# Śāligrāma Śilā *Pūjā* (by Gaura Keśava dāsa)

### Establishing the Articles of Worship

### Paraphernalia

**1.** Go to the  $p\bar{u}j\bar{a}r\bar{n}$  room and collect the following items on a tray (be ready to go on the altar and begin at 5.00 am)

A *pañcapātra* filled with water with a spoon A handbell on a small plate Flower petals on a plate A throw-out pot A twig (or silver toothbrush with ayurvedic toothpowder or paste) A silver tongue scraper *Pādya* water in a small bowl with a spoon Arghya water in a small bowl with a spoon *Ācamana* water in a small bowl with a spoon Madhuparka in a small bowl with a spoon A small bottle of fragrant massage oil A spouted waterpot (or pitcher) full of warm water with a cover A blowing conch on a three-legged stand A water-conch on a three-legged stand A shallow dish to use for a bathing receptacle A big bowl to catch the *caraṇāmṛta* Towels (one for the deity, one for him to stand on after bath and one to wipe your hands on) Tilaka in a small bowl to offer the deity after his bath A small paintbrush A flower garland A crown Some jewels and ornaments Sandalwood paste on a small plate Flowers on a plate Tulasi leaves on a plate A lighter A stick of incense in a small incense holder A small single-wicked ghee lamp A small bowl of food and a cup of water for the *bhoga* offering (a piece of fruit, a sweet, some rock-candy, or dried fruit and nuts) A small bowl containing  $p\bar{a}n$  (or  $t\bar{a}mb\bar{u}la$ )

2. These items should already be in the deity room:

An  $\bar{a}sana$  for the  $p\bar{u}j\bar{a}n$  to sit or stand on A low table to sit in front of and perform the worship on A large incense holder for the altar A standing-lamp

#### Procedure

**3.** After ringing the doorbells or clapping your hands three times enter the deity room, while chanting the name of the deity.

4. Spread out your *āsana* in front of the deities' table and touching it with the right hand, chant:

(om) āsana-mantrasya, meru-prssiha rsih, sutalam chandah, kūrmo devatā, āsanopavešane viniyogah

oṁ ādhāra-śaktaye namaḥ oṁ anantāya namaḥ oṁ kūrmāya namaḥ

5. Then with folded palms, chant:

pṛthvi tvayā dhṛta lokā devi tvaṁ viṣṇunā dhṛtā tvaṁ ca dhāraya māṁ nityaṁ pavitraṁ cāsanaṁ kuru

"Oh Mother Earth, you support the whole world, and, O Goddess, you are supported by Lord Viṣṇu. Please support me always and purify this seat."

6. Sit down on the *āsana* and perform *ācamana*:

Simple *Ācamana*:

om keśavāya namaḥ sip water from brāhma tīrtha of right hand om nārāyaṇāya namaḥ sip water from brāhma tīrtha of right hand om mādhavāya namaḥ sip water from brāhma tīrtha of right hand

(Optional) Special *Ācamana*:

om govindāya namaḥ sprinkle water on right hand om viṣṇave namaḥ sprinkle water on left hand

*oṁ madhusūdanāya namaḥ* wipe mouth with right hand *oṁ trivikramāya namaḥ* wipe mouth with right hand

*oṁ vāmanāya namaḥ* wipe lips with base of thumb *oṁ śrīdharāya namaḥ* wipe lips with base of thumb

om hṛṣīkeśāya namaḥ sprinkle water on both hands om padmanābhāya namaḥ sprinkle water on feet om dāmodarāya namaḥ sprinkle water on head

om vāsudevāya namah touch lips with right hand

om sankarṣaṇāya namaḥ touch right side of nose with right hand om pradyumnāya namaḥ touch left side of nose with right hand

*oṁ aniruddhāya namaḥ* touch right eye with right hand *oṁ puruṣottamāya namaḥ* touch left eye with right hand

