等待了六年之久,本寺終於在二月十 七日再次傳授三皈五戒,此次預先報 名的有三十位,以後則逐日增加,前 後共有五十多來位受三皈五戒。連日 來由於法師及義工們辛勞的籌備,寺 內樓上樓下氣氛祥和而莊嚴,且是日 天氣晴朗,一反西雅圖冬日陰雨寒風 的氣候,佛殿內會眾滿滿,卻沒有一 點兒聲響。

此次三皈五戒典禮非常隆重而殊勝,上午八時的拜願展開了大典首 頁,有人在懺悔清淨後決定受五戒。 會眾有些人則當場情不自禁潸然淚 下,此情此刻有若在茫茫人海,多崎 世路中,找到大慈悲正道。大眾中最 高齡的是一位九十四歲的老祖母,年 紀最小的是一位兩歲的小妹妹。青少 年和兒童共有十多位受三皈,其中有 兩位是美籍小姐弟,另有兩位小兄弟 則在媽媽的引導之下,受持不偷盜 戒,他們受戒後歡喜雀躍。見此有感 而發,在此奉勸天下的父母,早點點 燃孩子們的心燈,栽培他們的善根。

有一家祖孫三代因緣非常殊勝, 總共十口人同日皈依。早先,老祖母 雖然聽到法師的勸解,但總說慢慢 來。然而在兩三星期前的一日清晨三 時許,醒來後,坐在床上念佛,念到 心開意喜,再度安然入睡。早上再度 醒來之後,突然決定不願錯失此次皈 依良機。

午齋時聆聽上人的開示「皈依是 人生一件大事」,接著法師開示,講解 六大宗旨和五戒的關係,也特別提醒大 眾不要貪吃太好吃的東西,因爲太好吃 的東西會增加欲念,障礙修行。

最後由來法師作總結: 皈依之後 要頂禮上人一萬拜,多多益善,但不 可以討價還價,如果每天十拜,不需 三年就能完成一萬拜。五戒是互相關 聯的,殺、盜、淫、妄、酒是五毒, 而煙酒是摧殘身體及心靈的毒品,他 親眼見到酒如何奪去他父親的生命, 煙雖然不在五戒中,但抽煙會令護法 神不高興,死後會墮入煙灰地獄。

受戒之後就如同已入學註冊之幼 稚園學生,大家要一齊趕路向佛道, 因為上人的願力是要一切眾生都成 佛,他才成佛。所以我們不要讓上人 等太久,老老實實的依照上人的六大 宗旨去修行,決定成佛有餘。

下午大眾在迴向後與來法師合影 留念,與會大眾個個心裏平靜安祥, 相信在三寶的指引下,心燈已燃,往 後將有待自己的努力去圓滿佛道,有 道是「將軍不下馬,各自奔前程」, 好自爲之!

2008年金峰聖寺傳授三皈五戒記實

Report on the Ceremony of Taking the Three Refuges and Five Precepts at Gold Summit Monastery in 2008



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DHARMA REALM NEWS

法 界

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After six years waiting, Gold Summit Monastery finally once again transmitted the Three Refuges and Five Precepts on February 27th. There were more than thirty people signed up at the early registration; the number kept increasing daily and a dozen more people signed up the morning of the ceremony. A total of about fifty people received the Three Refuges and Five Precepts. After days of preparation by Dharma Masters and volunteers, a harmonious atmosphere pervaded Gold Summit Monastery. It was a rare sunny day during the rainy Seattle winter. The Buddha hall, though filled with people, was quiet and peaceful.

The ceremony of transmitting the Three Refuges and Five Precepts was solemn and special. It began at 8 a.m. with bowing. Some people decided to take Five Precepts after purifying themselves through repentance. Some participants could not help shedding tears. They felt they had finally found the right way of great compassion in this crowded world of crooked ways. The oldest participant was 94 years old, the youngest a 2 year old girl. There were more than a dozen teenagers and chilThere was one family in which ten members from three generations took the refuge on the same day. At first, the old grandma had said she would take it slowly even after hearing Dharma Masters' recommendation. However, one early morning at 3 a.m. about two or three weeks ago, she woke up and recited the Buddha name while sitting on the bed. She recited until she was full of happiness, then fell asleep peacefully. When she woke up again, she decided not to miss this great opportunity to take refuge.

Participants listened to the Venerable Master's lecture, "Taking refuge is the one big thing in life". Then other Dharma Masters also gave Dharma talks, explained the relationship between the Six Principles and the Five Precepts, and reminded the assembly not to be greedy for delicious food because delicious food will increase one's desire and hinder cultivation.

DM Lai summarized at the very end: After taking refuge, one should make at least 10,000 bows to the Buddha; the more the better. Don't haggle over the number of the bows. By making 10 bows a day, one can finish 10,000 bows in less than three years. The Five Precepts are interrelated. Killing, stealing, sexual misconduct, lying, and taking intoxicants are five poisons. Smoking and drinking will destroy one's body and mind. He himself witnessed how alcohol had taken his father's life. Even though smoking is not expressly prohibited by the Five Precepts, smoking will make the Dharma protectors unhappy and people who smoke will fall into the hell of smoke and ash.

After taking precepts, we are similar to the kindergarten students who have just enrolled in school. We should walk the path of the Buddha. Since the Venerable Master vows to wait for all beings to become Buddhas before he finally becomes a Buddha, we should not make the Venerable Master to wait too long. We should cultivate earnestly according to the Venerable Master's Six Principles. Then we will be more than qualified to become a Buddha.

After the transference of merit and virtue in the afternoon, the assembly took photos with DM Lai. The participants were peaceful and content. Under the guidance of Triple Jewel, their mind lamps have already lit up. It will be up to their own effort to work hard in walking the Buddha path. As the Chinese saying goes, "With no time to dismount, the generals each rush toward their own destiny." Each person must work hard.

dren taking refuge, including an American little brother and sister. There were two little brothers taking the precept against stealing under their mother's guidance. They jumped up with joy after taking the precept. Thus I suggest that all the parents in the world light the lamps of their children's minds and help them plant good roots.



祖孫三代同日皈依,因緣 非常殊勝。

Ten members from three generations of one family took refuge on the same day.