

淨土



淨土通訊 Pure Land Newsletter

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淨土念佛堂、圖書館

Pure Land Center & Buddhist Library

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蓮池大師法語—念佛時當觀想在蓮花中

Quote from Great Master Lianchi — Meditate on Chanting in the Lotus Flower

修淨土者。若禮佛時。當想己身在蓮華中作禮。佛在蓮華中受我禮敬。若念佛時。當想己身在蓮華中結跏趺坐。佛在蓮華中接引於我。然後一心持名。昔有二僧作蓮華開合想。遂得往生。況復加之一心持名。而不生者乎？

When prostrating to the Buddha, Pure Land school practitioners should imagine themselves prostrating in a lotus flower and the Buddha acknowledging their prostrations. Likewise, when chanting the Buddha's name, practitioners should imagine themselves chanting in a sitting position in a lotus flower while focused on chanting Amitabha Buddha's name and his escorting them from within the flower. In the past, two monastics who meditated on the opening and closing of lotus flowers were successfully reborn to the Pure Land World. Now, we are doing more by chanting the Buddha's name. How could we fail to be reborn to the Pure Land World?



林館長探望淨空老法師 (1)

Director Lin visited Venerable Master Chin Kung.



林館長探望淨空老法師 (2)

Director Lin visited Venerable Master Chin Kung.

清明祭祖法會公告

Announcement – Qing-Ming Festival Ceremony of Paying Respect to Ancestors

● 編輯室 (Editor's Room)

本館今年春季清明祭祖法會將於三月二十六日(星期日)下午二時二十分至三時三十五分舉行，當天早上並將舉行供佛典禮。法會日程請見下附，歡迎同修前來參加。

此次供佛及清明祭祖法會，本館依例將提供參加者為親人及累劫冤親債主設立消災祈福及超度牌位。除有特殊困難，牌位申請者請本人親自(或由家人代表)前來本館參加法會。

請至本館領取或至本館網頁下載牌位申請表填寫；為配合義工作業，牌位申請表格請務必於三月十八日(星期六)之前送達本館，逾期恕難處理，敬請諒解。

This year, the Center will hold the Spring (Qing-Ming Festival) Ceremony of Paying Respect to Ancestors on March 26 (Sunday). The ceremony will be from 2:20pm to 3:35pm; in the morning there will also be a Ceremony of Offering to the Buddhas. We cordially welcome everyone to join.

The Center will, as usually, accept the participants to setup plaques for transferring merits to and praying for their beloved ones, alive or deceased. Unless there are difficulties, applicants themselves (or their immediate families) shall be present in the Ceremony.

Participants can stop by the Center to obtain the application form or download it from the Center's website. Because the time is short, applications must be received by March 18, 2017. The Center will not be able to process the applications otherwise. This service is free; donation is always welcomed.

清明供佛及祭祖法會日程 三月二十六日(星期日) 03/26/2017 (Sun) Agenda of Ceremonies of Offering to the Buddha and Paying Respect to Our Ancestors	
09:30 – 11:00	佛堂早課 – Morning Practice
11:00 – 12:00	供 佛 – Offering to the Buddha Ceremony
12:10 – 12:50	午 齋 – Lunch
12:50 – 14:00	午間學佛講座 – 阿彌陀經疏鈔 Dharma Lecture on <i>The Commentary Notes on Amitabha Sutra</i> by <i>Patriarch Lianchi</i>
14:00 – 14:20	休 息、準備祭祖 Break & prepare for the Ceremony of Paying Respect to Ancestors
14:20 – 15:35	祭祖典禮 – Ceremony of Paying Respect to Ancestors

『基礎論語班』結業典禮；『了凡四訓學習班』已開始上課，即日起接受報名 **Class Report — Completion of the Fundamentals of Confucianism Class ; Start of the Learning from Liao Fan's Four Lessons Class**

● 編輯室 (Editor's Room)

本館於 2014 年秋季開始的『基礎論語班』課程，經過兩年半師生的精進教學與學習，已於數週前完成了預定的課程。本館於 2 月 26 日每月一度的供佛典禮結束後，由林館長為該班學員舉行了結業典禮，頒發結業證書與獎狀，並向老師獻花致敬。

