22 - Amavasya	23 - Pratipat	24 - Tritiya	25 - Caturthi Sri Raghunandana Thakura - Disapp. Sri Vamsidasa Babaji - Disapp.	26 - Pancami
27 - Sasti	28 - Saptami	29 - Astami	30 - Navami	31 - Dasami		

















# August - 2009

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
31 - Suddha Ekadasi  Fasting for Parsva Ekadasi					1 - Suddha Ekadasi  Fasting for Pavitropana Ekadasi Radha Govinda Jhulana Yatra begins	2 - Dvadasi  Break fast 09:35 - 10:48 (Daylight saving not considered). Srila Rupa Gosvami - Disapp. Srila Gauridasa Pandita - Disapp.
3 - Trayodasi 	4 - Trayodasi 	5 - Caturdasi 	6 - Purnima  Jhulana Yatra ends Lord Balarama - App. (Fasting till noon) Second month of Caturmasya begins. (Fast from yogurt for one month.)	7 - Pratipat  Hrsikesa Masa starts Srila Prabhupada's departure for the USA	8 - Dvitiya 	9 - Tritiya 
10 - Caturthi 	11 - Pancami 	12 - Sasti 	13 - Saptami 	14 - Astami  Sri Krsna Janmastami: App. of Lord Sri Krsna (Fasting till midnight)	15 - Navami  Nandotsava Srila Prabhupada - App. (Fasting till noon)	16 - Dasami 
17 - Suddha Ekadasi  Fasting for Annada Ekadasi - Simha Sankranti (Sun enters Leo)	18 - Dvadasi  Break fast 07:08 - 08:19 (Daylight saving not considered).	19 - Caturdasi 	20 - Amavasya 	21 - Pratipat 	22 - Dvitiya 	23 - Tritiya 
24 - Caturthi 	25 - Pancami  Srimati Sita Thakurani (Sri Advaita's consort) - App.	26 - Sasti  Lalita sasti	27 - Saptami 	28 - Astami  Radhastami: App. of Srimati Radharani (Fasting till noon)	29 - Navami 	30 - Dasami 

































