

2018年萬佛聖城浴佛節

2018 Celebration of Bathing the Buddha at the City of Ten Thousand Buddhas.

編輯部文 / 呂明賜英譯

By the Editorial Staff English translation by Michael Lu



陣陣徐來的清風中，2018年萬佛聖城浴佛節於5月20日隆重舉行。位於佛殿與法界大學建築物之間，早已搭起的大帳篷裡，華嚴三聖大佛像前，是七座綴滿鮮花的浴佛臺。每座浴佛臺上都佇立了一尊「一手指天、一手指地」的小佛像，站在花瓣片的香湯中，為浴佛會場帶來清淨莊嚴的氣象。

清晨五時，早課結束後，百餘位居士誠心求受八關齋戒，期以清淨戒體參加浴佛，並為將來往生西方極樂世界預作最好的準備。早齋後，山門口的三步一拜朝山，和佛殿裡《普賢行願品》的念誦雖是不同的法事，但大家的虔誠與恭敬互相輝映，共同成

Amidst gentle breezes and calm winds, the 2018 Celebration of the Bathing of the Buddha was held on May 20 at the City of Ten Thousand Buddhas. Seven Buddha-bathing stations, each decorated with fresh flowers, were positioned before the large Buddha statues of the Three Sages of the Avatamsaka Realm, which were located inside the Big Tent set up much earlier between the Buddha Hall and the DRBU building. A small Buddha statue, with one finger pointing to the sky and one finger pointing to the earth, stood on top of each station. The imagery of the statue standing within a sea of fragrant water, speckled with flower petals, brought a pure and adorned energy to the Bathing the Buddha ceremony.

After the Morning Recitation at 5:00 am, over a hundred laypeople sincerely received the Eight Lay Precepts, in hopes of bathing the Buddha with the pure substance of precepts and making the best preparations to be reborn in the Western Land of Ultimate Bliss. After breakfast, two different ceremonies took place simultaneously: Three Steps, One Bow from the mountain gate and the recitation of the *Chapter on the Practices and Vows of Samanthabhadra Bodhisattva* in the Buddha Hall. Though the ceremonies were different in nature, the collective sincerity and reverence expressed by



就，為世界和平、眾生同圓種智盡一份心意。

今年的浴佛節約七百人參加，當中不但有來自歐亞美澳四洲多國的善信，舊金山灣區也有不少信眾扶老携幼來浴佛。最特別的是北加州一座禪寺的六位尼師帶著五十多位該寺信眾前來。當家師表示，數年前她從中國來到北加州，不知從何著手開展法務？當時恰有因緣聽說宣公上人種種不可思議的事蹟，因此專程來萬佛聖城，在祖師殿的上人銅像前懇求指點。回去後夢見上人告訴她：「佛教有前途。」從此買地建廟一路順遂，今年特地帶領信眾來萬佛聖城浴佛，並頂禮上人，表達內心深處的感恩。

當安詳和諧的〈沐浴真言〉唱誦聲響起時，法師們帶領大眾排班前行，依次來到小佛像前，舀起三勺浴佛水，為小佛像沐浴，代表身語意三業清淨。平日俗務纏身的人，更藉此洗淨內心的雜染塵垢。當天每尊小佛像平均約有百人為之沐浴，令人遙想釋迦牟尼佛誕生時，仙樂飄飄、九龍吐水、沐浴其身的盛況。

萬佛聖城方丈恒律法師在午齋中開示指出：「佛陀從未生氣，常帶著微笑，因為佛陀總是知足常樂，時時都在自性的快樂中。我們要向佛陀學習，時時迴光返照，找到本具的智慧和自性的快

all the participants in bringing them to completion provided yet another effort toward world peace and the attainment of ultimate wisdom for all beings.

Approximately seven hundred people attended the Bathing the Buddha Celebration this year. People from four continents (Europe, Asia, North America, and Australia) attended, as well as many devout Buddhists from the Bay Area who brought their families to participate in the ceremony. Six Bhikshunis from a Chan temple in northern California brought over fifty of their followers to attend. The head Bhikshuni said that when she first came from China to northern California several years ago, she did not know how to begin propagating the Dharma. She coincidentally

had the causes and conditions to hear about the inconceivable deeds of the Venerable Master, so she made a special trip to the City of Ten Thousand Buddhas to ask for advice before the Master's statue in the Patriarch Hall. After she returned, she dreamt of the Venerable Master, who told her, "Buddhism has a [bright] future." Later on, she bought land and constructed a monastery and it all went smoothly for her. This year, she brought her followers to the City of Ten Thousand Buddhas to bathe the Buddha and bow to the Master as a means of expressing her heartfelt gratitude.

