

法界佛教總會道場慶新年

DRBA branch monasteries celebrate Chinese New Year

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萬佛聖城迎新春

萬佛聖城迎接金猴年，城內路燈桿掛上了紅燈籠，迎風搖曳；佛殿也精心佈置過，全城充滿新春氣息。

2月8日大年初一，聖城佛殿舉行新春法會，念誦消災吉祥神咒，迴向新的一年國泰民安、風調雨順。當天清晨，比丘與比丘尼分別前往福居樓，向老人家拜年。方丈恆律法師特別說了猴子的應景笑話，逗得老人家開懷大笑，以笑聲迎來金猴年。

育良小學與培德中學男校於大年初一舉行祭祖典禮，由校長葛親翰主祭，代表全體師生上香，向天、地、君、親、師叩頭致敬。接著師生互相拜年，學生們自葛校長手中拿到紅包，內有糖果及25分硬幣一枚。男校前任校長巴斯蒂克也特別出席了祭祖儀式。

這項祭祖活動源於1994年春節，由前校長姜吉甫提出，希望海外的後輩也能自祭祖中，學習慎終追遠的精神。宣公上人欣然支持，自此成為男校新春傳統活動之一。

午齋時分，男校舞獅隊出動，勁道的鑼鼓聲與靈活舞動的醒獅，將熱鬧的農曆年氣氛推至頂點。

The City of Ten Thousand Buddhas Welcomes the Chinese New Year

To welcome the Year of the Monkey, red lanterns were hung on all the street lights and dangled in the breeze at the City of Ten Thousand Buddhas (CTTB). The Buddha Hall was also decorated beautifully, creating an auspicious atmosphere of celebrating Chinese New Year.

February 8th 2016 was the day of Chinese New Year and there was a Dharma session in the Buddha Hall. People recited the *Eradicating Disaster Auspicious*



Spirit Mantra and transferred that merit and virtue for a peaceful and prosperous year, with good weather and enough rain. Separately, Bhikshus and Bhikshunis visited the Tower of Blessings in the early morning to wish the senior residents a Happy Chinese New Year. Dharma Master Heng Lyu, the Abbot of CTTB, shared a joke about monkeys, which the seniors enjoyed. So with laughter, the year of the Monkey began.

女校全體師生則在大年初二與廚房工作人員合力包水餃、搓湯圓，與萬佛聖城所有住眾分享。她們也前往祖師殿向上人銅像致敬，接著到福居樓向老人家賀歲，開心品嘗糖果與果凍。



新春對聯大賽得獎居士與法師合照。

Winners of the Chinese New Year couplets contest.

金佛聖寺賀新歲

加拿大溫哥華金佛寺於2月7日農曆除夕舉行抄經、點燈、撞鐘儀式，約250位善信互賀新年，一起守歲直至晚間十時，度過了一個充滿年味的大年夜。

金佛寺於除夕上午先舉行兩小時的大悲咒法會，下午開始抄經。金佛寺除夕抄經已有十餘年歷史，最早抄的是《心經》與《八大人覺經》，後加入《藥師經》，今年新加《金剛經》，後面這兩部經是由數人合力抄寫。歲末抄經，特別能深入回味經中的義理。

晚間八時是點亮藥師燈，93歲的老法師點亮第一盞燈，象徵開啟智慧、帶來一整年的吉祥安康。之後，居士接力點亮259盞燈。當家師又讓人推出金佛大鐘，大家依序撞鐘，在清亮的鐘聲裏，每人都聽到一句吉祥語。這些吉祥語是法師們早早寫就



The boys division of Instilling Goodness Elementary School and Developing Virtue Secondary School held a ceremony to honor ancestors. The principal Mr. Juan Gracia represented all teachers and students to offer incense to ancestors. Then teachers and students paid their respect to heaven and earth, and to parents and teachers, and the national leader. Everyone wished each other a Happy Chinese New Year. Mr. Gracia handed each student a red envelope with a quarter and a candy in it. Mr. Mack Bostick, the former principal of the boys' schools, was present and observed the ceremony.

This ceremony to honor ancestors began in 1994. Mr. Chi-fu Chiang, the ex-principal of the boys' schools, made this suggestion in the hope that younger generations overseas could learn to revere their ancestors. Master Hua also supported his idea with delight and this ceremony has since become a tradition that we uphold every Chinese New Year for Boys' Schools.

During lunchtime, the lion-dance troupe performed and beat their powerful gong and drum. Their performance highlighted the Chinese New Year celebration.

All teachers and students from the Girls' School worked with CTTB kitchen staff on the next day of Chinese New Year to make dumplings and tang-yuan (glutinous rice balls) for the residents of CTTB. They also went to the Patriarch Hall and paid respect to the statue of Venerable Master Hua, the founder of CTTB. They continued to go to Tower of Blessings to wish the seniors a Happy Chinese New Year and they were given candies and jellies in return.

