

Serenity Central of New England – Kathina Program 2026

Saturday, October 31 — Preparation & Evening Blessings

Morning — Center Preparation

Volunteers gather to decorate the Center, prepare the shrine area, arrange offerings, and make preparations for the Kathina ceremony.

6:00 PM — Paritta Chanting Begins

Devotees and monks gather for traditional **Paritta chanting**, reciting protective and auspicious discourses from the Buddha's teachings.

The chanting will continue through the evening, creating an atmosphere of mindfulness, peace, and spiritual reflection.

7:00 PM — Floating Lantern Offering

We will gather at the pond for the lighting of **floating lanterns**.

The evening offering of light provides a quiet opportunity for reflection and symbolizes the aspiration to dispel darkness and cultivate the light of wisdom, compassion, and understanding.

Sunday, November 1 — Kathina Day

6:00 AM — Morning Meditation

Begin Kathina Day with meditation, mindfulness, gratitude, and a peaceful reflection on the meaning of generosity.

7:00 AM — Breakfast for Monastics and Devotees

A shared breakfast will be offered to the monastic community and devotees.

8:00 AM — Final Preparations

Final arrangements for the Kathina robe, offerings, shrine, and ceremony area.

9:45 AM — Welcoming of Monks and Devotees

Monks, devotees, families, and visiting guests gather at the Center in preparation for the day's ceremony.

10:00 AM — Kathina Procession

A traditional procession carrying the **Kathina robe, flowers, and other offerings** proceeds to the shrine hall.

10:30 AM — Formal Kathina Ceremony

The formal Kathina ceremony begins with traditional Buddhist observances and chanting.

11:00 AM — Offering of Pūjā Items to the Buddha

Devotees offer flowers and other pūjā items to the Buddha as an expression of respect, gratitude, and recollection of the Buddha's qualities.

11:15 AM — Piṇḍapāta (Alms Offering)

Devotees participate in the traditional offering of food to the Saṅgha.

This is a meaningful opportunity to practice **dāna**, generosity, and gratitude.

11:30 AM — Lunch for Lay Devotees

A shared community meal will be offered, providing an opportunity for fellowship and joyful participation in the spirit of generosity.

1:00 PM — Kathina Robe Offering & Dhamma Ceremony

The central Kathina offering takes place, with the **Kathina robe and other requisites offered to the monastic community**.

The ceremony will be followed by Dhamma reflections, blessings, and an opportunity to rejoice in the merits of the day's wholesome actions.

2:00 PM — Community Cleaning & Closing Reflections

Participants come together to help restore and clean the Center, followed by quiet reflection and appreciation for the day's gathering.

3:00 PM — Conclusion & Dedication of Merits

The ceremony concludes with traditional blessings and the **dedication of merits** for the well-being and happiness of all beings.