

The Vedanta Society of St. Louis

Swami Chetanananda – Minister and Spiritual Teacher

RAMAKRISHNA ORDER OF INDIA

April 2020

NOTE: Due to COVID-19 concerns, public attendance at Sunday lectures has been suspended until further notice. Lectures will be live streamed on our YouTube channel starting at 10:35 a.m.

Sunday Services 10:35 a.m. at [youtube.com/vedantastl](https://www.youtube.com/vedantastl)

- April* **5** Fear: Its Cause and Cure
 12 In Search of Immortality (*Easter Service*)
 19 Stories of Vedanta Monks – Part 29
 26 Thoughts on the Gita – Part 106

No Tuesday and Thursday Classes in April

Appointments for interviews should be made with the Swami in advance at 314-721-5118.

Membership in the Society is open to all who accept Vedantic teachings.

The Society maintains a rental library for members and stocks books for sale.

www.vedantastl.org YouTube: VedantaSTL

ALL ARE WELCOME

The Seed of Sainthood

One night a thief entered the hut of the saint, Pavhari Baba, while he was sleeping. The thief had picked up a few things and was putting them in a bundle when Pavhari Baba woke up. The thief in fright dropped the bundle and fled. Pavhari Baba picked up the bundle and ran after the man. When he finally caught up with him he said, "Lord, you were gracious enough to come to my house, but why did you go away leaving these things behind?" In Pavhari Baba's eyes, the man was not a thief, but God, his own Chosen Ideal. He insisted that the man take the things he had tried to steal. Seeing Pavhari Baba's loving behaviour, the thief felt repentant. From that day he gave up his criminal activities and eventually became a holy man.

When Swami Vivekananda was wandering in the Himalayas he came upon a group of holy men. Among them he noticed one of exceptionally serene appearance who seemed to be a great saint. After Swamiji had conversed with him for some time, he realized that this was the man who had tried to steal from Pavhari Baba. He was speechless with wonder. As Swamiji continued to talk with him, he understood that the man was indeed a man of high spiritual attainments. Because of this incident, Swamiji would often say that even in the worst sinner there is the seed of sainthood.

Swami Lokeshwarananda, **The Way to God**, pp. 96-97