

## Lantern Dedication

*“Be ye lamps unto yourselves. Rely on yourselves and do not rely on external help. Hold fast to the truth as a lamp.”*

It is a traditional Buddhist custom to dedicate a lantern on Buddha’s Birthday. Buddhists dedicate lanterns to renew their commitment to help themselves and others attain enlightenment, to gain spiritual strength in dealing with their problems, for the peace of the world and happiness of all beings, or on behalf of or in memory of a family member or friend. The dedication is personally written on a piece of paper, which is then attached to the lantern. Buddha’s Birthday is a special occasion, so along with a lantern dedication it is customary to make a special donation to express one’s gratitude and support the good work of the temple.

Dedicate lanterns to parents, grandparents, children, relatives, friends, a lover, spouse, partner or yourself. Dedicate lanterns to those who are deceased, ill or suffering difficulties and hardships. Dedicate lanterns to people in incarceration, to those who live in hatred, to your neighbors or to your pets. Express your gratitude, let your good will prevail, send your prayers and good wishes, show that you love and care. Make reconciliation, seek forgiveness or send a message of hope conveying words of love and compassion. Remember people who helped and inspired you and give them your thanks and love.

Open your heart and celebrate life. Please feel free to make your own dedication and prayer. It is a beautiful experience to view the lanterns and sing “My mind is Buddha”.

Family/Special Lantern (large) \$50  
Regular Lantern \$30  
Children’s Lantern \$10