*oṁ adhokṣajāya namaḥ* touch right ear with right hand *oṁ nṛsiṁhāya namaḥ* touch left ear with right hand *oṁ acyutāya namaḥ* touch navel with right hand *oṁ janardanāya namaḥ* touch heart with right hand *oṁ upendrāya namaḥ* touch head with right hand

om haraye namah touch right shoulder with right hand om kṛṣṇāya namah touch left shoulder with right hand

> (om) tad vişnoh paramam pada-gum sadā pasyanti surāyah divīva cakşur ātatam tad viprāso vipanyavo jāgrvā-gum sah samindhate vişnor yat paramam padam

7. Move the small deities to their respective table.

8. Establishing the *pañcapātra*.

Empty the water from your *pañcapātra* into the throw-out pot. (Establish the *pañcapātra* in front and slightly to the right of yourself.)

Taking the spouted water pot in your left hand pour a few drops of water from it onto the floor, draw an inverted triangle with the ring finger of your right hand on the place where you want the *pañcapātra* to sit.

Chanting: *om astrāya phaț* pour some water into your right hand and sprinkle the empty *pañcapātra* (with spoon).

Chanting: om ādhāra-śaktaye namaḥ put the pañcapātra onto the triangle.

Chanting: *om hṛdayāya namaḥ* put a flower petal dipped in sandalwood paste into the *pañcapātra*. Chanting: *om śirase svāhā* fill up the *pañcapātra* with water from the spouted water pot.

9. Establishing the bell.

(Establish the bell (on a plate) in front and slightly to the left of yourself.)

Taking the spouted water pot in your left hand pour a few drops of water from it onto the floor, draw an inverted triangle with the ring finger of your right hand on the place where you want the bell (on a plate) to sit.

Chanting: *om astrāya phat* pour some water into your right hand and sprinkle on the bell (on a plate).

Chanting: *om ādhāra-śaktaye* put the bell (on a plate) on the triangle.

Chanting: *om jaya-dvani-mantra-mātre svāhā* offer a flower petal dipped in sandalwood paste to the bell in *āratī* fashion and stick it to the side of the bell.

Pick up the bell with the left hand and ring it, then replace it on the plate.

With folded palms, while meditating on the bell as a servant of the Lord chant:

sarva-vādya-mayi ghaņțe deva-devasya vallabhe tvāṁ vinā naiva sarveṣāṁ śubhaṁ bhavati śobhane "O beautiful bell, O one who is dear to the God of gods, Śrī Kṛṣṇa,you embody the sweet sound of all music. Without you there is no auspiciousness for anyone."

10. Establishing the water conch.

(Establish the water conch just in front of the *pañcapātra*.)

Taking the spouted water pot in your left hand pour a few drops of water from it onto the floor, draw an inverted triangle with the ring finger of your right hand on the place where you want the water conch to sit.

Chanting: *om astrāya phaț* pour some water into your right hand and sprinkle the empty water conch on it's three-legged stand.

Chanting: om ādhāra-śaktaye put the empty water conch on it's three-legged stand onto the triangle.

Chanting: *om hṛdayāya namaḥ* put a flower petal dipped in sandalwood paste into the water conch. Chanting: *om śirase svāhā* fill up the water conch with water from the spouted water pot.

Taking a flower petal dipped in sandalwood paste worship the fire mandala in the three-legged conch stand by offering it in *āratī* fashion to the stand while ringing a bell and chanting: *ete gandha-puṣpe om mam vahni maṇḍalāya daśa-kalātmane namaḥ* 

Stick the flower petal to the conch stand.

Taking a flower petal dipped in sandalwood paste worship the sun globe in the conch by offering it in *āratī* fashion to the conch while ringing a bell and chanting: *ete gandha-puṣpe oṁ aṁ arka-maṇḍalāya dvādaśa-kalātmane namaḥ* 

Stick the flower petal to the top of the water conch.

Taking a flower petal dipped in sandalwood paste worship the moon globe in the conch by offering it in *āratī* fashion to the conch while ringing a bell and chanting: *ete gandha-puṣpe oṁ uṁ soma-maṇḍalāya ṣoḍaśa-kalātmane namaḥ* 

Stick the flower petal to the open side of the water conch.

