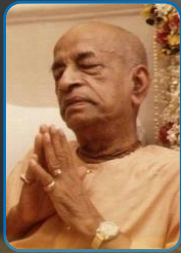


# Freedom Newsletter



Dedicated to His Divine Grace A.C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupada  
Founder Acarya of the International Society for Kṛṣṇa Consciousness

ISKCON Prison Ministry / **FEBRUARY 2021**

PO Box 2676  
Alachua, FL 32615

## THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN BHAKTI AND KARMA

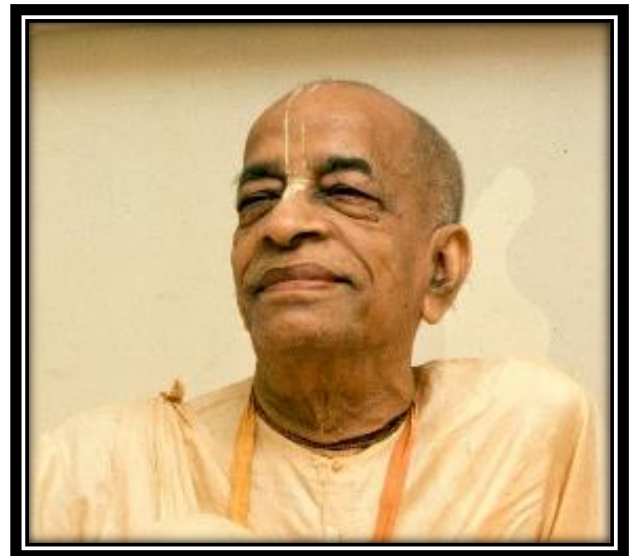
*The following conversation between His Divine Grace A. C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupada and some of his disciples took place in June 1974 during an early-morning walk in Geneva.*

**Disciple:** What does Krishna mean when He says in the *Bhagavad-gita* that we should be desireless?

**Srila Prabhupada:** He means that we should desire only to serve Him. Sri Chaitanya Mahaprabhu said, *na dhanam na janam na sundarim kavitam va jagad-isha kamaye*: "I don't want wealth. I don't want followers. I don't want beautiful women." Then what does He want? "I want to serve Krishna." It is not that He says, "I don't want this, I don't want that. Let Me become zero." No.

**Disciple:** The nondevotee also says he knows what he wants, but he says, "I can accomplish the same good results without Krishna."

**Srila Prabhupada:** Then he is a fool, because he does not know what "good results" really are. Today he is struggling very hard for one "good result," but



tomorrow he'll desire something else, because he must undergo a change of body when he dies. Sometimes he's taking the body of a dog and desiring one "good result," and sometimes he's taking the body of a demigod and desiring another "good result." *Bhramatam upary adhah*: he's wandering up and down the universe, just like . . . what is that?

**Disciple:** A ferris wheel.

**Srila Prabhupada:** Yes. Sometimes he is rising to an elevated position, and then again he must come down and take the body of a dog or hog. This is going on.

*brahmānda bhramite kona bhāgyavan jīva  
guru-kṛṣṇa-prasāde paya bhakti-lāta-bijā*

"After wandering up and down the universe for many lifetimes, one who is very fortunate comes to devotional life by the mercy of the spiritual master and Krishna." [*Chaitanya-charitamrita, Madhya 19.151*]

**Disciple:** Well, the nondevotee will say, "We are also doing good service. You are distributing food, and we are also distributing food. You are opening schools, and we are also opening schools."

**Srila Prabhupada:** Yes, but we are opening schools that teach Krishna consciousness, while your schools are teaching illusion. The problem is that the rascals cannot understand the difference between *bhakti* [devotional service] and karma [material activity]. *Bhakti* looks like karma, but it's not karma. In *bhakti* we also work, but for Krishna's sake. That is the difference.

