

The Jain community in Chicago celebrates many social, religious and community events. The 8-day long Jain festival, popularly known as 'Paryushan Parva', organized every year in the auspicious month 'Bhadrapad' of the Hindu calendar. This year starting with August 25th, 2011 for eight days Jain celebrates *Shwetamber Paryushan*, followed by another ten days of *Das-Laxana* celebration of *Digambar Paryushan*. The festival ordains the Jains to observe the ten universal supreme virtues in daily practical life. The non-Jains also express high reverence for this Jain festival.

On this occasion, JSMC have invited a respected and learned scholar and vidhikar Shri Narendrabhai Nandu, Mumbai, Gujarat, India, for pravachan and rituals. Respected Shri Srutpragya Swamiji of Peace of Mind institution of Rajkot, Gujarat, India is invited for pravachan and Jinvani (sermons and services) during Das Laxana parva. Members of Jain community will participate with full vigor and zeal during the Paryushan maha parva. Following are some highlights of the program.

- Sat (8/27) Gautamswami Aaradhana and
Drama – "Bhima Kundaliya"
- Sun (8/28) Swapna Darshan & Mahavir
Janma Vanchan
- Mon (8/29) Navkaar Vandnavali & Jaap
- Tue (8/30) Laghu Siddhachakra Aaradhana
- Wed (8/31) 18 Paap Sthanak Samvedana
- Thu (9/1) Samvatsari Pratikraman

For the detail day-by-day schedule of the Paryushan program, visit www.jsmonline.org.

Everyday Idol Puja, Snatrapuja, Pravachan, bhakti-sangeet and *ekasana* or *swamivatsalya* and Pratikraman will be arranged during Paryushan.

Samatsavari the last day of this festival and one of its most significant days will be celebrated on Sept 1st, 2011 for Shwetamber tradition. On this auspicious day of Samatsavari Jains greet each other by saying "Michhami Dukkadam". The phrase translates to "forgive my misdeeds".



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