

Shin Buddhist Fellowship UK



LANTERN FESTIVAL

KUAN YIN GUIDED MEDITATION

<http://www.templeofthegoddess.org/temple/a-kuan-yin-meditation/>

Taken from the book "Discovering Kwan Yin" by Sandy Boucher. This is meditation that is great for beginners.

Sit in a comfortable position. Close your eyes, let your body relax, and for a few moments pay attention to your breathing. Breathe naturally and feel the air entering and leaving you.

Now, imagine yourself to be on a sandy beach. It is a cloudy night. Hear the steady mutter of the waves, feel the warm sea breeze, smell the salt air.

Now look up to see a beautiful round Full Moon that has just risen. Watch the moonlight shimmer on the water. Gaze at the moon for a long time.

Now see it get brighter and brighter, until you can barely look at it. Gradually, the moon becomes Kwan Yin herself, her body surrounded by a glowing aureole.

Slowly she descends towards you, until she stands on a lotus blossom that floats on the waves. She is a mature woman with Asian features, an ornate headdress, and flowing robe.

At the sight of you, Kwan Yin smiles a beautiful smile, and tears of happiness shine in her eyes. As she comes closer, let her radiance enter you. Let her strength, her peace, and her compassion become a part of you.

In this moment, you feel bottomless compassion for yourself and all other creatures. Your difficulties, your weaknesses, your inadequacies, all those ways in which you do not measure up to your own standards, all those moments in which you acted carelessly or unskillfully, or when you were immobilized by confusion; all your pain that sometimes seems endless, rising up when you least expect it – let these aspects of yourself be utterly accepted by you.

Feel your suffering and confusion surrounded by the love that Kwan Yin awakens in you. Let yourself surrender into her compassion for all life. And stay there as long as you need to.

Finally, it is time for Kwan Yin to leave. As she moves away, she becomes smaller and smaller. At last, the sea and sky vanish, too, and you rest in contemplation of the beautiful empty space that is left. Let yourself open into that space and experience it, so restful.

When you are ready, come back to the place in which this wonderful journey began. Focus again, on your breath and breathing, until you are ready to open your eyes.