



Guang Ming Temple, the largest Chinese Buddhist Temple in Florida

■ Compiled by Shally Wong

The Founder – Master Hsing Yun

Venerable Master Hsing Yun founded Fo Guang Shan (Chinese translation meaning, Buddha's Light Mountain) in 1967. Since then it has evolved from a mountaintop bamboo forest to the largest Buddhist monastery in Taiwan. Presently Fo Guang Shan has over 200 branch temples throughout the world carrying out the goals of propagating Humanistic Buddhism and establishing a Pure Land on Earth.

Guang Ming Temple – the largest Chinese Buddhist Temple in Florida

The Guang Ming Temple in Orlando was founded in 1992 in Kissimmee, Florida. It is one of the branch temples from Fo Guang Shan. In 2002, IBPS (International Buddhist Progress Society) received a donation of a 5-acre land near to the Orlando Airport. After 2 years of planning and more than 2 years of the construction, this three-story and 30,000 square feet traditional Chinese-monastic style temple was completed in 2007. Located in the beautiful city of Orlando, Florida; Guang Ming Temple is now the largest Chinese Buddhist temple in Florida.

There are many components in the temple. Here are several important facilities and activities you do not want to miss during your next visit.

- **Main Shrine 大雄寶殿**

Main Shrine, located at the front entrance, is the most important building within the Buddhist monastery. Major services are held in here.

- **Mediation Hall 禪堂**

Meditation is an effective means for cultivating a calm and focused mind. It is important part of the mental development Buddhists believe is necessary to gaining wisdom and enlightenment. As Mediation Hall is a place of practice, silence is observed when one enters the hall.



Mediation Hall

MAIN SHRINE



• **Memorial Complex** 懷恩堂

The Buddhist Memorial Complex is put into effect the Buddhist concept of "ultimate care," to help believers handle Dharma functions, and to provide eternal peace and care for both the living and the deceased.

• **Tea House** 滴水坊

Tea drinking and appreciation plays an important role of Ch'an Buddhism. The Tea House provides devotees and visitors a comfortable and calming atmosphere to take it easy with friends or enjoy some quiet time by oneself.



Memorial Columbarium

• **Gift Shop** 佛學禮品中心

To make it convenient for devotees to purchase Buddhist books, ritual items and audio/video tapes. It is located by the Tea House.



• **Sutra Writing** 抄經學堂

Sutra writing is another method of meditation, by writing the sutra, you are actually concentrating your mind to the characters and paper. Classes are offered for both American and Chinese on every Wednesday 7:30pm – 9:00pm



Sutra Writing

• **Vegetarian Dining Hall** 素膳居

Dining Hall provides variety selections of healthy vegetarian foods. It serves vegetarian buffet meal on Sunday service and dharma activities

• **Library** 藏經閣

There is a wide selection of English and Chinese Buddhist literature and publication from all over the world. Videos and audio materials are also available.



Vegetarian Dining Hall

There are many different lectures, discussion and youth social meeting including English Buddhist Dharma Class, Chinese Language Class, Sunday Children Program, Vegetarian cooking and Young Adult gatherings.

For more information, please visit <http://www.orlandobuddhism.org> or email to ibpsfl@yahoo.com.

Guang Ming Temple

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Sunday Children Program



English Buddhist Dharma Class