



Winter Solstice Festival (冬至)

Winter Solstice Festival (*Dong Zhi* 冬至) is one of the most important festivals celebrated by the Chinese and other East Asians including Koreans, Japanese and Vietnamese. This day also marks the shortest day and the longest night of the year. *Dongzhi* usually falls between 21-23 Dec of the year. This year, it falls on 21 Dec. *Dongzhi* is a time for the family to get together to make and eat *tangyuan* (汤圆): colourful glutinous rice rolled into balls and cooked in sweet soup. It is also offered to ancestors in prayers. Eating of *tangyuan* symbolizes reunion and togetherness. Devotees who prayed to *Tai Sui* (太岁) must return offerings to *Tai Sui* before *Dong Zhi*.

Divination for Lunar 11th Month - Lot No. 39

A Divination Lot is a tool for communication between devotees and their deities. A devotee silently asks for guidance from the Deity, shakes a bamboo canister containing a set of wooden Divination Lots till a Lot drops out of it. Every Divination Lot is numbered and a devotee collects the actual printed Lot based on the number on the wooden Lot he/she has drawn.



Thian Hock Keng Divination Lots are also known as Mazu (妈祖) Divination Lots.

There are 60 Lots. They also show monthly readings (月令).

Monthly divination lots are posted on Thian Hock Keng Facebook. Check it out [here!](#)



Pre-launch! Mazu Lights of Blessings (光明灯)

Light is one of the five offerings that devotees generally make to deities and represents a bright future. One offers light in the hope that it will illuminate one's path ahead.

PRE-LAUNCH registration for *Mazu* Lights of Blessings!

Thian Hock Keng invites devotees to register for a Light of Blessings (光明灯) for oneself and your loved ones. Names of devotees will be placed on crystal *Mazu* and illuminated on the eve of Chinese New Year (CNY) on 27 Jan 2017, at 11.30pm during the CNY prayers, for a year.

For enquiries/registration, please call 6423 4616.

Do You Know?

As *Mazu* is a female deity, the central doors of the temple are guarded by eunuchs instead of Door Gods.



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