

An Account of Guanyin Response on School Campus

校園觀音感應一則



比丘 近梵 2010年10月23日講於萬佛城大殿
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萬佛聖城是西方的普陀山，也就是觀世音菩薩的道場。在聖城的住眾，每個人跟觀世音菩薩都有很深的因緣，我們每天都和觀世音菩薩生活在一起，沐浴在觀音菩薩的慈暉中，蒙受觀音菩薩的加被與庇蔭。

在聖城，不管是出家眾或在家眾，或男或女，或老或少，遇上困難時，往往第一個想到的就是向觀世音菩薩求救。當然，觀世音菩薩是有求必應的，都會盡快地滿我們的願。內心有難言之隱時，觀世音菩薩是我們最佳的傾訴對象，他會替你保守秘密，也會幫你解決問題，並引領你走上一個光明大道。

如果你常來聖城打觀音七，就會發現很多學生非常喜歡打觀音七，《普門品》已是他們的最愛。他們會在早上七點來誦《普門品》，八點前法喜充滿的趕回去上課。有些老師會在上課時間帶著學生到佛殿隨喜，和大眾一起念觀世音菩薩聖號。因此，觀音法門對學校及學生的影響，可以說是非常深遠的。

昨天早上發生了一件感人的事情，也引發了另一個小小的感應：我進男校去為四、五年級的學生上課時，發現全班的學生都不見了。我有點訝異，因為這是很少有的事。遲了大概十分鐘，學生都回來了，迫不及待地就向我解釋遲到的理由。

原來，早上七點多，有一個小學的女老師

The City of Ten Thousand Buddhas (CTTB) is the Potola Mountain (Putuoshan) of the West, that is to say, the site of awakening of Guan Shi Yin Bodhisattva. Everyone who lives in CTTB has deep affinity with Guan Shi Yin Bodhisattva. We spend each day with Guan Shi Yin Bodhisattva, bathe in the compassionate radiance of Guan Shi Yin Bodhisattva, and receive blessings and protection from Guan Shi Yin Bodhisattva.

In CTTB, it doesn't matter if you are a monastic or a layperson, male or female, old or young, Guan Shi Yin Bodhisattva is always the first one we think of to cry to for help when we encounter problems. Of course, Guan Shi Yin Bodhisattva grants whatever is asked and promptly fulfills our wishes. When we have a secret that is difficult to reveal, Guan Shi Yin Bodhisattva is the best to talk to: he will keep your secret, help resolve your problem and will lead you to the bright path.

When you come to CTTB to attend the seven-day Guanyin Session, you will discover that many of students really like to attend the Guanyin Session. Currently the *Universal Door Chapter* is their favorite. They come in the morning reciting the *Universal Door Chapter* at 7:00 AM, then rush to their classes before 8:00 AM, filled with Dharma joy. Some teachers take the students to the session, if they want to go to recite Guan Shi Yin Bodhisattva's name with the assembly. Therefore, the Guan Yin dharma practice has a profound influence on the school and students.

A heart-warming affair occurred yesterday which triggered a small response: I went to the fourth and fifth grade classroom to teach and was astonished because the whole class was missing. I was taken by surprise as this rarely happens. The students came back to class about ten minutes late, and they couldn't wait to explain why they were late.



開車到學校準備上課，當時車上還有三個人吧，其中也有小學生。在高速公路上因為下雨路滑，車子控制不住，蛇行了一陣子，車輪竟然朝天翻了過去；奇妙的是車上的人都沒有受傷，但是已經飽受虛驚。這位老師也因為驚嚇過度，回家休息了。

四、五年級的班導師是Zephyr女士，她得知了消息，很高興他們都平安無事；慶幸之餘，就帶著她班上十幾個學生到佛殿來念觀世音菩薩聖號，感恩菩薩時時刻刻呵護著我們。念完聖號，在回學校的路上，又發生一個有趣的小插曲：他們聽到一個奇怪的聲音，但是不知道是什麼聲音，是從哪裡發出來的。