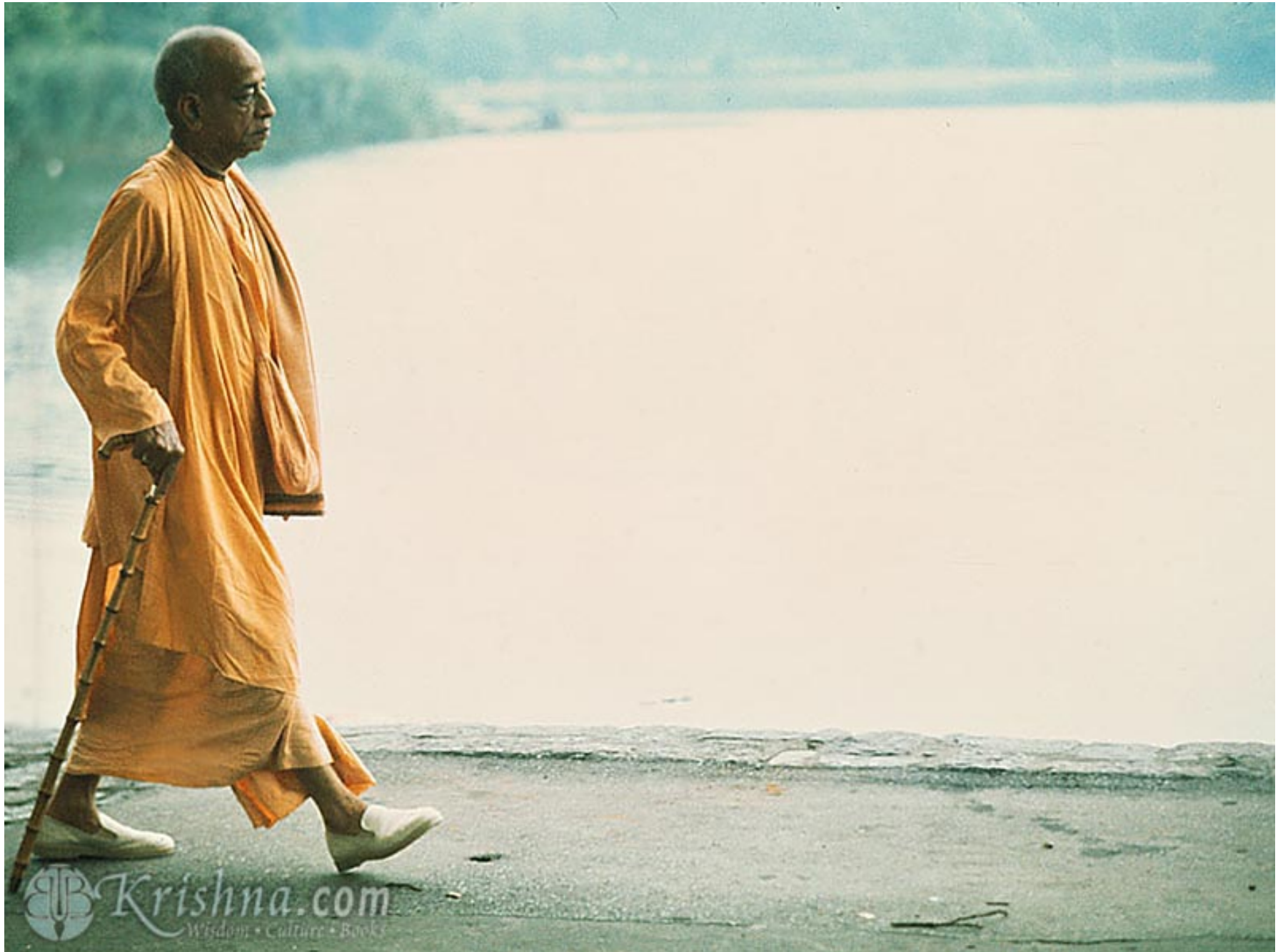
# September - 2009

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
	<b>1 - Dvadasi</b>  Break fast 06:46 - 10:30 (Daylight saving not considered). Sri Vamana Dvadasi: App. of Lord Vamanadeva (The fast is observed till noon on the Ekadasi.) (Feasting is done today.) Srila Jiva Gosvami - App.	<b>2 - Trayodasi</b>  Srila Bhaktivinoda Thakura - App. (Fasting till noon)	<b>3 - Caturdasi</b>  Ananta Caturdasi Vrata Srila Haridasa Thakura - Disapp.	<b>4 - Purnima</b>  Sri Visvarupa Mahotsava Acceptance of sannyasa by Srila Prabhupada Third month of Caturmasya begins. (Fast from milk for one month.)	<b>5 - Pratipat</b>  Padmanabha Masa starts	<b>6 - Dvitiya</b> 
<b>7 - Tritiya</b> 	<b>8 - Caturthi</b> 	<b>9 - Pancami</b> 	<b>10 - Sasti</b> 	<b>11 - Saptami</b>  Srila Prabhupada's arrival in the USA	<b>12 - Astami</b> 	<b>13 - Navami</b> 
<b>14 - Dasami</b> 	<b>15 - Suddha Ekadasi</b>  Fasting for Indra Ekadasi	<b>16 - Dvadasi</b>  Break fast 06:21 - 10:18 (Daylight saving not considered).	<b>17 - Trayodasi</b>  - Kanya Sankranti (Sun enters Virgo) -	<b>18 - Caturdasi</b> 	<b>19 - Amavasya</b> 	<b>20 - Dvitiya</b> 
<b>21 - Tritiya</b> 	<b>22 - Caturthi</b> 	<b>23 - Pancami</b> 	<b>24 - Sasti</b> 	<b>25 - Saptami</b>  Durga Puja	<b>26 - Astami</b> 	<b>27 - Astami</b> 
<b>28 - Navami</b> 	<b>29 - Dasami</b>  Ramacandra Vijayotsava Sri Madhvacharya - App.	<b>30 - Suddha Ekadasi</b>  Fasting for Pasankusa Ekadasi				