For example, Arjuna fought in the Battle of Kurukshetra, but because he fought for Krishna he is accepted as a great devotee. Krishna told him, *bhaktō 'si me . . . priyō 'si me*: "Arjuna, you are My dear devotee." What did Arjuna do? He fought, that's all. But he fought for Krishna. That is the secret. He did not change his fighting capacity as a warrior, but he changed his mentality. At first he was thinking, "Why



shall I kill my kinsmen? Let me leave the battlefield and go to the forest and become a mendicant." But Krishna wanted him to fight, so at last he surrendered and did it as a service for Krishna. Not for his own sense gratification, but for Krishna's sense gratification.

**Disciple:** So sense gratification is there even in devotional service?

**Srila Prabhupada:** Yes. A *karmi* works for his own sense gratification, and a *bhakta* works for Krishna's sense gratification. That is the difference between a nondevotee and a devotee. Sense gratification is there in either case, but when you work for your personal sense gratification it is karma, and when you work for Krishna's sense gratification it is *bhakti*. *Bhakti and karma look similar, but the quality is different.*

Another example is the behavior of the *gopis* [Krishna's cowherd girlfriends]. Krishna was a beautiful boy and the *gopis* were attracted to Him. They wanted Him as their lover, and they went out from their homes in the middle of the night to dance with Him. So it appears that they acted sinfully—but they did not, because the center was Krishna. Therefore Chaitanya Mahaprabhu



recommends, *ramya kacid upasana vraja-vadhuvargena ya kalpita*: "There is no better mode of worshiping Krishna than that practiced by the *gopis*." But the rascals think, "Oh, this is very good. Krishna danced in the middle of the night with other men's wives, so let us also gather some girls and dance, and we will also enjoy like Krishna."

This is a gross misunderstanding of Krishna's pastimes with the *gopis*. To prevent this misunderstanding, Srila Vyasadeva has devoted nine cantos of the *Bhagavatam* to describing Krishna's position as the Supreme Personality of Godhead. Then he gives a description of Krishna's behavior with the *gopis*. But the rascals jump immediately to the Tenth Canto, to

Krishna's dealings with the *gopis*. In this way they become *sahajiyas* [pseudo devotees].

**Disciple:** Will such persons experience a change of heart, since they're somehow or other associating with Krishna?

**Srila Prabhupada:** No. Kamsa also associated with Krishna—but as an enemy. That is not *bhakti*.

*Bhakti* must be *anukulyena*

*krishnanushilanam*: favorable devotional service. One

should not imitate Krishna or try to kill Him. That is also Krishna consciousness, but it is not favorable and therefore it is not *bhakti*. Still, the enemies of Krishna get salvation, because they have somehow or other thought of Krishna. They get impersonal liberation, but they are not allowed to enter into the pastimes of Krishna in the spiritual world. That benediction is reserved for those who practice pure loving devotion to Krishna. 🌸



## HOW I CAME TO KRṢṂA CONSCIOUSNESS

### MY PATHWAY TO KRISHNA

By Bhavananda Dasa—Arkadelphia, Arkansas (released in 2008)

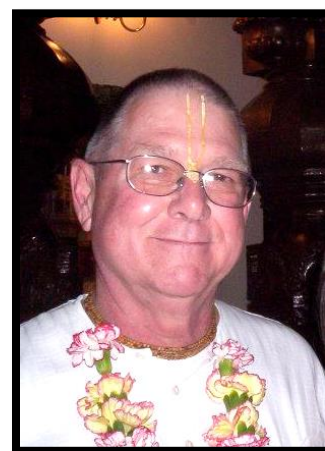
**I**t seems that my coming to Krishna has taken me my whole life. As I look back on all my wasted years I can see the many opportunities Krishna gave me to put my life together, that I let pass by.

