

Three Refuges and Five Precepts Ceremony Held at the Berkeley Buddhist Monastery

柏克萊佛寺舉行三皈五戒儀式

阮親光文

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On April 30, 2022, an adorned Three Refuges and Five Precepts ceremony took place at the Berkeley Buddhist Monastery (BBM). It was the first time BBM held this ceremony only for faculties and students of Dharma Realm Buddhist University (DRBU), so all the participants who took refuge that day were pioneers for BBM.

Abigail Setera and I came along to take photos of the ceremony. The entire ceremony lasted two hours. It began at 3:00 pm and ended at 5:00 pm. The entire process was very solemn, peaceful and very adorned. Dharma Masters Jin Fo and Jin Chuan led the ceremony in both English and Chinese. The preceptees were: Brenda Li, Alex Valdes, Xi Xue, Ziqian Feng, Sanju Baral, Blake Plante, Jiaying Chen, Nahelia Castillo, and Brandon Lannan.

The preceptees were truly sincere. Xi Xue said that he attended

2022年4月30日見證了一場非常莊嚴的三皈五戒儀式。這是在柏克萊聖寺專門為法界佛教大學教職員和學生所舉行的第一場三皈五戒儀式。當天參與儀式者可以說都是先行者。

我和謝親倫也一同前往柏克萊聖寺為該儀式拍照留念。整場儀式歷時兩個小時：下午三點開始，五點結束。整個過程非常的莊嚴、肅穆與祥和。近佛法師和近傳法師用中英文雙語主持了該場三皈五戒儀式。當日在場的皈

this ceremony out of curiosity, “I just want to try.” After the ceremony, he felt that his mind started to quiet down. “But I’m not sure if it’s because of attending this ceremony or because I stay in this tranquil environment,” Xi pondered.

Ziqian is another case. She earned an MA degree in International Affairs from a university in Switzerland. However, the pandemic has changed the direction of her life.

She decided to come study at DRBU and shared that her wish for coming to the City of Ten Thousand Buddhas and for taking the Three Refuges and Five Precepts sprouted from her more extensive reading of Venerable Master Hua’s books in 2020, when the outbreak of Covid-19 made her stay at home and gave her the time and opportunity to read. This time the cause and condition were ripe. She grasped this opportunity and felt that she is now much more centered with the Five Precepts she took. She could feel the change in herself.

It was such a joyful occasion for me to witness, because thinking back on when I took refuge and the five precepts which was back in 2006, my group didn’t have a lot of young students. It was mostly elderly people. Seeing that there is now young blood to carry on Buddhism and to have the Buddhist teachings guide their lives is very heartwarming. I hope that in the future we will have more young students who are willing to take the Three Refuges and Five Precepts to continue to be a light in the world and to be examples for later generations. ☸

依受戒者為：李彬德、楚玄覺、薛習、馮子倩、桑婕·巴蕊兒、梅夢蘭、陳佳瑩、娜荷莉亞·卡思蒂羅 和布蘭敦·藍能。

這群皈依受戒的法大師生都特別的真誠。薛習表示，他參加這次的三皈五戒，最初「只是想試試。」皈依受戒後，他覺得他的心開始安靜下來。「但是我不確定是因為參加了這場儀式，還是因為目前身處的環境十分寧靜之故。」薛習帶著沈思的表情說。

馮子倩的情況又不一樣。她在瑞士一所大學獲得碩士學位，但疫情整個改變了她的人生方向，讓她決定就讀法大。馮子倩分享道，由於疫情而讓她待在家中的2020年給予了她時間與機會來大量閱讀宣公上人的書籍，從而讓她嚮往來萬佛聖城及受三皈五戒。這回因緣成熟，她抓住機會參加，並覺得現在的自己「中有定主」，她能感受到自己的改變。

我很高興我能夠在場目睹這場儀式的進行。回想起我自己2006年受三皈五戒時的經歷——那時我們這一批皈依受戒者中，年長者占絕大多數，而青年學生並不多。所以看到有新血輪加入來傳承佛教，看到這些年輕人選擇佛的教誨，來作為他們人生的指引，令人感到非常的暖心。希望在未來能夠有更多的青年學生願意受三皈五戒，以繼續做世間的明燈、後世的榜樣。☸



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