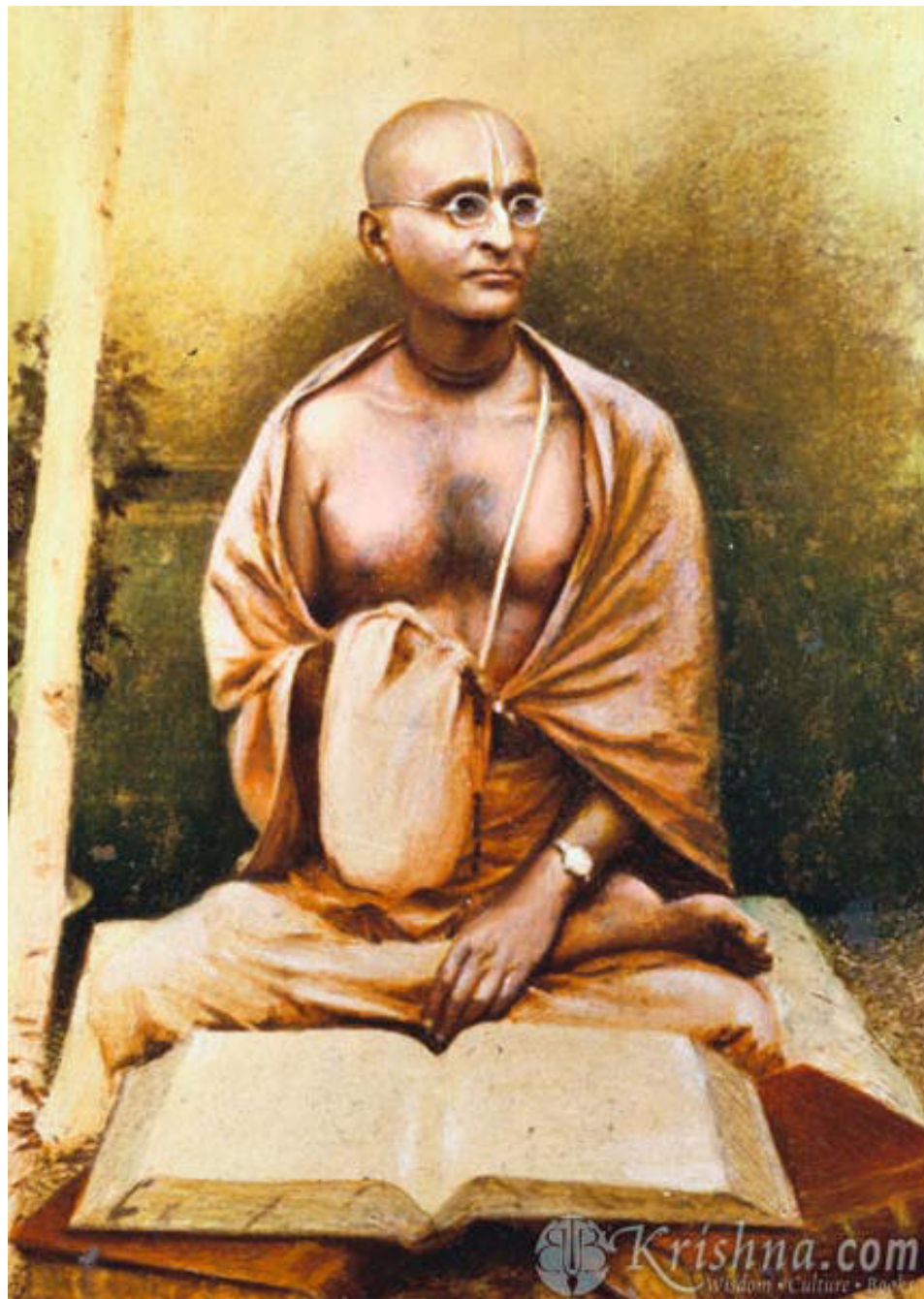
# October - 2009

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
			<b>1 - Dvadasi</b>  Break fast 05:56 - 10:06 (Daylight saving not considered). Srila Raghunatha Dasa Gosvami - Disapp. Srila Raghunatha Bhatta Gosvami - Disapp. Srila Krsnadasa Kaviraja Gosvami - Disapp.	<b>2 - Trayodasi</b> 	<b>3 - Caturdasi</b> 	<b>4 - Purnima</b>  Daylight Savings Starts Sri Krsna Saradiya Rasayatra Sri Murari Gupta - Disapp. Laksmi Puja Fourth month of Caturmasya begins. (Fast from urad dahl for one month.)
<b>5 - Pratipat</b>  Damodara Masa starts	<b>6 - Dvitiya</b> 	<b>7 - Tritiya</b> 	<b>8 - Caturthi</b> 	<b>9 - Pancami</b>  Srila Narottama Dasa Thakura - Disapp.	<b>10 - Sasti</b> 	<b>11 - Saptami</b> 
<b>12 - Astami</b>  App. of Radha Kunda, snana dana Bahulastami	<b>13 - Navami</b>  Virabhadra - App.	<b>14 - Suddha Ekadasi</b>  Fasting for Rama Ekadasi	<b>15 - Dvadasi</b>  Break fast 06:54 - 09:55 (Daylight saving not considered).	<b>16 - Trayodasi</b> 	<b>17 - Caturdasi</b>  - Tula Sankranti (Sun enters Libra)	<b>18 - Amavasya</b>  Dipa dana, Dipavali, (Kali Puja)
<b>19 - Pratipat</b>  Govardhana Puja, Go Puja, Go Krda (Worship of Govardhana Hill) Bali Daityaraja Puja Sri Rasikananda - App.	<b>20 - Dvitiya</b>  Sri Vasudeva Ghosh - Disapp.	<b>21 - Tritiya</b> 	<b>22 - Caturthi</b>  Srila Prabhupada - Disapp. (Fasting till noon)	<b>23 - Pancami</b> 	<b>24 - Sasti</b> 	<b>25 - Saptami</b> 
<b>26 - Astami</b>  Labour Day Gopastami, Gosthastami Sri Gadadhara Dasa Gosvami - Disapp. Sri Dhananjaya Pandita - Disapp. Sri Srinivasa Acarya - Disapp.	<b>27 - Navami</b>  Jagaddhatri Puja	<b>28 - Dasami</b> 	<b>29 - Dasami</b> 	<b>30 - Suddha Ekadasi</b>  Srila Gaura Kisora Dasa Babaji - Disapp. (Fasting till noon) (Feasting is done tomorrow) Bhisma Pancaka Fasting for Utthana Ekadasi	<b>31 - Dvadasi</b>  Break fast 05:09 - 08:57 (Daylight saving not considered).	




# November - 2009

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
30 - Trayodasi						1 - Trayodasi 