My early years were spent as a military dependent living around the world. The choice in worshiping God was broken down into Jewish, Catholic or Protestant. By the time I was out of elementary school my parents had stopped taking me to the Protestant services. By high school I felt that void and started going back on my own. I was active in the church but there was something lacking. I was confused in the teachings and just couldn't believe all I was being taught. I also couldn't find a role model in the church to help direct my life. My life started spiraling downward. Living in Germany I had easy access to alcohol. Drinking became my main focus. I returned to the states to start college but didn't last a semester in college before dropping out and joining the army. When I returned from Vietnam I decided to try college again. By this time I was drinking heavily and instead of making it to classes I spent my time in a local bar.

I had lost my faith in everything. Well, not quite everything, I still believed in God. I had no idea of how to worship God or anything about Him, but even as messed up as everything in the world seemed, I still believed there had to be a God. I had left Christianity behind and was becoming attracted to Zen Buddhism.

My first contact with Krishna devotees wasn't a physical contact but a very memorable one. I was living in College Park, Maryland around 1972 and was

in a bar trying to drink myself into oblivion. The TV was tuned into a program where the host would invite guests to his show and then proceed to make fools out of them. These strange looking people wearing sheets walked in as the next guests on the program. I didn't follow a lot of what they were saying, some religious stuff, but what got my attention was that no matter how hard the program host tried he could not defeat the



Krishna devotees. I said to myself, that these people may look strange but they are really fixed up in their beliefs and are undefeatable.

I returned to Arkansas in 1973. A friend from back East moved there too and we moved into the woods of the Ozarks in northern Arkansas. It was really primitive; a hand built shack with no plumbing or electricity and a small two men tent. He had brought a copy of the Bhagavad-gita with him. When he finished reading it he came to me and said he was only willing to talk to me about our survival or about Krishna. He believed that this philosophy was the truth and he was going to become a devotee. I'd go crazy without anyone to talk to, so I borrowed his Gita and started reading. I was just getting to the 18th chapter when he really started asking for the book back so he could study it more. I had been blown away by all that I had read and wanted to finish the last chapter, but could see how sincere he was in wanting to become a better devotee so I returned the Gita. Shortly after that he decided to go to a temple, so we loaded up the car and headed to Dallas. This was my first actual contact with devotees. It was the summer of 1973 and the Dallas temple was very busy. My friend got shaved up and fit right in. I, on the other hand, wasn't sure what I was doing. Being there was totally blissful and I do not remember being as happy anywhere else. But it just didn't seem to be the place for me. After four days I returned to Arkansas. I was just too attached to the material world and all my pleasures. I had a job waiting, my parents were expecting me to come back and I just couldn't give up my propensity for intoxication and women, but I did become a vegetarian.

From then on my spiritual life was a series of ups and downs. I returned to college to get a degree in forestry in the hope of getting a better paying job so I could afford to buy some land and live a simple life in the country. I went to work for the U.S. Forest Service. I believed I had found the truth about God in the Bhagavad-gita but wasn't able to actually follow the teachings. Nevertheless, my perspective on reality had changed.

I didn't really see another devotee until the latter 1980's when I started occasionally going back to the Dallas temple. Things seemed to have changed at the Temple. There weren't near as many devotees around and I was totally shocked to learn that Srila Prabhupada had left his body. I started sending money to the temple, trying to chant and read some of the many books I had purchased. One devotee I met traveled around teaching cooking classes and he used to stop at my house to rest

from his travels. He taught me to cook and encouraged me by his association. I became a Life Member, but as time passed I stopped going back to the temple in Dallas. I met some devotees who lived in Missouri that had left ISKCON and I visited them off and on. I learned of a break in ISKCON and became totally confused as to what had happened.

As I moved from place to place I always kept Srila Prabhupada's books with me. I knew these books contained all the knowledge I needed and they were my prized possessions. I had finally read all of the Gita but had never attempted to read Srimad-Bhagavatam or Sri Caitanya-caritamrta. One day I would read them, when I could get my life together. I did tell everyone that in case of fire the only important thing to save was Prabhupada's books.

Years passed and I continued my old ways. I had become successful in the material world but had not made any new progress spiritually. My senses and mind pulled me around and I just didn't have the will power to say "no" to intoxication or women. Finally the Lord came to my rescue. I broke the law and went to prison. I had hit rock bottom.



