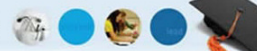


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## Lord Balaji, Navgrahas installed in new Hindu Temple of Canton



**By A Correspondent**

**Canton, MI:** Hindus in the Midwest can now visit the new Hindu Temple of Canton to worship Lord Venkateshwara and the Navagrahas.

On October 17, the auspicious day of Vijaya Dashami, the temple held Prana Pratishthapana or installation of idols of Lord Balaji, along with his two consorts Sridevi and Bhoodevi, and the Navagrahas. The idols were flown in from Tirumala-Tirupati Devasthanam, Tirupati, India.

The Prana Pratishtha ritual was conducted amid much fanfare. On October 16, the temple hosted a series of religious events like Tri-Kaal Pooja/Havan and Navaratri Pooja. The cultural programs like dance, music and Garba were held in the banquet hall on the lower level. Prasadam was served all day in the form of breakfast, lunch and dinner on both days.

The Sunday Pooja started at 4:00 a.m. with Navagaraha Pratishtha followed by Suprabhatam, traditional Divya Prabandham, Vishnu Sahasranamam and Tiruppavai. The deities were decorated in South Indian style after Prana Pratishtha and Abhishekam Seva. Lord Balaji looked regal in blue-orange and his consorts Sridevi and Bhoodevi looked graceful in their yellow and ruby-red silk saris. Stone-studded jewelry and fresh flowers added to the grandeur.

Along with the temple's head priest, Sri Shivakumar Bhat, the senior priest of S.V. Temple in Pittsburg, Sri Gopala Bhattar, and the former priest of Tirumala-Tirupati Devasthanam Sri Sridharan Sambath were present for the auspicious occasion. Large Ladoos, resembling those offered by the Tirupati Devasthanam, were distributed.

About 600 devotees visited the popular temple over the weekend.

6,000 devotees

Temple chairman Manoj Sachdeva and the main sponsor of the event and the temple president Anurag Bajaj and all other members were grateful to all the devotees for their support and making the event a grand success.

Hindu Temple of Canton offers a range of activities and prayer sessions.

For further information about the temple and its services, please visit its Web site: [www.TheHinduTemple.org](http://www.TheHinduTemple.org).

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