同時，啟發因果教育及教導人們如何徹底改造及掌控命運的『了凡四訓學習班』課程，也已於 2 月 26 日開始上課，即日接受報名。該課程由俞錦丹老師、黃健老師、及管穎老師共同教授，於每隔週之星期日下午 2:00 至 3:00 上課；請參考本館網站首頁的報名表，依照報名表上所述報名。



Begun in the Fall of 2014, “The Fundamentals of Confucianism Class” has met as scheduled for more than two and half years and completed its planned curriculum a few weeks ago. The class was diligently attended by the teachers, students, and parents. On February 26, following the monthly Offering to the Buddha Ceremony, the center held the graduation ceremony for the students and the teachers. Director Lin awarded the Certificate of Completion and the Certificate of Participation to the students. She also presented flowers to the teachers and the parents to thank them on behalf of the center.

Also, the “Learning from Liao Fan’s Four Lessons” class also began on February 26, 2017. This class is designed to help students to better understand the law of cause and effect, and teaches methods to regain control of and change one’s life. The class is taught by Ms. Jindan Yu, Ms. Jenny Wong, and Ms. Annie Schaufenbuel. The class meets on every other Sunday 2:00 – 3:00pm, and is open for registration. Please refer to the registration information from the home page of the center and enroll to participate.

活動報導 — 芝加哥台北經濟文化辦事處處長來訪

Activity Report – Visit of Taipei Economic and Culture Office of Chicago

● 編輯室 (Editor's Room)

新春伊始，芝加哥台北經濟文化辦事處何處長、陳副處長、及華僑文教中心王主任即於 2 月 7 日前來本館拜年。本館林館長及多位義工非常高興的在道場迎接他們的到來；隨行的還有幾位記者，一起到本館採訪。

由於這幾位貴賓是頭一次蒞臨本館，林館長首先帶領他們參觀了本館的佛堂設施及藏書，隨後為他們介紹了本館於 13 年前成立的因緣。並為他們說明，本館目前除了領眾修行之外，所提供的各項教學服務，包括每週日的午間『學佛講座』、『兒童弟子規班』、『基礎論語班』、及即將開始的『了凡四訓學習班』，同時，本館並為伊州的幾所監獄的受刑人提供『基礎學佛課程』，及不定期應邀到鄰近大學演講，這些教學服務的成果均非常殊勝。



另外，林館長也介紹本館提供的其他社會服務，包括不久前與 Garfield Park Conservatory 室內植物園共同舉辦了慶助中國新年的活動，為該園廣招了大約 2,600 位來賓，並於日前接待了 160 多位越南朋友一年一度的新春走春活動。

何處長致贈了紀念品給本館，並與林館長及在場的義工們合影留念。

Soon after the Chinese New Year and the spring started, Mr. He, the Director General of the Taipei Economic and Culture Office (TECO) in Chicago, Mr. Chen, the Deputy Director, and Mr. Wang, the Chair of the Chinese Culture Center in Westmont, Illinois, visited the Pure Land Center on February 7, 2017, to deliver a Chinese New Year blessing. Director Lin and a few the center's volunteers warmly welcomed them to the center. Several news reporters also came.

Because this was the first time these officers visited the center. Director Lin first gave them a tour and introduced them the center's facility and the collections. She then shared with about the conditions thirteen years ago that resulted in the center's establishment. Director Lin also told them about the various teaching programs and services the center offers besides providing the Buddhists' practice on a regular basis. These included the weekly Dharma Talks on Sundays, the "Di Zi Gui Class for Children," the "Fundamentals of Confucianism Class," and the "Learning from the Liao Fan's Four Lessons Class" which was about to start. The center also offers the Buddhism classes to the Correctional Centers in Illinois, and lectures to nearby community colleges upon invitation. These programs have brought significant impact to the communities.

