

Jeanette Prince-Cherry to Ordain as a Zen Buddhist Priest

After nearly 30 years of Zen practice, including a comprehensive four-year period of Zen training, study, and service as a novice priest, Jeanette Prince-Cherry will ordain as a Zen Buddhist Priest.

What will change after this ordination? Jeanette explains:

Very little. The biggest change was in 2018 upon ordaining as a novice. At that time I shed activities that would take time away from a full-time commitment to the Dharma, kept external obligations to a minimum, and streamlined routines by keeping my head shaved, dressing plainly, and wearing no jewelry, makeup, or other adornments. This simplified life made room for what was more important to me: daily meditations, frequent retreats and periods of residential Zen training, study, pilgrimage, and serving the teachers and communities that form my spiritual home.

What will be different is I will receive a new Dharma name to be used in daily life from now on. The name will provide a sense of renewal for me and serve as a reminder of the vows I've undertaken. It will take time for all of us (me included!) to get used to this new name but, like what happens every January 1st, we eventually grow accustomed to reading, writing, and saying the change.

The ceremony will be **October 23 at 3:00 pm (EDT) at Rochester Zen Center**. You may attend in person or on Zoom (see below). Jeanette's preceptor, Sensei Amala Wrightson, visiting from New Zealand, will ordain her together with another candidate, Kathryn Argetsinger. In the ceremony, Jeanette will remove her lay robes and don priest robes. For anyone who would like to, it is traditional to give a 'robes donation' to help defray the costs of ordination and to express appreciation for the priest's contributions to the community. You may give to Jeanette via Paypal (https://www.paypal.com/paypalme/JeanettePC?locale.x=en_US)

Jeanette wishes to express deep gratitude to both her preceptor, Sensei Amala Wrightson, and her Zen teacher, Roshi Bodhin Kjolhede, for offering ordination as a possibility for her and for supporting her every step of the way. She would also like to thank members of the Louisville Zen Center for their patience with her frequent travels these past four years. Jeanette is deeply honored to continue serving both you and the Rochester Zen Center.

Priest Ordination Ceremony for Jeanette Prince-Cherry & Kathryn Argetsinger

October 23, 3:00 pm (EDT)

Rochester Zen Center and Live Streamed on Zoom

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/4209913323?pwd=ek1YV2pvU0RZYjFud0FwQUZrMCs3QT09>

Meeting ID: 420 991 3323

Passcode: 121966