When I first arrived in prison I had the good fortune to meet another devotee inmate, who gave me the address for the ISKCON Prison Ministry. I started writing to Mother Shyama Priya for her association and that started a wonderful friendship both on a spiritual and



personal level. The two years seven months I was in prison was the Lord's blessing on me. He took away all my attachments and provided me the time to chant and

read Srila Prabhupada's books. Of course trying to be a devotee in the Arkansas prison system was a real challenge. The prison units I ended up in didn't seem to have any experience with vegetarians. But I kept up my vegetarian diet and got stricter on myself as time went on. Shyama Priya was of great help to me, sending japa beads and books to read. I got out of prison in February 2008. That August I made a trip to Alachua to finally meet Shyama Priya in person, and be able to go to the Temple. Then the following February I received my initiation, on my 60th birthday, from H.H. Hridayananda das Goswami.

Of course being out of prison has been difficult too. All the old attachments are now available once again. I have not met any devotees in Arkansas, but I have taken shelter of the Holy Names and my spiritual master. I'm retired with free time so I took charge of producing the IPM Freedom Newsletter [till 2019] as a service to others in prison. I bought a small house on a couple of acres in the country where I live alone living a simple life, chanting my rounds and reading Srila Prabhupada's books.

I have been fortunate to be able to make a couple trips to the Dallas temple and get the association of the devotees there. I plan to continue those visits on a regular basis. These trips have resulted in a blessing for people in Arkansas. Several of the devotees I met in Dallas plan to come to visit me in Arkansas with the thought of being able to start some sort of a preaching program here. This is something greatly needed in Arkansas and I look forward to being part of it. It is all Krishna's blessing and I am thankful to have this opportunity to serve our Lord and my spiritual master.



*Bhavananda prabhu is now married to a wonderful devotee, Rangavati Devi Dasi, and together they form a very dynamic duo. They started a small temple where many people attend and are introduced to Kṛṣṇa consciousness. They also organize a yearly Ratha-Yatra festival in their area.*

## Book Distribution Stories!

*The following stories were written in 2000. Sankirtan, book distribution, being ageless, these stories are as relishable today as they were then.*

### Encounters

We were on Harinam chanting outside a large cinema which is also a kind of shopping center etc. One middle aged man came out with his wife. Bhakta Ryan approached him and gave him a book. He immediately started to get his wallet out but his wife became very determined not to let him give a donation and started to physically drag him a way. He was also quite determined to give a donation and although his wife was dragging



him along the street he and Ryan held onto each other and when his wife tried to grab the money out of his hand he slipped it to his other hand and into Ryan's hand and made the victory sign just as his wife finally dragged him down the street.

Adi-Purusha Prabhu was on Sankirtan in another area doing the parking lots and the street. At one point a nice man with his family in the car drove up to where he was distributing and asked "Is that the *Nectar Of Devotion*". Adi-Purusha replied "No it is the *Nectar Of Instruction*".

He said that he had that one. After a little discussion he said that although he had read the *Science of Self-Realization* he did not have it so he gave a donation and took it. Adi-Purusha asked him if he had ever been to a temple. He replied that he had never met devotees or been to a temple and said, "I just like reading the swamis books". Then Adi gave him an invitation and he said that now he would come to the temple that he knew about it.

### Sankirtan Story

I was distributing books at a table at the April Fool's day fair in a local community college. And the table adjacent to us was the pagan church. I overheard a conversation between one of the women behind the table and an older man with a long white beard standing out in the aisle. She was explaining that she was a lesbian and the head of the church and that that was ok and I kind of watched his reaction the whole time through the conversation and he was kind of smiling and looking kind of strange and [he seemed to be] thinking 'what is this woman talking about?' So eventually he said goodbye and started to

walk over to our table and he had not really noticed me dressed in my devotional clothing yet so when he got closer he started to notice that there was someone with a shaven head, dhoti, kurta, bead bag and the whole look. He looked right at me and I looked at him and leaned towards him and [to help him relate to me] with a really serious look on my face I introduced myself by saying. "Hi, I am a priest and I am heterosexual." And immediately his face was just a big smile and he was so interested and was asking questions and we just hit it off perfect and he ended up taking a Bhagavad-gita As It Is and giving a donation.