Wrap your sacred thread around your thumb and using the *aṅkuśa mudrā* touch the water in the conch with the middle finger of your right hand (Don't touch your fingernail to the water) while stirring clockwise and chanting:

(om) gange ca yamune caiva godāvari sarasvati narmade sindho kāveri jale 'smin sannidhim kuru

"O Gaṅgā, O Yamunā, O Godāvarī, O Sarasvatī, O Narmadā, O Sindhu, O Kāverī, Please be present in this water."

Chant the  $m\bar{u}la \ mantra$  of the deity you are worshiping over the water eight times, counting on the right hand (cover the counting with the left hand).

Taking the water conch in the left hand and pouring some of it's water into the palm of the right hand, sprinkle all the paraphernalia and yourself three times.

Pour the rest of the water out into the throw-out pot.

Replace the conch on it's stand.

Taking the spouted water pot in the left hand refill the conch chanting: om śirase svāhā

With folded palms, while meditating on the water conch as Pāñcajanya, (the conch of Lord Viṣṇu) chant:

tvam purā sāgarotpanno viṣṇunā vidhṛta kare mānita sarva-devaiś ca pāñcajanya namo 'stu te

"O Pāñcajanya, let all obeisances be unto you. In ancient days you were born from the ocean and were seized by the hand of Lord Viṣṇu, and thus you are honored by all the demigods."

tava nādena jīmūtā vitrasyanti surāsurāķ śaśāṅka-yuta-dīptābha pāñcajanya namo 'stu te

"O Pāñcajanya, let all obeisances be unto you. O you who are endowed with a brilliant color like the moon, because of your roaring sound the mountains, clouds, demigods and demons tremble in fright."

### garbhā devāri-nāriņām vilayante sahasra-dhā tava nādena pātāle pāñcajanya namo 'stu te

"O Pāñcajanya, let all obeisances be unto you. By your roaring sound, in the lower planetary systems the wombs of the demons' wives are destroyed into thousands of pieces."

11. Establishing the blowing conch.

(Establish the blowing conch just behind the bell.)

Taking the spouted water pot in your left hand pour a few drops of water from it onto the floor, draw an inverted triangle with the ring finger of your right hand on the place where you want the blowing conch to sit.

Chanting: *om astrāya phaț* pour some water into your right hand and sprinkle the blowing conch on it's three-legged stand.

Chanting: om ādhāra-śaktaye put the blowing conch on it's three-legged stand onto the triangle.

**12.** Establishing the *pādyā pātra*.

(Establish the *pādya pātra* just to the right of the *pañcapātra*.)

Taking the spouted water pot in your left hand pour a few drops of water from it onto the floor, draw an inverted triangle with the ring finger of your right hand on the place where you want the *pādya pātra* to sit.

Chanting: *om astrāya phat* pour some water into your right hand and sprinkle the *pādya pātra* Chanting: *om ādhāra-śaktaye* put the *pādya pātra* onto the triangle.

13. Establishing the *arghya pātra*.

(Establish the arghya pātra just in front of the pādya pātra.)

Taking the spouted water pot in your left hand pour a few drops of water from it onto the floor, draw an inverted triangle with the ring finger of your right hand on the place where you want the *arghya pātra* to sit.

Chanting: om astrāya phat pour some water into your right hand and sprinkle the arghya pātra

Chanting: *om ādhāra-śaktaye* put the *arghya pātra* onto the triangle.

14. Establishing the *ācamanīya pātra*.

(Establish the *ācamanīya pātra* just in front of the *arghya pātra*.)

Taking the spouted water pot in your left hand pour a few drops of water from it onto the floor, draw an inverted triangle with the ring finger of your right hand on the place where you want the *ācamanīya pātra* to sit.

Chanting: om astrāya phat pour some water into your right hand and sprinkle the ācamaniya pātra.

Chanting: om ādhāra-śaktaye put the ācamanīya pātra onto the triangle.

15. Establishing the madhuparka pātra.

(Establish the madhuparka pātra just in front of the ācamanīya pātra.)

Taking the spouted water pot in your left hand pour a few drops of water from it onto the floor, draw an inverted triangle with the ring finger of your right hand on the place where you want the *madhuparka pātra* to sit.