Furthermore, Director Lin also shared with them other community services the center has offered. For example, recently the center assisted the Garfield Park Conservatory in planning and organizing the Chinese New Year celebration program which attracted about 2,600 visitors. The center also welcomed more than 160 Vietnamese friends for their Spring Walk visit to the center.

Before the visitors left, the General Director, Mr. He, presented gifts to the center and posed photos with Director Lin and the welcoming volunteers.

活動報導—越南法師及同修前來本館走春禮佛

Report — A Warm Welcome for Vietnamese-American Friends' Chinese New Year Visit

● 編輯室 (Editor's Room)

如同往年新春，釋明行法師再度於今年二月四日 (星期六) 帶領了一百六十餘位越南朋友，前來本館走春、參訪禮佛。法師帶著這些越南朋友虔誠地以越南語念誦心經、往生咒及讚佛偈，並念佛及繞佛。

在禮佛之後，釋明行法師與林麗淑館長互相贈送了禮物，希望彼此的友誼長存；林館長祝福大家在新的一年裏一切如意，同時也歡迎越南佛友們經常來佛堂參加每週日的共修，並且希望藉由大家習佛精進的善念，將佛法不斷傳承下去，讓世界更和平。同時，本館許多熱心的義工已經準備了許多的結緣法寶與越南佛友們結緣。一年一度的走春活動，就在很歡愉的氣氛中圓滿結束。



Just as during the Spring Festivals in the past years, Venerable Minh Han, the Abbott of Quang Ming Temple of Chicago, led a group of more than 160 Dharma friends to visit the Pure Land Center on February 4, Saturday. Venerable Minh Han led them in chanting the *Heart Sutra* and the *Mantra of Rebirth to the Pure Land*. The session was concluded with walking meditation while chanting the Buddha's name.

After the group completed prostrating to the Buddha, Venerable Minh Han and Director Lin exchanged gifts and jointly wished the friendship between the two centers would last for a long time. Director Lin warmly invited our Vietnamese friends to come and join the weekly Sunday morning practice and wished everyone a wonderful year. Both strongly hoped that through everyone's diligent practice, the Buddha-dharma would pass from generation after generation and the world would become more peaceful. As the Vietnamese friends departed, they received many Dharma gifts including chanting beads, Chinese knots with Buddha's image, and Buddha statues and image scrolls, which had been prepared by volunteers at the Center. The once-a-year event thus ended with a very joyful atmosphere.

活動報導 — Garfield Park Conservatory 中國新年慶祝活動

Report — Chinese New Year Celebration in Garfield Park Conservatory

● 編輯室 (Editor's Room)

年一月二十一日，本館第三度接受Garfield Park Conservatory 室內植物園的邀請，邀得希林藝術中心一起，協助該園舉辦了慶祝中國新年的活動，並提供豐富精彩的節目助興。今年的節目內容包括中國茶藝的講解與示範、古箏及大提琴演奏、精彩熱鬧的兒童歌曲



及舞蹈表演，及書法示範寫春聯等等。這些充滿中國傳統藝術的介紹和表演，讓民眾有機會對中國文化得到了一些基本的認識。據該園統計，當日有多達兩千六百多位大芝加哥地區的民眾參與此項春節慶祝活動。

由於參與者的稱讚及熱烈迴響與年俱增，該項節目極為成功。該室內植物園的活動負責人特別致函感謝本館的鼎力相助，使活動得以辦得如此有深度、有意義，並且已預邀於明年繼續

第四度合作。

On January 21, the center was invited by the Garfield Park Conservatory to support their celebration program for the Chinese New Year. The center also invited the Xilin Art Academy Chicago to jointly offered rich and fascinating programs, which included a Chinese Tea Ceremony demonstration, guzheng and cello music performances by children, folk dances and songs by children, and Chinese calligraphy demonstrations. These performances provided a light taste of traditional Chinese art and culture to the audience. It was reported that over 2,600 people attended the celebration program.



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Because of the excellent turnout, the coordinator of the celebration program at the Garfield Park Conservatory wrote the center a special thank- you note for offering such a wonderful, rich, and in-depth program. She has also invited the center, for the fourth time, to collaboratively work with them on the next year's program.