Your servant, **Bhakta Ryan**

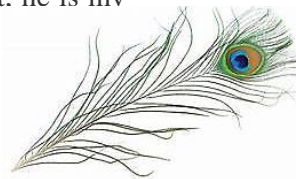
### **Book Distribution Nectar From The US**

I sold 2 books to 2 young lady students on the college street near Duke University (North Carolina) last Sunday. I invited them to come to the Siva-ratri festival that evening. They said "yes" and sure enough, they came that very evening. Garuda Prabhu was giving the lecture when they arrived. After it, one of the girls told me "you know, that man who gave the lecture tonight. he is my

my Eastern religions professor at Duke University!! I couldn't believe it was him! I never knew he was a Hare Krishna!"

That same evening, one 16 year old boy told me that his father has been listening to the Radha-Krishna Album for the last 25 years. It is his favorite album. Because of that, the son has heard it so many times that he knows all the songs on it by heart (he started singing them one by one to me, without knowing a word of the Sanskrit meaning of the songs.) He happily bought a Bhagavad-Gita and gave 10 dollars. He and his high school friends were completely blissed out and loved the super opulent Sunday Feast. Hare Kṛṣṇa.

Your servant, **Chandrasekhar das**



## **PHILADELPHIA'S MANTRA LOUNGE FEEDS THE NEEDY DURING PANDEMIC**

By: **Madhava Smullen** for ISKCON NEWS

**T**he Mantra Lounge in Philadelphia, known for its book distribution, has been reaching out to people during the COVID-19 pandemic by feeding the homeless and others in need.

"When the pandemic began in Spring last year, we saw people start to lose their jobs pretty quickly, and remembered Srila Prabhupada's instruction that no one within a ten-mile radius of any ISKCON center should go hungry," says Mangal-Arti Dasi, president of the Mantra Lounge in Fishtown and affiliated Titiksava Karunika Ashram in West Philadelphia.



**ABOVE:** Mangal-Arti preps strawberry halava in the Mantra Lounge kitchen (right) rice, chickpea curry, halava and salad ready to go out for distribution

Devotees had already been feeding university students on campus at Temple, Drexel, West Chester and Rowan universities every week. Now they wanted to help families who were struggling.

“I would see some of the people we had been sharing Krishna consciousness with, and they hadn’t eaten anything all day,” Mangal-Arti says. “Sometimes they would go on fasts for ten or fifteen days, and tell me, ‘Oh, I’m doing a cleanse.’ But when you really got to know them, you learned they just didn’t have the money to eat three square meals.”



*LEFT: Jude transports and distributes prasadam*

Mantra Lounge devotees began by delivering meals to first responders such as doctors, nurses, and police. They then joined forces with local youth, artists’ and environmental organizations to connect with families in need, using the infrastructure from their Krishna Foods business to provide free food relief to those who required it.

Mantra Lounge put together a volunteer bubble consisting of ashram residents and a few congregational devotees. Throughout the summer, the team distributed prasadam for four or five hours every Sunday from a table at Malcolm X Park, a central spot near many families in need. Mantra

Lounge also posted an announcement on its website that anyone who needed free meals on weekdays could contact devotees and receive them by delivery.

During the winter, the team has shifted its base and has been distributing about 100 meals from just outside Mantra Lounge from 10am to 3pm every Sunday. The pre-packaged hot meals are vegan and include a rice dish such as rice pulao, a curry like creamy chickpea, a green salad with dressing such as blueberry vinaigrette, and a dessert such as cake or strawberry halava.

