



VIEN GIAC BUDDHIST ASSOCIATION INCORPORATED

Incorporation No: Inc 9893874 - ABN 34 326782614

VIEN GIAC TEMPLE

Address: 23 Broad Street, Cabramatta NSW 2166 , Australia

Tel/Fax: (02)8764 8570 * Mobile: 0404 045 678 * Email: chuaviengiac@hotmail.com

Namo Shakyamuni Buddha

Ulumbana Festival Announcement (Vu Lan-Prayer Offerings for Ancestors) of Buddhism Calendar Year 2564 (AD 2020) during The Covid-19 era

Dear Honorable Buddhists,

Vu Lan Festival is a traditional festival in which everyone shows their gratitude to their living parents and grandparents by caring for them during their ageing process. We remember to be mindful of the utmost important meaning about Vu Lan Festival by first and foremost sincerely focusing on commemorating and praying for late parents and ancestors that may be re-born in the peaceful realm.

As Buddhist we should follow the teachings of Shakyamuni Buddha:

“Filial piety is Buddha’s heart, filial virtue is Buddha’s virtue”

The celebrations of Vu Lan festival 2020 has taken place during the global outbreak of COVID-19. A type of Worldwide pandemic which can affect any age group.

Vien Giac Temple needs to comply with the public health guidance from both the State Government and State Health Department to minimize the transmission of COVID-19. Unfortunately, our facilities at Vien Giac Temple do not allow us to hold a full-day ceremony as usual.

However, we will hold a social-distancing alternative ceremony from **10:00 AM to 12:00 PM on Sunday, 23/08/2020** (Lunar Calendar 05/07/2020) during this ceremony Buddhists and everyone can visit the Temple. As usual flower decorations and insense will be prepared by Việ n Giá c congregation to offer to the Triple Jewels. In addition food will be offered toward the ceremony of praying for lost wandering souls and worship to all deceased and ancestors whose pictures are kept at the Temple.

The procedure of this ceremony will be different from previous years; as the physical chanting by attendees in the main hall will not be possible. Instead, the temple will place chanting prayer of Vu Lan Bon Sutras and Dia Tang Sutras on a speaker which will be broadcast directly from Youtube. The chanting is by our respectable monks and Nuns. Also this will continue during the month of July of the Buddhist's calendar.

We humbly ask each Buddhist to demonstrate their sincerity and filial piety to their parents by taking care of and supporting them during their elderly age and let us focus on the practice and the teaching of Shakyamuni Buddha of **The Four Debts of Gratitude:**



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- 1-Be Grateful to our parent**
- 2-Be Grateful to Triple Gems and teacher**
- 3- Be grateful to our country**
- 4 Be grateful to all sentient beings.**

As Buddhists, Let us continue to support the NSW Health system by helping to prevent COVID-19 pandemic from spreading.

Let us wholeheartedly, pray for the great favour from the Triple Jewels to rescue and bless sentient beings Worldwide from the COVID-19.

Namo Amitabha Buddha

Abbess Bhikkhuni Thích Nữ An Thiện