Chanting: om astrāya phat pour some water into your right hand and sprinkle the madhuparka pātra

Chanting: om ādhāra-śaktaye put the madhuparka pātra onto the triangle.

16. Establishing the *snāna pātra*.

(Establish the *snāna pātra* just in front of the deities on the table.)

Taking the spouted water pot in your left hand pour a few drops of water from it onto the table (or floor if necessary) draw an inverted triangle with the ring finger of your right hand on the place where you want the *snāna pātra* to sit.

Chanting: om astrāya phat pour some water into your right hand and sprinkle the snāna pātra

Chanting: om ādhāra-śaktaye put the snāna pātra onto the triangle.

17. Establishing other items.

(You should place the sandalwood paste just to the right of the *pādya pātra*.)

(You should place the flower petals just in front of the sandalwood paste.)

(You should place the *tulasī* leaves just in front of the flower petals.)

(You should place the throw-out pot just in front of the *tulasī* leaves.)

(You should place the lighter just to the right of the sandalwood paste.) (You should place the three sticks of incense in a small incense holder just in front of the lighter.)

(You should place the one-wicked ghee lamp just in front of the incense.)

(You should place the spouted water pot just in front of the bell.)

(You should place a tray containing fragrant oil, towels, *tilaka* mixed with lemon juice, tongue scrapers, toothbrushes, a small paintbrush, *tilaka* and *kumkum* to your right.)

(You should place a tray containing the clothes, jewels, garlands and crowns, etc on a tray to your left.)

#### **Abridged Version**

Place the small deities on their low table, sit down on the *āsana* in front of it, say *ācamana* and assemble the paraphernalia around you.

#### Vișņu Smaraņam

Chant Viṣṇu Smaraṇam as follows:

#### (om) yam brahma vedānta-vido vadanti pare pradhānam puruṣam tathānye viśvodgateḥ kāraṇam īśvaram vā tasmai namo vighna-vināśāya

"Obeisances unto Him who is the destroyer of all obstacles, who the knowers of *Vedānta* describe as the Supreme *Brahman*, and who others describe as the *pradhāna*, or totality of mundane elements. Some describe Him as the Supreme Lord and the cause of the creation of the universe." (*Viṣṇu Purāṇa*)

 (om) tad viṣṇoḥ paramam pada-gum sadā paśyanti surāyaḥ divīva cakṣur ātatam tad viprāso vipanyavo jāgrvā-gum saḥ samindhate viṣṇor yat paramam padam

"Just as the sun's rays in the sky are extended to the mundane vision, so in the same way the wise and learned *brāhmaņas* are able to see the spiritual world, they are also able to reveal that supreme abode of Lord Viṣṇu. Because those highly praiseworthy and spiritually awake *brāhmaṇas* are able to see the spiritual world, they are also able to reveal that supreme abode of Lord Viṣnu." (*Rg Veda* 1.22.20)

(oṁ) mādhavo mādhavo vāci mādhvo mādhavo hṛdi smaranti sādhavaḥ sarve sarva-kāryeṣu mādhavam

"Lord Mādhava is in one's words and Lord Mādhava is in one's heart. All the saintly persons remember Lord Mādhava, the husband of the goddess of fortune, in all their undertakings." (*Narasimha Purāṇa*)

(om) krṣṇo vai sac-cid-ānanda ghanaḥ kṛṣṇa ādi-puruṣaḥ kṛṣṇaḥ puruṣottamaḥ kṛṣṇo hā u karmādi mālam kṛṣṇaḥ sa ha sarvaiḥ kāryaḥ kṛṣṇaḥ kāśam-kṛd-ādīśa—mukha-prabhu-pūjyaḥ kṛṣṇo 'nādis tasminn ajāṇḍāntar-bāhye yan maṅgalam tal labhate kṛtī "Lord Kṛṣṇa is the color of a new rain cloud, therefore He is compared to a transcendental cloud full of eternity, bliss and cognizance. He is the original and supreme person. He is the origin of all activities and the one and only Lord of all. He is the worshipful Lord of the best of the demigods, the controller of Brahmā, Viṣṇu and Śiva. Kṛṣṇa is without any beginning. Whatever auspiciousness is found within or beyond this universe the devotee obtains in Kṛṣṇa alone." (*Kṛṣṇa Upaniṣad, Ŗg Veda*)