*RIGHT: Mangal-Arti Dasi distributes prasadam and books from a table in front of Philadelphia's Mantra Lounge*

Devotees also deliver directly to families in need from their database during the week, as well as to homeless people in various parts of the city. These have included the now defunct Benjamin Franklin Parkway Homeless Encampment, the area around the Philadelphia Convention Center, and the Kensington neighborhood known for being home to one of the largest open-air drug markets in the United States.

“People are very appreciative,” says Mangal-Arti. “One man was lying in the street, in the rain. And despite his state, he got up and tried to express his gratitude. It makes you cry. We have a photo of a little girl saying thank you so much for the prasadam. To know that someone that little is in need of food is just heart wrenching. And many people in Philly are very God conscious – they keep saying ‘God bless you, God bless you.’ And they appreciate God’s work. When we tell our customers from Krishna Foods what we’re doing, they give extra to sponsor ten or twenty meals.”



Looking to the future, Mangal-Arti says she could expand to distribute 150 meals a day if supporters in the ISKCON community donated \$500 a week, or \$2,000 per month. Meanwhile, the project is also in need of a final piece of equipment to make its kitchen commercial grade, which will cost \$15,000.

As well as expanding food relief, post-pandemic Mangal-Arti hopes to establish a joint program of free meal delivery along with classes to teach families how to cook and eat healthily; and eventually to teach those who are interested



about Krishna prasadam and bhakti-yoga.

“I would love to see people benefit beyond just getting a free meal,” she says.

She adds: “We’ll also offer them the option to become a volunteer with our program. People love to be a part of the program that helped them.”

As well as their food relief programs, Mantra Lounge devotees are offering virtual Bhagavad-gita, yoga, japa and kirtan workshops via livestream and Zoom during the pandemic, and are distributing Srila Prabhupada’s books over the phone. 🌸

*ABOVE: Gaura Bhakti Dasi delivers prasadam to families in need*

## Excerpts from inmates’ letters

I received your beads that you sent and they’ve already have been put to wonderful use. I’ve been doing my rounds of chanting and I feel amazing! You wanted me to describe more of the effects it has on me and I can say that they are phenomenal! When I pause after a long period of chanting I am so filled with joy and happiness and it makes me love God so much. When I



hear the name Krishna it just sounds so beautiful and eloquent. Also when I chant I am completely unaffected by material attraction and I also want to spread the knowledge of Krishna. The letter I sent you about my cell mate who would like the Gita, yes his soul has an interest in the knowledge but he won’t necessarily chant with me because of his pride. I just want you to know that I’ve struggled with temptation and conquering material attachment and when I take up to chanting I smile and am completely impervious to The Illusion. Thank you so much and I can never stop thanking you

and I am honestly glad I came to prison just to become Krishna Conscious and Divine Order led me here. Chanting has such a magical effect on my consciousness and I emanate pure positive energy, I even start sweating because it’s purifying my entire being! I will definitely keep in touch with you when I go home because you helped bring me to the light as did Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupada. Forever Krishna Conscious.

**Bhakta Vincente Rivera**  
**Lake City, Florida**

Thank you so much for the books and brochures you sent. They are helping me so tremendously. Please send me more. I am coming to such a clarity of who I truly am, and what I am capable of. Thank you, not just for what you are doing for my life, but for all you have touched throughout these years. May Kṛṣṇa bless you! Hare Kṛṣṇa. With regards,

**Kashif R.**  
**Los Angeles, California**

I am going and doing well in my practice of Krishna Consciousness, thank you. I study my Bhagavad-Gita and do some chanting every day. I’ve been a devotee officially since March 10, 2008 when I was doing time in West Virginia. I



met devotees there and was able to get and read Swami Prabhupada's books and learn to chant and I have never given up. Although I am not surrounded by devotees anymore, I have been able to form the most beautiful relationship with Lord Krishna. I have peace in my heart, and I am free from my awful past. I have all I need and my only desire I have are the world, especially the one I live in now understand the pain and suffering they are in and how to get out of it.

