## "Bathing the Buddha" Dharma Service

We are now coming up to bathe the body of the Prince. Adorning the meritorious sea with virtue and wisdom. May the impurities of all sentient beings of the Five Corruptions World be cleansed. So that all sentient beings may realize the Tathagata.

~Bathing the Buddha Verse~

To celebrate the Birthday of Shakyamuni Buddha, the Temple is going to hold a "Bathing the Buddha" Dharma Service. We would like to invite you and your family to attend this Ceremony to pay homage to the Buddha.

**Date:** May 12, 2019 (Sunday)

**Time:** 9:30 a.m. ~ 12:00 p.m.

Activity: During the chanting of the "Bathing the Buddha" verses, each attendees bathe the Buddha one after the other one to praise the Buddha's virtue. From bathing the Buddha and chanting his name, participants will attain wonderful merits, virtues and wisdom and transfer these to all the sentient beings of all the Dharma realms. A delicious vegetarian lunch will follow the service. After lunch, longevity buns, holy water and fruits from the Ceremony will be handed out to all participants.

Origin: The "Bathing the Buddha Ceremony" began in India. It originated from a Buddhist Sutra which describes how, when he was born, nine dragons ejected fragrant water from their mouths to bathe the infant Buddha. Hence, every year on the 8th day of the fourth month of the Chinese lunar calendar, most Buddhist temples hold a "Bathing the Buddha Ceremony" to commemorate the birth of Shakyamuni Buddha. For the ceremony, the temples construct gazebos adorned with flowers and plants, and places a statue of the baby Buddha in the centre; devotees then use licorice water of five different colors to bathe the Buddha. This celebration of the birth of Shakyamuni Buddha is also called the "Bathing the Buddha Festival".

## **3-day Shakyamuni Chanting Retreat:** May 9 ~ May 11.

\* The "Taking Refuge" will be held at 1:30 pm, May 12. Those who are interested should register in advance.

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