(oṁ) hare kṛṣṇa hare kṛṣṇa kṛṣṇa kṛṣṇa hare hare hare rāma hare rāma rāma rāma hare hare

### Mangala Śānti

(one should chant the following *mantras* while holding a flower dipped in sandalwood paste in his right hand)

(om) svasti no govindah svasti no 'cyutānantau svasti no vāsudevo viṣṇur dadhātu svasti no nārāyaṇo naro vai svasti naḥ padmanābhaḥ puruṣottamo dadhātu svasti no viśvākseno viśveśvaraḥ svasti no hṛṣīkeśo harir dadhātu svasti no vainateyo hariḥ svasti no 'ñjanā-suto hanūr bhāgavato dadhātu svasti svasti sumaṅgalaiḥ keśo mahān śrī kṛṣṇaḥ sac-cid-ānanda ghanaḥ sarveśvareśvaro dadhātu

"May Lord Govinda, Acyuta, Ananta Śeşa, Vāsudeva and Lord Viṣṇu bestow auspiciousness upon us. May Nara-Nārāyaṇa, Padmanābha and Puruṣottama bestow auspiciousness upon us. May Viśvaksena, the Lord of the universe, Hṛṣīkeśa and Lord Hari bestow auspiciousness upon us. May Garuḍa and the son of Añjanā, who is a great devotee of Lord Rāma, Hanumān, bestow auspiciousness upon us. May the great and only Lord of auspiciousness, Śrī Kṛṣṇa, who is the Lord of all the demigods, bestow upon us all prosperity and auspiciousness." (*Kṛṣṇa Upaniṣad, Ŗg Veda*)

> karotu svasti me krsnah sarva-lokeśvareśvarah kārsnādayaś ca kurvantu svasti me loka pāvanāh

"May Lord Kṛṣṇa, the Lord of the demigods, the presiding controllers of all the worlds, bestow auspiciousness upon me. May His devotees, who are the saviors of all people, bestow benedictions of auspiciousness upon me."

(Sammohana Tantra)

krṣṇo mamaiva sarvatra svasti kuryāt śriyā samam tathaiva ca sadā kārṣṇiḥ sarva-vighna-vināśanaḥ

"May Lord Kṛṣṇa along with his beloved Rādhā bring about prosperity and auspiciousness at all times. In the same way may the devotee of Kṛṣṇa, who is able to destroy all obstacles, always bring about auspiciousness." (*Viṣṇu Yāmala Samhitā*)

(om) hare kṛṣṇa hare kṛṣṇa

#### kṛṣṇa kṛṣṇa hare hare hare rāma hare rāma rāma rāma hare hare

Throw the flower over your left shoulder.

### Bhūta Śuddhi

## Meditation

"I am not this material body, nor am I the mind. I am a pure, spiritual entity, the eternal servant of the Lord. My spiritual master is eternally engaged as the Lord's dearmost servant. I surrender to my spiritual master, who can guide me in performing transcendental service to the Lord."

> nāham vipro na ca nara-patir nāpi vaisyo na sūdro nāham varņī na ca grha-patir no vanastho yatir vā kintu prodyan nikhila paramānanda-pūrņāmṛtābdher gopī-bhartuḥ pada-kamalayor dāsa-dāsānudāsaḥ

"I am not a *brāhmaņa, kṣatriya, vaiśya* or *śūdra;* nor a *brahmacārī*, householder, *vānaprastha* or *sannyāsī*. I am the servant of the servant of the servant of the master of the *gopīs*, Śrī Kṛṣṇa, who is an ocean full of transcendental bliss." (*Padyāvali* 74)

divyam śrī-hari-mandirāḍhya-tilakam kaṇṭham sumālānvitam vakṣaḥ śrī-hari-nāma varṇa subhagam śrī-khaṇḍa-liptam punaḥ pūtam sūkṣmam navāmbaram vimalatām nityam vahantīm tanum dhyāyet śrī-guru-pāda-padma nikaṭe sevotsukām cātmanaḥ

"One should meditate on oneself situated at the feet of one's spiritual master, one's pure body clothed in fine, new cloth, with chest marked with the holy name and smeared with sandalwood pulp, with garland around the neck and wonderful *tilaka*."