When I was in West Virginia prison I was given the opportunity to cook the meal for our Gaura Purnima Celebration. It was the one and only special Holiday the prison gave us.

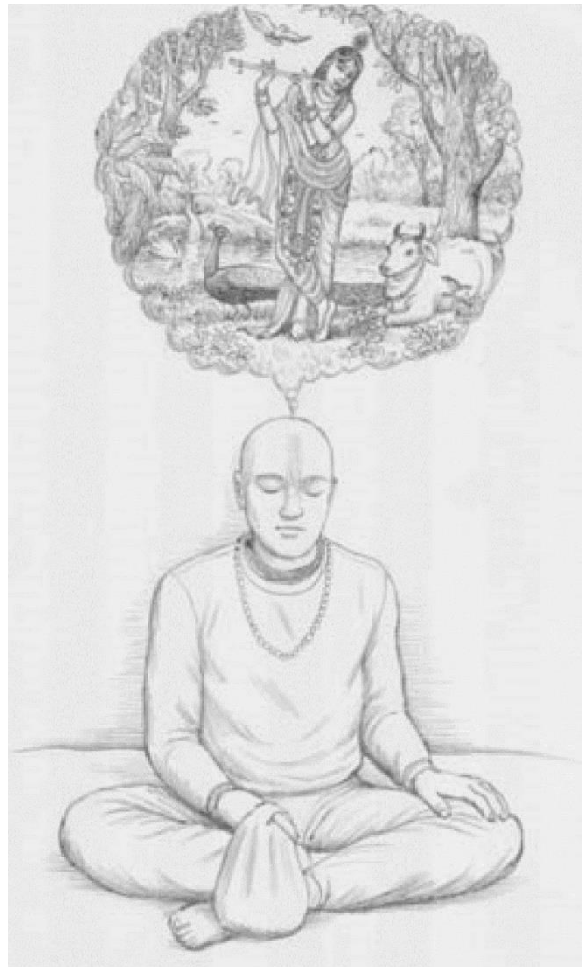
I miss the devotees there and the fellowship and support we gave each other. I really miss Jim (my friend and first teacher who told me many pastime stories about Lord Krishna and many devotees, and got me into the practice of devotional service. I now have new Karma, Hare Krishna! 😊! I am totally protected and at peace and want to be a

better man and a good devotee even if I am not a 1<sup>st</sup> class devotee I am a surrendered soul for sure. As I said, I am doing time and don't want to be a burden to the devotees that are giving service to the people in the free world. I have my Bhagavad-Gita and Krishna Book and The Teachings of Lord Caitanya and a few more books. I used to have access to a partial set of Srimad-Bhāgavatam that our good Christian Librarian threw out. Now we have a new Librarian and Chaplain that might allow the people in Alachua Florida send in some books to put in the library. It only took me 6 years and endless written request to get a set of Japa beads. 😊! My Dear Lord Krishna always sends me a way and a thing and encouragement when it's time. Hare Krishna! Anyhow I thank you and the devotees for the newsletters and the Back to Godhead magazine I get. I very much want to remain on the mailing list. Thanks! Hare Krishna!"  
**Bhakta Thomas L.**

