Pitru Dosh Puja and Shraddh

पितृ दोष पूजा एवं श्राद्ध

Dvadashakshari (Vishnu)

ॐ नमो भगवते वासुदेवाय

om namo bhagavate vāsudevāya

Meaning: Salutations to the Lord Vasudeva, who dwells in all beings.

Count: Traditionally 108 times.

Gayatri Mantra

ॐ भूर्भुवः स्वः तत्सवितुर्वरेण्यं भर्गो देवस्य धीमहि धियो यो नः प्रचोदयात् ॥

om bhūrbhuvah svah tatsaviturvarenyam bhargo devasya dhīmahi dhiyo yo nah pracodayāt ||

Meaning: We meditate on the radiant light of the divine Savitr, worthy of worship; may it inspire our minds.

Count: Traditionally 108 times at sunrise; 3, 11 or 108 times at other times.

How to chant

1. Sit facing east or north on a clean seat, after a bath if you can.
2. Light a lamp. Take a little water in your right palm and state your intention (sankalp) silently.
3. Use a mala of 108 beads; turn it with the thumb and middle finger, and do not cross the larger guru bead: turn the mala around.
4. Chant clearly and steadily, aloud, softly, or in the mind; the same number each day matters more than speed.
5. Close with a moment of silence and offer the merit of the japa for your family's wellbeing.