2 - Caturdasi  Sri Bhugarbha Gosvami - Disapp. Sri Kasisvara Pandita - Disapp.	3 - Purnima  Sri Krsna Rasayatra Tulasi-Saligrama Vivaha (marriage) Sri Nimbarkacarya - App. Caturmasya ends.	4 - Pratipat Kesava Masa starts Katyayani vrata begins	5 - Tritiya	6 - Caturthi	7 - Pancami	8 - Sasti
9 - Saptami	10 - Astami	11 - Navami	12 - Dasami	13 - Suddha Ekadasi Sri Narahari Sarakara Thakura - Disapp. Fasting for Utpanna Ekadasi	14 - Dvadasi Break fast 04:54 - 08:51 (Daylight saving not considered). Sri Kaliya Krsnadasa - Disapp.	15 - Trayodasi Sri Saranga Thakura - Disapp.
16 - Caturdasi - Vrscika Sankranti (Sun enters Scorpio) -	17 - Amavasya	18 - Pratipat	19 - Dvitiya	20 - Tritiya	21 - Caturthi	22 - Pancami
23 - Sasti Odana sasthi	24 - Saptami	25 - Astami	26 - Navami	27 - Dasami	28 - Suddha Ekadasi Fasting for Moksada Ekadasi Advent of Srimad Bhagavad-gita	29 - Dvadasi Break fast 07:44 - 09:41 (Daylight saving not considered).



# December - 2009

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
	1 - Caturdasi 	2 - Purnima  Katyayani vrata ends	3 - Pratipat  Narayana Masa starts	4 - Dvitiya 	5 - Tritiya 	6 - Caturthi  Sri Bhaktisiddhanta Sarasvati Thakura - Disapp. (Fasting till noon)
7 - Pancami 	8 - Saptami 	9 - Astami 	10 - Navami 	11 - Dasami 	12 - Suddha Ekadasi  Sri Devananda Pandita - Disapp. Fasting for Saphala Ekadasi	13 - Dvadasi  Break fast 04:42 - 09:44 (Daylight saving not considered).
14 - Trayodasi  Sri Mahesa Pandita - Disapp. Sri Uddharana Datta Thakura - Disapp.	15 - Caturdasi 	16 - Amavasya  - Dhanus Sankranti (Sun enters Sagittarius) -	17 - Pratipat  Sri Locana Dasa Thakura - App.	18 - Dvitiya 	19 - Tritiya  Sri Jiva Gosvami - Disapp. Sri Jagadisa Pandita - Disapp.	20 - Tritiya 
21 - Caturthi 	22 - Pancami 	23 - Sasti 	24 - Saptami 	25 - Astami  Christmas Day	26 - Navami  Boxing Day	27 - Dasami
28 - Suddha Ekadasi  Boxing Day (Obs.) Fasting for Putrada Ekadasi	29 - Dvadasi  Break fast 04:49 - 09:51 (Daylight saving not considered). Sri Jagadisa Pandita - App.	30 - Trayodasi	31 - Caturdasi			