## Inmate Artwork!



**ABOVE:** Lord Nrsimha—made with papier-mâché  
—Unknown inmate



**ABOVE:** Drawing by Brian B., California

# Calendar

## **FEBRUARY 2021**

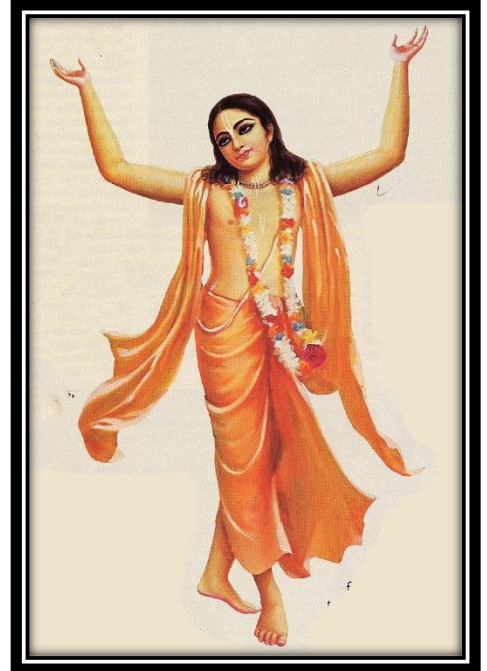
- 02 Feb 2021 - Appearance Day of Srila Gopala Bhatta Goswami  
02 Feb 2021 - Disappearance Day of Sri Ramchandra Kaviraja  
03 Feb 2021 - Disappearance Day of Sri Jayadev Goswami  
04 Feb 2021 - Disappearance Day of Sri Locana Dasa Thakura  
08 Feb 2021 - **Sat-tila Ekadashi**  
16 Feb 2021 - Vasanta Pancami  
16 Feb 2021 - Appearance Day of Srimati Vishnupriya Devi  
16 Feb 2021 - Sarasvati Puja  
16 Feb 2021 - Disappearance Day of Srila Visvanatha Cakravarti Thakura  
16 Feb 2021 - Appearance Day of Sri Pundarika Vidyandhi  
16 Feb 2021 - Appearance Day of Sri Raghunandan Thakura  
16 Feb 2021 - Appearance Day of Srila Raghunatha Dasa Goswami  
19 Feb 2021 - Appearance Day of Sri Advaita Acharya  
20 Feb 2021 - Bhishtastami  
21 Feb 2021 - Disappearance Day of Sri Madhvacharya  
22 Feb 2021 - Disappearance Day of Sri Ramanujacharya  
23 Feb 2021 - **Bhaimi Ekadashi**  
24 Feb 2021 - Varaha Dvadasi  
25 Feb 2021 - **Nityananda Triyodasi – Appearance Day of Nityananda**  
27 Feb 2021 - Sri Krishna Madhura Utsava  
27 Feb 2021 - Appearance Day of Srila Narottama Dasa Thakura



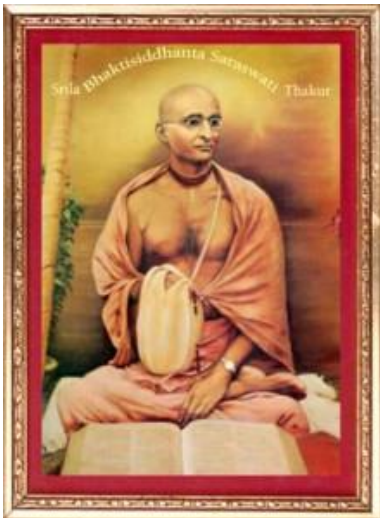
**ABOVE:** Lord Nityananda

## **MARCH 2021**

- 03 Mar 2021 - Appearance Day of Srila Bhaktisiddhanta Sarasvati Thakura  
03 Mar 2021 - Disappearance Day of Sri Purusottama Dasa Thakura  
03 Mar 2021 - Disappearance Day of Srila Gour Govinda Swami  
09 Mar 2021 - **Vijaya Ekadashi**  
10 Mar 2021 - Disappearance Day of Sri Isvara Puri  
12 Mar 2021 - Siva Ratri  
14 Mar 2021 - Disappearance Day of Srila Jagannatha Dasa Babaji  
14 Mar 2021 - Disappearance Day of Sri Rasikananda  
17 Mar 2021 - Appearance Day of Sri Purusottama Dasa Thakura  
25 Mar 2021 - **Amalaki Vrata Ekadashi**  
26 Mar 2021 - Disappearance of Sri Madhavendra Puri  
28 Mar 2021 - **Gaura Purnima**  
29 Mar 2021 - Festival of Jagannatha Misra



**ABOVE:** Lord Caitanya



**LEFT:** Bhaktisiddhanta Sarasvati Thakura,  
Srila Prabhupada's spiritual master