(N.B. All items that are unavailable should be offered within the mind while chanting the appropriate *mantras*)

18. Meditate on Śrī Śāligrāma Śilā, while chanting this prayer with folded palms.

(oṁ) dhyeyaḥ sadā savitṛ-maṇḍala-madhya-vartī nārāyaṇaḥ sarasijāsana-sanniviṣṭaḥ keyūravān makara-kuṇḍalavān kirīṭī hārī hiraṇmaya-vapur dhṛta-saṅkha-cakraḥ

"Lord Nārāyaṇa is seated on a lotus flower *āsana* within the sun globe. He wears a crown, fish-shaped earrings and arm bands of silver on His golden body, and in His hands He holds a white conchshell and a Sudarśana disc weapon. Because of all this He is ever enchanting and captivating to the mind. One should always meditate upon the Lord in this way." (*Rg Veda Samhitā*)

**19.** Remove the deity's crown, ornament and sacred thread. Place some flower petals dipped in sandalwood paste in the bathing receptacle, for the deity to sit on while ringing the bell in the left hand and chanting:

(oṁ) sahasra śīrṣā puruṣaḥ sahasrākṣaḥ sahasra pāt sa bhūmiṁ viśvato vṛtvā atyatiṣṭhad daśāṅgulam

idam āsanam om namo nārāyaņāya

**20.** Ring the bell in the left hand and chant:

### (oṁ) puruṣa eveda'guṁ sarvaṁ yad bhūtaṁ yac ca bhavyam utāmṛtatva syeśānaḥ yad annenātirohati

### prabho kṛpayā svāgataṁ kuru oṁ namo nārāyaṇāya

(Optional: Show the avahana and sthapana mudras.)

Then taking a soft dry towel in the left hand, lift the deity into the bathing receptacle

**21.** Taking the spoon in the right hand offer some water from the  $p\bar{a}dya$  bowl into the bathing receptacle in front of the deity, while ringing the bell in the left hand and chanting:

### (oṁ) etāvān asya mahimā ato jyāyā 'guṁś ca pūruṣaḥ pādo 'sya viśvā bhūtāni tripād asyāmṛtaṁ divi

### etat pādyam om namo nārāyaņāya

**22.** Taking the spoon in the right hand offer some water from the *arghya* bowl into the bathing receptacle in front of the deity, while ringing the bell in the left hand and chanting:

#### (oṁ) tripād ūrdhva udait puruṣaḥ pādo'syehābhavāt punaḥ tato viśvaṅ vyakrāmat sāśanānaśane abhi

### idam arghyaṁ oṁ namo nārāyaṇāya

**23.** Taking the spoon in the right hand offer some water from the *ācamanīya* bowl three times to the mouth of the deity (each time discarding it into the throw-out pot), while ringing the bell in the left hand and chanting:

### (oṁ) tasmād virāḍ ajāyata virājo adhi puruṣaḥ sa jāto atyaricyata paścād bhūmim atho puraḥ

### idam ācamanīyaṁ oṁ namo nārāyaṇāya

**24.** Taking the toothbrush in the right hand, offer it from side to side before the mouth of the deity, while ringing a bell in the left hand and chanting: *esa danta-kasthaḥ oṁ namo nārāyaṇāya* 

**25.** Taking the tongue scraper in the right hand, offer it up and down before the mouth of the deity, while ringing a bell in the left hand and chanting: *eṣa jihva ullekhani oṁ namo nārāyaṇāya* 

**26.** Taking the spoon in the right hand offer some water from the *ācamanīya* bowl three times to the mouth of the deity (each time discarding it into the throw-out pot), while ringing the bell in the left hand and chanting:

