

The Vedanta Society of St. Louis

Swami Chetanananda – Minister and Spiritual Teacher

Swami Shivarchanananda – Assistant Minister

RAMAKRISHNA ORDER OF INDIA

June, 2023

Lectures are live streamed Sundays on our YouTube channel at 10:35 a.m., and the Q&A sessions on zoom following the lecture will occur when Swami Chetanananda is available.

Sunday Services 10:35 a.m.

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| June | 4 | “The heart of the devotee is God’s drawing-room”
<i>Swami Shivarchanananda</i> |
| | 11 | Science of Japam – Part 3
<i>Swami Chetanananda</i> |
| | 18 | Anger and the Quality of Life
<i>Swami Shivarchanananda</i> |
| | 25 | Science of Japam – Part 4
<i>Swami Chetanananda</i> |

Classes (by Swami Shivarchanananda) 8:00 p.m.

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| Tuesdays | Bhakti Sutras of Narada |
| Thursdays | In the Company of Holy Mother |

Appointments for phone 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.

We maintain a bookstore, and an online bookstore is available at www.vedantastl.org.

Sunday lectures are on YouTube at VedantaSTL.

ALL ARE WELCOME

Sleeping While Awake

There is a beautiful story. Once a king suddenly declared in his court that he would give half his kingdom to the person who could make him understand how to prepare puffed rice. Afterwards, when the king came to the inner apartment, the queen said to him: “Today you have made a great mistake. Someone will take away half of your kingdom.” The king said: “My sweetheart, don’t worry. You will see what will take place.” The next day several people explained to the king how to prepare puffed rice, but the king said, “No, I don’t understand.” What does this mean? It means if the king had said “I have understood,” then he would have lost half his kingdom. So he pretended. Our condition is also the same.

God is real and the world is unreal – if we were fully convinced of this, we would renounce the unreal for the real; but we are reluctant to sever our attachments. That is why we are sleeping while awake. You have said the right thing: “There is no other way than to hold onto God in the crisis of life.” Krishna says in the Gita, “Come to me alone for shelter.” [XVIII.66] This is the only way.

— Swami Turiyananda, *Spiritual Treasures*, letter of Jan. 22, 1916, pp. 138-9