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## SOME FESTIVAL DAYS FROM THE VAISNAVA CALENDAR

Explanations compiled by Krsna-priya Devi Dasi  
(Vaisnava Academy for Girls,  
Alachua, Florida, USA)

NOTE: This Vaisnava calendar uses the terms "appearance" and "disappearance" to denote the birth ("appearance") and the departure ("disappearance") of great souls and incarnations of the Lord.

Bahulastami -- the appearance day of Radha-kunda and Syama-kunda, sacred ponds that are the bathing places of Srimati Radharani and Lord Krsna in Vrndavana.

Balarama Rasayatra -- Lord Balarama's springtime rasa dance with His cowherd girlfriends.

Bali Daityaraja Puja -- the festival commemorating Bali Maharaja's surrender to Lord Vamanadeva, the dwarf incarnation of Lord Krsna. A Deity of Vamana is worshiped.

Bhismastami -- the appearance anniversary of Bhismadeva, the "grandfather" of the Pandavas.

Candana Yatra -- a festival during the hot season in India in which the Deities are covered with sandalwood paste (candana) to cool Them. (This is generally impractical in the West, where it is cold during this time.)

Damodara Masa -- the month of Damodara. Throughout this month, devotees commemorate the pastime of naughty Lord Krsna's being bound with ropes by mother Yasoda. Devotees offer lamps daily.

Dipa-dan, Dipavali, or Diwali (and Kalipuja) -- a commemoration of Lord Rama's return from exile to Ayodhya, His capital, following the defeat of the demon Ravana. (Vaisnavas don't regularly observe Kalipuja, the worship of Durga Devi.)

Hera Pancami -- a festival held three days after Ratha-yatra to commemorate Srimati Rukmini Devi's visit to Vrndavana to bring Lord Krsna back to Dvaraka.

Ganga Puja -- the appearance anniversary of Ganga Devi, the goddess of the River Ganges.

Ganga Sagara Mela -- a festival observed especially at the confluence of the Ganges and the Bay of Bengal. Kapilasrama, the asrama of Lord Krsna's incarnation as Kapiladeva, the son of Devahuti, is located at this place. The festival commemorates King Bhagirathi's bringing the River Ganges down from the celestial planets to the ocean and the lower worlds.

Gaura Purnima -- the appearance anniversary of Lord Sri Caitanya Mahaprabhu, who is Krsna Himself in the role of His own devotee. He appeared in 1486 in Mayapur, West Bengal.

Gopastami, or Gosthastami -- After previously having grazed the calves, on this day Krsna first went out to graze the cows. In this way He became a gopa, a cowherd boy. On this day the gosalas (cow pens) are cleaned and the cows worshiped and offered prasada (santificied food) by the devotees.

Govardhana Puja -- the festival commemorating the worship of Govardhana Hill by the residents of Vrndavana and Lord Krsna's lifting the hill.

Go Puja, or Go-krda -- On this day, according to Hari-Bhakti-Vilasa, one should decorate the cows and bulls, make them run, and have the bulls plow the field.

Gundica Marjana -- the cleansing of the Gundica temple in Jagannatha Puri, India.

Guru (Vyasa) Purnima -- the appearance anniversary of Srila Vyasadeva, the compiler of the Vedic literature.

Incorporation of ISKCON in New York -- Srila Prabhupada founded ISKCON, the International Society for Krishna Consciousness, in 1966.

Jahnu Saptami -- The day when the sage Jahnu released the River Ganges after swallowing her. On this day, if possible, one should worship the Ganges and bathe in her waters.

Jagaddhatri Puja -- the day for worship of a form of Mahamaya called Jagaddhatri, "the maintainer of the material world." (Vaisnavas do not usually observe this festival.)

Festival of Jagannatha Misra -- the day the father of Lord Caitanya Mahaprabhu performed the celebrations for Lord Caitanya's appearance.

Katyayani vrata -- a vow to observe austerities to please Katyayani Devi, or Yogamaya Devi, the spiritual energy of Lord Krsna.

