

# Viên Thông Pagoda

## A Pagoda of Thousand Avalokitesvaras

For the majority of Buddhists in Vietnam and those who practice Mahayana Buddhism, Avalokitesvara is highly revered as a Bodhisattva with Immense Compassion of a Loving Mother with the Great Vow to save all sentient beings. Many Buddhists had instinctively call on the Bodhisattva's name when they are in distress; as if the name is deeply ingrained in their consciousness. Like divine power, the Bodhisattva seems to hear their plight, and from then on, their belief in His love and compassion grows stronger and deeper.

From the time of Sakyamuni Buddha, as recorded in many sutras, it is known that the Avalokitesvara Bodhisattva was an ancient Buddha of the past. Many lifetimes ago He became a Buddha named Brightness of True Dharma. But, because of His Great Compassionate Vow to save sentient beings from sufferings, He re-emerged as a Bodhisattva.

In the Universal Gateway chapter of the Lotus Sutra, His divine power and virtues are well detailed in regards to His devotion to all sentient beings and His compassion for their sufferings. In the time of misery and danger ... if one prays and thinks of Him, then one will receive protection from Him and be assisted from danger.

The Thousand Hands and Thousand Eyes sutra has recorded: The great compassionate power of the Bodhisattva cannot be explored or analyzed. When He attained the Bodhisattva state, He vowed that "If, for many lifetimes to come, I can work for the benefit of bringing peace and harmony to all sentient beings, then, at this very instant, may I have thousand hands and thousand eyes". Immediately after making this vow, He had a thousand hands and a thousand eyes.

His merits are immeasurable, His virtues are immense, and His divine power is unfathomable.

He has many titles derived from various virtues, and "Viên Thông" (Omnipresent Isvara), is one such title. It means that, with great ease He can see through all "actions" and "logic" of all dharma and actions. And with this meaning, VTP was named after this title. From "logic" or "reason", the VTP assembly vows to cultivate and live in accordance with His compassionate merit. As for "action", the VTP assembly vows to, under His protection, do its very best to help those who have the auspicious fortune to find joy in their practice, to have faith in the Triple Jewels, and to be free from fear in order to lead a life of peace and harmony.

We call upon you to cultivate your affinity with Avalokitesvara Bodhisattva and VTP. **The Buddha Hall of Vien Thong Pagoda will be designed to hold one thousand statues of Avalokitesvara. The statue is 10 inches in height, in meditation position, and with Bhutadamara Mudra – a protection gesture to ward off evil. Each statue pledged will be venerated in this Hall. We sincerely hope that those who honor the Triple Jewels would contribute to this worthy traditional and cultural cause.**



**Viên Thông Tự**  
10533 Fisher Rd  
Houston, TX 77041  
713-896-4572

## Avalokitesvara Bodhisattva Statue Virtuous Deed Request Form

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Buddhist Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Would pledge to acquire \_\_\_\_\_ statue(s) of Avalokitesvara Bodhisattva to be placed in the VTP Main Sanctuary. We pledge to donate one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00) to contribute towards the construction of the new VTP.

Amount pledged: US \$1000 for each statue  
*(this contribution may be made one time, 10 months, or 20 months)*

Monthly contribution will be: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

We wish to be contacted by the VTP administrative body, either by phone or by mail, so as to remind us of our contribution.

Note: *Both given and Buddhist names of the contributor, or designated person, will be engraved at the lotus pedal of the statue.*

**Viên Thông Tự**  
 10533 Fisher Rd.  
 Houston, TX 77041  
 713-896-4572

## Avalokitesvara Bodhisattva Statue Virtuous Deed Request Form

Viên Thông Pagoda appreciate the merits of:

Last & First Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Buddhist Name: \_\_\_\_\_

For contribution to the construction of the new Viên Thông temple (Groeschke Rd.) by obtaining a statue of Avalokitesvara Bodhisattva which will be worshiped in the Buddha Hall of Viên Thông Pagoda for all to venerate and worship.

For each statue, we would like to donate \$1,000 to the construction of the new Viên Thông temple.

Number of statue(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Donation amount each month is \$ \_\_\_\_\_ beginning from \_\_\_\_\_ month of year \_\_\_\_\_.

*Month:*


Amount already donated: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Amount left: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

*Name that will be on the engraving plate of the statue:*

	Last, First Name	Buddhist Name
1		
2		
3		

Our sincere appreciation for the virtuous deed in contribution to the construction of Viên Thông Pagoda. May the compassionate Avalokitesvara Bodhisattva always bless you and yours with mindful brightness, complete wealth and happiness, harmonious family, respectful children, and prayers fulfilled.

Statue Numbered: \_\_\_\_\_

Day \_\_\_\_\_ Month \_\_\_\_\_ Year \_\_\_\_\_

Please complete both side.