Gold Buddha Monastery celebrates Chinese New Year

On February 7th 2016 Gold Buddha Monastery (Vancouver, Canada) held events of Sutra copying, lamp lighting and bell hitting on the eve of Chinese New Year. Around 250 followers wished each other a Happy Chinese New Year and stayed up until 10PM to celebrate the New Year's Eve together.

On the morning of Chinese New Year's Eve, people recited the *Great Compassion Mantra* for two hours at the monastery and copied sutras in the afternoon. This event has been held at Gold Buddha Monastery for over ten years on Chinese New Year's Eve. In the beginning, people would only copy the *Heart Sutra* and the *Eight Great Awakenings Sutra*. Later on people volunteered to write out the *Medicine Master Buddha Sutra*. This year, several people copied the *Medicine Master Sutra* and *Diamond Sutra*. This activity helps people reflect on the meaning of the Sutras as they copy them out on the last day of the year.

Medicine Master Lamp-lighting ceremony started at 8PM. A 93-year-old Dharma Master lit the first lamp, which epitomized the wish for opening wisdom and for having good luck, health and peace throughout the entire year. In total, the Dharma Masters and laypeople lit 259 lamps. The manager of Gold Buddha Monastery then asked people to strike the Gold Buddha Bell and recite a lucky phrase. These phrases were prepared by Dharma Masters, such as "Increasing blessings

的，例如「福慧增長」、「自在解脫」、「健康長壽」等祝福字眼，隨機抽出，大家聽了都很歡喜，現場充滿了正能量。

接受了吉祥語祝福之後，擺設在佛殿外滿桌的點心糖果、貼了「滿」字的小包全穀米，還有紅包，信眾都可帶回家壓歲。紅包內是一顆糖果、一元加幣、以及一句宣公上人的法語。

全家一起來過年的李果燕居士說：「最高興拿到上人法語，正好指示了修行的方向。」原來，近日因失眠故在夜裏

看小說的她，結果拿到的上人法語是：「你若不用功、不修行，好像磨刀之石，不見其損，日有所虧。」立刻給她一記當頭棒喝。

金佛寺於年初一起，舉行「三千佛懺」。法會期間配合過年，並舉行新春對聯大賽。今年推出的上聯計有「大慈大悲觀自在」、「八方迎新歲」、「新年新希望」、「混吃等死熬歲月」、「白水泉中一大天」、「粵來越好」（一家粵菜與越菜的餐廳名稱）共六則，總計獲得逾百則下聯，反應十分熱烈。初七法會圓滿日，舉行對聯大賽頒獎典禮。

宣公上人住世時，弟子們都很期待上人的對聯課。即使是西方弟子，也十分好樂對對聯，一方面藉此練習中文，另一方面經過上人更動一字後的對句，往往呈現完全不同的意思，大家都很想看上人如何改他們的下聯。

金佛寺對聯大賽的得獎作品，本刊將另擇版面刊出，以饗讀者。❀



華嚴精舍新春敲鐘。

Ring in the Chinese New Year at Avatamsaka Vihara.

and wisdom,” “Self-mastery and liberation” and “Enjoying health and longevity.” They were drawn randomly. Upon hearing the lucky phrase, everyone was delighted and filled with positive energy.

After hearing the lucky phrases, people brought home desserts, candies, a small bag of brown rice bearing the word “Full”, and many red envelopes. These items were all on a table outside the Buddha Hall. Each red envelope has one piece of candy, one Canadian dollar coins, and a sentence of the Venerable Master Hua’s instructions.

Laywoman Guo Yan Lee who came with her whole family said, “I was most happy to receive the Venerable Master Hua’s instructional directions for cultivation.” She further explained that she recently had trouble sleeping so she read novels at night. And the words she got from Master Hua were a timely warning for her. The sentence of Master Hua’s talk goes, “If you don’t apply effort, if you don’t cultivate, then you will be like the whetstone decreasing day by day without seeing the loss.”

Starting on the day of Chinese New Year, a seven-day “Three Thousand Buddhas’ Names Repentance” was held at Gold Buddha Monastery. The contest of Chinese New Year couplets also began at the same time. There were six first lines of the couplets provided this year were: “Great Compassionate Guan Shi Yin,” “The eight directions welcomes the New Year,” “New

wishes in the new year,” “Muddling through the years and waiting to die by fooling around to be fed,” “The vast sky in the white-water spring,” and “Cantonese (cuisine) and Vietnamese (cuisine) are getting better and better,” (the name of a Cantonese-Vietnamese restaurant). There were over 100 second lines submitted to match these primary six lines. The awards ceremony was held on the completion day of the repentance session.

When the Venerable Master was alive, disciples were expected to compose matching couplets in his couplet classes; even western disciples liked to match couplets to improve their Chinese. Additionally,



福祿壽聖寺新春三千佛懺。

Bowing the Three Thousand Buddhas Repentance during Chinese New Year at Blessings, Prosperity & Longevity Monastery.

sometimes the Master would change one word in the later phrases of his disciples’ couplets to alter their meaning, so everyone eagerly anticipated how the Master would change their couplets.

All the award-winning second lines of the Gold Buddha Monastery couplets contest will be published on a different page. ❀