Krsna Janmastami -- the appearance anniversary of Lord Sri Krsna, the Supreme Personality of Godhead.

Krsna Phula Dola, Saila Vihara -- a summer boat festival for the Deities of Sri Sri Radha-Krsna.

Krsna Pusya abhiseka -- During the morning puja, or worship, the Deity or a salagrama is bathed in pure ghee. Srila Prabhupada once explained the festival this way: "Krishna was just a toy in the hands of the Gopis, so one day the Gopis decided that we shall decorate Him. Pusyabhisheka means a ceremony to decorate the deity profusely with flowers, ornaments, cloths. After there should be lavish feasting and a procession through the streets, so that all the citizens should see how beautiful Krishna appears."

Krsna Saradiya Rasayatra -- Lord Krsna's autumn rasa dance with His girlfriends.

Krsna Vasanta Rasa -- Lord Krsna's springtime rasa dance.

Lalita Sasti -- The appearance day of Lalita-sakhi, the intimate confidante of Srimati Radharani.

Laksmi Puja -- worship of Laksmi Devi, the consort of Lord Visnu (not observed by Gaudiya Vaisnavas).

Nandotsava -- the festival observed by Nanda Maharaja, Lord Krsna's father, to celebrate Lord Krsna's appearance.

Nrsimha Caturdasi -- the appearance anniversary of Lord Nrsimhadeva, Lord Krsna's incarnation as half-man, half-lion.

Panihati Cida Dahi Utsava -- Srila Raghunatha Dasa Gosvami's chipped-rice-and-yogurt festival for Lord Caitanya and His associates. Celebrated especially in Panihati, West Bengal.

Radhastami -- the appearance anniversary of Srimati Radharani, the eternal consort of Lord Krsna.

Radha Govinda Jhulan Yatra -- the swing festival of Radha-Krsna. The Deities ride on an elaborately decorated swing.

Radha Kunda prakat, snan dan -- the appearance anniversary of Radha-kunda, the bathing pond of Srimati Radharani in Vrndavana. Devotees bathe there especially on midnight of this day.

Radha Ramana Devji appearance -- the appearance of the Deity of Lord Krsna worshiped by Srila Gopala Bhatta Gosvami.

Ratha Yatra -- The chariot festival in which Lord Krsna in the form of Lord Jagannatha rides with Lord Balarama and Subhadra Devi in Jagannatha Puri, India.

Ramacandra Vijayotsava -- Lord Ramacandra's victory over the demon Ravana. A large effigy of Ravana is ceremoniously burned.

Salagrama and Tulasi Jala Dan -- During the hot season in India, a pot of dripping water is placed over Tulasi and Salagrama to keep them cool. (Generally, this is impractical in the West, where it is cold during this time.)

Sarasvati Puja -- worship of the goddess Sarasvati (not generally observed by Vaisnavas).

Siva Ratri -- worship of Lord Siva. Devotees may bathe a Siva-linga in water and panca-gavya (five substances from the cow) and offer Krsna-prasada to Lord Siva. Fasting is optional for Vaisnavas.

Snana Yatra -- On this full-moon day, sixteen days before Ratha-yatra, Lord Jagannatha is bathed. He becomes sick and is confined to rest for fourteen days. He is then offered special care until He comes out for Ratha-yatra.

Srila Prabhupada's acceptance of sannyasa -- Srila Prabhupada accepted sannyasa, the renounced order of life, from Sri Srimad Bhakti Vijnana Kesava Goswami Maharaja in Mathura, India, in 1959.

Srila Prabhupada's arrival in the USA -- Srila Prabhupada arrived in Boston on September 17, 1965.

Srila Prabhupada's departure for the USA -- On this day in 1965, Srila Prabhupada left Calcutta aboard the steamship Jaladuta.

Srila Prabhupada's disappearance day -- Srila Prabhupada left this world on November 14, 1977, in Vrndavana, India. Devotees observe this anniversary with personal remembrances of Srila Prabhupada, readings from his biography, and so on.

Tulasi-Saligram Vivaha -- the wedding of Salagrama and Tulasi Devi.

Vamana Dvadasi -- the appearance anniversary of Lord Vamanadeva, the dwarf incarnation of Lord Krsna.

Vasanta Pancami -- the first day of spring. On this day, the Deities are offered many flowers, leaves and new shoots of grass.

[end]

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