(oṁ) tasmād virāḍ ajāyata virājo adhi puruṣaḥ sa jāto atyaricyata

### paścād bhūmim atho puraķ

#### idam ācamanīyam om namo nārāyaņāya

**27.** Taking the bowl of *madhuparka* in the right hand offer it to the mouth of the deity, while ringing the bell in the left hand and chanting:

(oṁ) tasmād yajñāt sarva hutaḥ sambhṛtaṁ pṛṣad ājyam paṣū'guṁs tā'guṁś cakre vāyavyān āraṇyān grāmyāś ca ye

#### eşa madhuparkah om namo nārāyaņāya

**28.** Taking the spoon in the right hand offer some water from the *ācamanīya* bowl three times to the mouth of the deity (each time discarding it into the throw-out pot), while ringing the bell in the left hand and chanting:

(om) tasmād virād ajāyata virājo adhi puruṣaḥ sa jāto atyaricyata paścād bhūmim atho puraḥ

#### idam ācamanīyam om namo nārāyaņāya

**29.** With the right hand massage the body of the deity with fragrant oil after ringing the bell in the left hand and chanting: *idaṁ tailaṁ oṁ namo nārāyaṇāya* 

30. Blow the blowing conch three times and wash it over the throw-out pot with water from the *pañcapatra*.

**31.** Bathe the deity with (at least) three water-conch-shells of water, while ringing the bell in the left hand and chanting:

#### (oṁ) tasmād yajñāt sarva hutaḥ rcaḥ sāmāni jajñire chandā 'guṁsi jajñire tasmāt yajus tasmād ajāyata

#### idam snānīyam om namo nārāyaņāya

(**N.B.** While bathing the deity one should chant prayers appropriate to the particular deity)

**32.** Taking a soft dry towel in the left hand, lift the deity from the bathing receptacle with the right hand and place him on the towel in the left hand.

**33.** Dry the deity with a towel.

(Optional: Apply some more fragrant oil to the deity with the right hand chanting: *idam tailam om namo nārāyaņāya*)

34. Replace the deity in his throne.

35. Offer a sacred thread to the deity, after ringing the bell in the left hand and chanting:

#### (om) tam yajñam barhişi praukşan

#### puruṣaṁ jātam agrataḥ tena devā ayajanta sādhyā ṛṣayaś ca ye

#### idam upavītam om namo nārāyaņāya

**36.** Offer the small bowl of *tilaka* to the deity while ringing the bell in the left hand and chanting: *idam tilakam om namo nārāyaņāya* 

(Optional: Paint a face and a *tilaka* marking on the deity while chanting: **om keśavāya namaḥ**, or ornamental *tilaka* and eyes may be put on at this time.)

**37.** Offer flower petals dipped in sandalwood paste to the deity meditating upon them as clothes while ringing the bell in the left hand and chanting:

(oṁ) tasmād asva ayājanta ye ke cobhayādataḥ gavo ha jajñire tasmāt tasmāj jātā ajā vayaḥ

#### idam sottarīya-vastram om namo nārāyaņāya

**38.** Taking the spoon in the right hand offer some water from the *ācamanīya* bowl three times to the mouth of the deity (each time discarding it into the throw-out pot), while ringing the bell in the left hand and chanting:

#### (oṁ) tasmād virāḍ ajāyata virājo adhi puruṣaḥ sa jāto atyaricyata paścād bhūmim atho puraḥ

#### idam ācamanīyam om namo nārāyaņāya

**39.** After touching the deity, chant silently eight times:

#### om namo nārāyaņāya

**40.** Offer ornaments to the deity after ringing the bell in the left hand and chanting:

(oṁ) yat puruṣaṁ vyadadhuḥ katidhā vyakalpayan mukhaṁ kim asya kau bāhū kā ūrū pādāv ucyete

#### idam ābharaņam om namo nārāyaņāya

**41.** Offer a garland to the deity after ringing the bell in the left hand and chanting: *idam mālyam om namo nārāyaņāya* 