As the chanting of the harmonious, serene *True Words for Bathing the Buddha* began, the Dharma Masters led the assembly in forming lines so that each person in turn could successively bathe the Buddha. Bathing the small Buddha statues with three ladles of Bathing Buddha water represents the purified karmas of body, speech, and mind. People normally immersed in worldly affairs were able to make use of this opportunity to cleanse their minds of defilement. Every small Buddha statue was bathed by an average of one hundred people that day, causing people to remember the sacred birth of the Buddha, when heavenly music drifting in the air and water gushed forth from nine dragons' mouths to bathe the baby Buddha.

Dharma Master Lyu, abbot of the City of Ten Thousand Buddhas, pointed out during lunch: "The Buddha never got angry and always had a smile on his face. Because he was ever content, the Buddha constantly experienced the bliss of his self nature. We should learn from the Buddha and turn the light within and reflect, allowing our original wisdom to unfold and uncovering our inner bliss." Dharma Master Lyu encouraged everyone not to get angry and to be happy every day; in the process of benefiting ourselves and others, we could fulfill the Venerable Master's words: "Everybody who comes to the City of Ten Thousand Buddhas will become a Buddha in the future."

Bhikshu Jin Gong had these words to say: "Today we show respect to Shakyamuni Buddha because he worked so hard to get us closer to Buddhahood and gave us all the proper dharma so we can help save all living beings. Those who prepared this meal vowed to save all living

樂。」律法師鼓勵大家不生氣、天天快樂；自利利他，成就宣公上人所說的：「來到萬佛城的人，將來都要成佛。」

比丘近恭法師則說，今天我們向釋迦牟尼佛致敬，因為佛陀不辭勞苦，幫助我們趨近佛道，並教導我們正法，讓我們得以救度一切眾生。準備今天這頓午齋的人，誓願救度眾生，因此提供的都是純淨的素食。我們發願不令眾生遭受宰殺烹煮之苦，因此這頓飯添加了「救度眾生」的風味，而顯得份外美味可口。

比丘尼恒良法師從剛圓滿的萬佛寶懺談起，指出宣公上人曾預言，以後法界佛教總會的弟子會修所有的拜懺法門，當時上人的西方弟子很吃驚，因為他們以為佛教只有參禪、念佛、研究經典而已。良法師期許人人都能從一己的貪欲中掙脫出來，利益他人，並在浴佛後，以智慧火鍊就的大悲水，每天清潔心靈。

當天午齋後，無言堂照例開放，供大家瞻仰釋迦牟尼佛、虛老、宣公上人的舍利。27位善信則在延生堂求受三皈五戒，並聆聽法師講解皈依與五戒的意義。這次求受五戒的善信中，有兩位培德中學男校應屆畢業生。培德中學男校2018年畢業班12位同學中，總共有七位受持五戒，創下男校班級受五戒人數的最高紀錄，也為將來離校後的生活帶來最好的保護力量。✿

beings, so the food is vegetarian. We vow that the suffering of living beings who are killed for food will come to an end, so the meal has the flavor of saving all living beings, and this makes it especially wonderful and delicious food.”

Bhikshuni Heng Liang began by talking about the just completed Ten Thousand Buddhas Jeweled Repentance, and then mentioned a prediction by the Venerable Master that in the future every member of Dharma Realm Buddhist Association would practice all the repentances. At the time, the Master's Western disciples were quite astonished, because they had thought that Buddhism was only meditation, being mindful of the Buddha's name, and studying sutras. Dharma Master Liang hoped that everyone could break free from their selfish desire, benefit others, and, after the Bathing Buddha Ceremony, cleanse their minds daily with Great Compassion Water refined by their wisdom fire.

After lunch, the Wordless Hall was open to the public, offering everyone an opportunity to venerate the relics of Shakyamuni Buddha, Elder Master Xu Yun, and Venerable Master Hua. Twenty-seven faithful Buddhists received the Three Refuges and Five Precepts at the Lengthening Life Hall and listened to the Dharma Masters' explanation of the meaning behind taking refuge and receiving the Five Precepts. Among those receiving the Five Precepts were two graduating seniors from Developing Virtue Boys School. Seven of the twelve graduating seniors of the DVBS class of 2018 have received the Five Precepts, setting a new record for number of students in a given class at the Boys School who have received the precepts. Furthermore, they bring with them the best protection as they prepare to face life after graduation. ✿



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