



A Prayer for the Birthdays of Our Parents

By Venerable Master Hsing Yun

Oh great, compassionate Buddha!
Today we are happy to be present
On this happy occasion of our father's/mother's
birthday;
Please accept your disciples' prayers for our
parents.

Oh great, compassionate Buddha!
Our parents have grown old;
For the past few decades
They have been giving to the family and their
children,
Yet never demanding recompense.
Today we would like to offer our filial piety to our
parents.

Oh Buddha, relying upon your blessing, your
witness, and your oath,
We offer our lives and everything we own
To our parents;
May they be healthy and live long,
May they be joyous and at ease.

Oh great, compassionate Buddha!
In your presence, we wish to announce
Our state of mind to our parents:
Oh most esteemed and beloved parents,
It is your blood and milk that gave us our physical
bodies;
It is your love that nourishes our growth;
It is your great care that gave us what we have;
It is your encouragement that accompanies us
through all our lives.

Oh our most esteemed and beloved parents!
Please forgive our ignorance and willfulness in the
past,
That brought you heartache and pain;
Please forgive our unreasonableness and
rebelliousness in the past,
That brought you concern and disappointment.
Oh esteemed and beloved parents,
Thank you for your love and patience,
That have allowed us to now understand
Gratefulness and repayment;
Thank you for your protection and forgiveness,
That have allowed us to now understand
Compassion and gentleness;

Thank you for your tolerance and guidance,
That have allowed us to now understand
Reason and duty;
Thank you for your respect and consideration,
That have allowed us to now understand
Completeness and equality.

Oh great, compassionate Buddha!
How immense is our parents' benevolence to us!
We would like to pray to you, Buddha,
To protect our parents with your blessings:
May they be free from the fears of aging and
sickness;
May they be free from the sufferings of disasters;
May they be free from the worries of human affairs;
May they be free from the snares of enemies.

Oh great, compassionate Buddha!
With your kind protection and support,
Please let us have the strength to contribute to the
human world;
Please let us have the sincerity to serve all people.
We only wish to use this human enthusiasm
To transfer the merit to our parents.
May they be able to uphold the Triple Gem
And be close to good company;
May they be able to study Buddhism thoroughly
And be loved and supported by all people;
May they be able to eliminate karmic hindrances
And be peaceful and joyous in mind and body;
May they be able to increase merit and wisdom
And be blessed with auspiciousness and good
health.

Oh Buddha!
Please allow us to wish our parents happiness one
more time;
With the protection and support of your Buddha
light,
May they have boundless longevity and blessings.

Oh great, compassionate Buddha,
Please accept our sincere prayer!
Oh great, compassionate Buddha,
Please accept our sincere prayer!

Namo Shakyamuni Buddha.