

# **Lions Gate Buddhist Priory**

## **Schedule of Retreats and Ceremonies for 2019**

### **FESTIVAL CEREMONIES**

**January 6:** Maitreya

**February 10:** Buddha's Parinirvana (Buddha's Death)

**February 24:** Kwan Yin (At Lytton Chinese Museum)

**March 3:** Samantabhadra

**April 21:** Manjusri

**May 19:** Wesak

**June 23:** Kwan Yin (At Lytton Chinese Museum)

**July 14:** Achalanatha

**July 28:** Kshtigharba

**August 4:** Healing Buddha

**September 1:** Segaki (At Segaki Lookout on the Priory property)

**September 8:** Kwan Yin (At Lytton Chinese Museum)

**October 13:** Bodhidharma

**November 3:** Founders Day

**November 10:** Remembrance Day

**December 8:** Buddha's Enlightenment

**December 31:** New Year's Eve Meditation Vigil & Ceremony (at Prajnatara Hall)

**January 5, 2020:** Maitreya

### **NOTES ON CEREMONIES**

Dates and times may change. We will keep you informed, but please check beforehand if you are unsure.

Ceremonies are open to everyone, and will be held at a Lay Minister's house in Botanie Valley except where noted. If you would like to attend, please contact us for details.

There is no charge for any of the Priory's activities. The Priory and its monastic community are entirely supported by monetary and material donations, all of which are received with gratitude. We receive no monies from the Order of Buddhist Contemplatives or the government. We put out our offering bowls with faith that our needs will be met. The Priory is a registered non-profit society, and donations made within Canada are eligible for a federal income tax receipt, which we issue at the end of each calendar year.

**The Priory will be closed from December 1 to December 8 in order to allow the monks time for a monastic retreat.**

## **RETREATS**

**March 24 - March 31 (One Week):** Spring Retreat (Advanced). Open to anyone who has taken the Precepts.

**April 19 - 21 (Long Weekend):** Manjusri Retreat

**May 12 - 19 (One Week):** Wesak Retreat

**August 2 - 4 (Long Weekend):** Bhaisajyaguru (Medicine Buddha) Retreat

**August 30 - September 1 (Long Weekend):** Segaki Retreat

**October 11 - October 13 (Long Weekend):** Bodhidharma Retreat

**November 8 - November 10 (Long Weekend):** Remembrance Day Retreat

## **NOTES ON RETREATS**

Retreats are open to all, except for the week-long retreat in March which is open to those people who have taken the Buddha's Precepts. **Please let us know in advance if you are planning to attend.**

We will arrange for meditation instruction in our tradition if you have not yet received it.

People are welcome to attend all or any part of a retreat. It would be helpful if you could let us know of your plans in advance.

**Weekend retreats** will start on Friday evening at 7:30 pm and end after a Sunday morning ceremony. Some people find it more convenient to arrive on Saturday morning, and this isn't a problem.

**Week-long retreats** will start on Sunday at 7:30 pm and end on the following Sunday morning with a ceremony. Arrivals and departures can be accommodated at other times, but please let us know in advance.

Our facilities are somewhat limited and rudimentary. We have hot and cold running water, an off-grid electrical system, and an outdoor toilet. It would be helpful (but not essential) if you could bring your own bedding and towels. Camping for tents, trailers, RV's, etc is available.

We have a phone and access to wireless internet. **We ask that visitors and guests put away their computers and internet-capable devices while they are here**, so that this can be a place where people have an opportunity to lay aside their worldly concerns and interests and look inwards through meditation and practice. **There is no mobile (cel) phone signal in our valley, but mobile phones work in the village of Lytton.**

Please let us know in advance if you have any allergy, health (physical or mental) issues that we should know about. **We are unable to accommodate special diets except for medically necessary situations.**

**We do not allow weapons, tobacco, alcohol or other intoxicants (including marijuana) at the Priory.**

We welcome any donations of food; please contact us before coming to see what is needed.