由於奇怪的聲音持續地發出來，所以他們沒有進教室。老師又帶著好奇的學生，循著聲音去探個究竟，發現聲音是從美術教室的洗手間發出來的。這個教室離男校將近一百公尺，在法大圖書館的對面。我相信在座的人——除了這些學生——一定都不知道到底發生了什麼事？

原來那個美術老師上洗手間，門壞了，所以她出不來，被困在裡面。當時並沒有課，除了她以外沒有旁人；這裡是比較偏僻的地方，即使你呼叫也很難有人聽到。幸好她會使用手指來吹口哨，於是她就不停地吹著，希望有人聽到哨音來救她。果然，經過四十五分鐘以後，這群學生終於像觀世音菩薩一樣尋聲救苦，把她救了出來。

聽完他們的小故事，我自己很感動。在聖城大家互相關心照顧，就因為老師同學意外地翻車而受驚，他們就到佛殿幫忙念觀世音菩薩。除了表達感恩菩薩之外，也祈求菩薩為老師和同學壓驚；也因為他們的誠心，又意外地救出了另一個老師。

像這樣的故事，我相信在萬佛城是隨時隨地都在發生，因為觀世音菩薩已和我們每一個人合為一體，密不可分，我們都希望有像觀世音菩薩大慈大悲的精神，有尋聲救苦的大神通力。因此，我們時時都在跟著觀世音菩薩學習，希望成為觀世音菩薩的一個手眼。

It happened that at about seven o'clock in the morning, a female elementary school teacher was driving to school with probably three other people in the car with her, including elementary school students. She lost control of the car, due to rain and the slippery road surface, and it flipped upside down. Surprisingly, no one was hurt but they were all shaken up. The teacher experienced excessive shock and went home to rest.

When Ms. Zephyr, the core teacher of the fourth and fifth grades, heard the news, she was glad that everyone was safe. Rejoicing, she led her class of more than ten students to the Buddha Hall to recite Guan Shi Yin Bodhisattva's name, in gratitude for the Bodhisattva's constant protection. On their way back to the school, a small interlude occurred. They all heard a strange sound, but they didn't know what it was or where it came from.

The strange sound persisted, so, instead of going back into the classroom, the teacher led the group of curious students towards the source of the sound to investigate what it was. They determined that the sound was coming from the washroom of the art classroom. This classroom is situated about a hundred meters from the boys' school and is on the opposite side of the Dharma Realm Buddhist University library. I believe that nobody in this assembly knew what was going on.

It turned out that the art teacher had been trapped inside the washroom because the door was broken. There was no class in session at that time, so she was all by herself. The place was a bit remote and it would be hard to catch anyone's attention, even if you called out loud. She was fortunate to know how to whistle by blowing through her fingers, hence she was whistling continuously, hoping someone would hear it and come to her rescue. She had been locked in the washroom for forty-five minutes and in the end, the group of students rescued her, just like Guan Shi Yin Bodhisattva who listens to cries for help.

I was touched after listening to their little story. In CTTB we care for each other. As a consequence of a teacher and fellow students being in a car accident and being frightened, the students went to the Buddha Hall to recite Guan Shi Yin Bodhisattva's name. They were grateful to the Bodhisattva and prayed that the Bodhisattva would help the teacher and fellow students recover from the shock. And because of their sincerity, they accidentally rescued another teacher.

I believe stories like this can happen any place and any minute within the City of Ten Thousand Buddhas. It is because Guan Shi Yin Bodhisattva and every one of us have become one and the same, and we cannot be separated. We want to attain Guan Shi Yin Bodhisattva's infinitely compassionate and merciful spirit, and the great spiritual power of listening to cries for help. Therefore, we must constantly learn from Guan Shi Yin Bodhisattva, hoping to be a hand and an eye of Guan Shi Yin Bodhisattva.