42. Apply sandalwood paste to the deity, while ringing the bell in the left hand and chanting:

(oṁ) brāhmaņo'sya mukham āsīt bāhū rājanyaḥ kṛtaḥ ūrū tad asya yad vaisyaḥ padbhyāguṁ śūdro ajāyata

#### eșa gandhah om namo nārāyaņāya

**43.** Offer flower petals dipped in sandalwood paste to the deity while ringing the bell in the left hand and chanting:

#### (oṁ) candramā manaso jātaķ cakṣoḥ sūryo ajāyata mukhād indraś cāgniś ca prāṇād vāyur ajāyata

### idam sugandham puṣpam om namo nārāyaṇāya

**44.** Offer *tulasī* leaves to the deity while ringing the bell in the left hand and chanting: *etat tulasī pātraṁ oṁ namo nārāyaņāya* 

(**N.B.** The *tulasī* leaves may be held in place by sandalwood paste)

**45.** Offer incense to the deity while ringing the bell in the left hand and chanting:

(oṁ) nābhyā āsīd antarikṣam śīrṣṇo dyauḥ samavartata padbhyāṁ bhūmir diśaḥ śrotrāt tathā lokāgum akalpayan

#### eşa dhūpaḥ oṁ namo nārāyaṇāya

**46.** Offer the lamp to the deity while ringing the bell in the left hand and chanting:

(oṁ) yat puruṣeṇa haviṣā devā yajñam atanvata vasanto asyāsīd ājyaṁ grīṣma idhmaḥ śarad dhaviḥ

#### eşa dīpaḥ oṁ namo nārāyaṇāya

47. Place the *bhoga* before the deity and place a *tulasi* leaf upon it

**48.** Taking the spoon in the right hand offer some water from the  $p\bar{a}dya$  bowl into the bathing receptacle in front of the deity then discard it into the throw-out pot, while ringing the bell in the left hand and chanting:

(oṁ) etāvān asya mahimā ato jyāyā 'guṁś ca pūruṣaḥ pādo 'sya viśvā bhūtāni tripād asyāmṛtaṁ divi

#### etat pādyam om namo nārāyaņāya

**49.** Taking the spoon in the right hand offer some water from the *ācamanīya* bowl three times to the mouth of the deity (each time discarding it into the throw-out pot), while ringing the bell in the left hand and chanting:

(oṁ) tasmād virād ajāyata virājo adhi puruṣaḥ sa jāto atyaricyata paścād bhūmim atho puraḥ **50.** Ring the bell in the left hand and chant:

### (oṁ) saptāsyāsan paridhāyaḥ triḥ sapta samidhaḥ kṛtāḥ devā yad yajñaṁ tanvānāḥ abadhnan puruṣaṁ paśum

# idam naivedyam om namo nārāyaņāya

**51.** Meditate on the deity enjoying the *bhoga* offering.

**52.** Taking the spoon in the right hand offer some water from the *ācamanīya* bowl three times to the mouth of the deity (each time discarding it into the throw-out pot), while ringing the bell in the left hand and chanting:

### (oṁ) tasmād virād ajāyata virājo adhi puruṣaḥ sa jāto atyaricyata paścād bhūmim atho puraḥ

## idam ācamanīyaṁ oṁ namo nārāyaṇāya

**53.** Place the small bowl of  $p\bar{a}n$  (or  $t\bar{a}mb\bar{u}la$ ) before the deity, while ringing the bell in the left hand and chanting: *idam tāmbūlam om namo nārāyaņāya* 

54. Offer a flower to the deity while ringing the bell in the left hand and chanting: *idam sarvam om namo nārāyaņāya* 

**55.** Chant silently ten times:

### om namo nārāyaņāya

56. Chant the following prayer to Śrī Śāligrāma Śilā with folded palms.

(om) yajñena yajñam ayajanta devāh tāni dharmāņi prathamāny āsan te ha nākam mahimānah sacante yatra pūrve sādhyāh santi devāh

57. Replace the deity on the altar

**58.** Remove the *prasādam*, clean up and put away the paraphernalia

One may optionally chant mantras for the forgiveness of offenses afterwards.