



# Guiding Light

FEBRUARY 2018



*It is now more than two thousand years*

*Since the passing of Sakyamuni  
Tathagata.*

*The right and semblance ages have  
already closed;*

*So lament, disciples of later time*

釈迦如来かくれましまして

二千余年になりたまふ

正像の二時はおはりにき

如来の遺弟悲泣せよ

三帖和讃（正像末和讃）より

*From THREE PURE LAND POEMS Written by SAMURAI SHONIN*

## TORONTO BUDDHIST CHURCH *a Jodo Shinshu Temple*

1011 Sheppard Ave West  
Toronto, Ontario, Canada, M3H 2T7  
(416) 534-4302 [www.tbc.on.ca](http://www.tbc.on.ca)

# FEBRUARY 2018

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>Please Note:</b> All events marked with an asterisk * are private and not open to the general public Thank You						
				1 10:00 am Tai Chi 7:00 pm Meditation	2 7:30 pm Buyo - Cancelled	3 10:00 am *Funeral 11:00 am Vol Apprec Mtg
4 <b>MONTHLY MEMORIAL Service &amp; FOOD FEST Board Installation Service</b> 10:30 am Kid's Sangha 12:30 pm * Dana Mtg (Eko) 12:30 pm * Shin Fujinkai Mtg	5 10:00 am Sr. Karaoke 10:00 am Japanese Service	6	7  7:00 pm Taiko Workshop	8 10:00 am Tai Chi  2:00 pm * Momiji Service 4:00 pm *Yee Hong Service 7:00 pm Meditation	9 7:30 pm Buyo	10
11 <b>NO SERVICE</b> 9:15 am *Management Com- mittee Mtg (Mezz) 11:00 am Mindful Meditation Workshop 12:30 pm * Board Mtg (Eko) 12:30 pm * Sangha Mtg (LDC) Service in Hamilton	12 10:00 am Sr. Karaoke 10:00 am Japanese Service	13 7:30 pm Minyo Teachers' Mtg.	14  7:00 pm Taiko Workshop	15 10:00 am Tai Chi 2:00 pm * Castlevew 7:00 pm Meditation	16 7:30 pm Buyo— Cancelled	17
18 <b>NIRVANA DAY SERVICE &amp; SANGHA DAY</b> 9:30 am *CCOV Mtg 10:30 am Kid's Sangha 11:00 am Service 4:00 pm *Family Memorial Srv	19 <b>HAPPY FAMILY DAY</b>  <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: fit-content; margin: 10px auto;">TEMPLE CLOSED</div>	20	21  7:00 pm Taiko Workshop	22 10:00 am Tai Chi  7:00 pm Meditation	23 7:30 pm Buyo	24 9:30 am EBL Committee Mtg
25 <b>REGULAR SRV</b> 9:30 am Keirokai Mtg (Eko)  11:00 am Service	26 10:00 am Sr. Karaoke 10:00 am Japanese Service	27	28 11:30 * Momiji Group  7:00 pm Taiko Workshop			

**Morning Service** is held on Mondays from 10:00 am –10:30 am when a minister is available. As emergencies do come up, last minute cancellations may occur. Thank You

# MARCH 2018

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>PLEASE NOTE:</b> Events marked with an asterisk * are private and <u>NOT</u> open to the general public Thank You !						
				1 10:00 am Tai Chi 1:00 pm Buyo 7:00 pm Meditation	2  7:30 pm Buyo	3
<b>4 MONTHLY MEMORIAL SERVICE &amp; SF WINTER WARMUP Fundraiser</b> 10:30 am Kid's Sangha 11:00 am Service 12:30 pm *Dana Mtng (Eko)	<b>5</b> 10:00 am Sr. Karaoke 10:00 am Japanese Service	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>  7:00 pm Taiko	<b>8</b> 10:00 am Tai Chi 1:00 pm Buyo 2:00 pm * Momiji 4:00 pm *Yee Hong 7:00 pm Meditation	<b>9</b>  7:30 pm Buyo	<b>10</b>
<b>11 REGULAR SERVICE</b> 9:15 am *MC Mtng (Mezz) 11:00 am Service Service in Hamilton 12:30 pm *BoD Mtng (Eko) 12:30 pm *Sangha Mtng (LDC)	<b>12</b> 10:00 am Sr. Karaoke 10:00 am Japanese Service	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>  7:00 pm Taiko	<b>15</b> 10:00 am Tai Chi 1:00 pm Buyo 2:00 pm * Castlevie 7:00 pm Meditation	<b>16</b>  7:30 pm Buyo	<b>17</b> 11:00 am *Family Memorial Service
<b>18 HIGAN &amp; KEIRO KAI</b> 10:30 am Kid's Sangha 11:00 am Service	<b>19</b> 10:00 am Sr. Karaoke 10:00 am Japanese Service	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b> 7 7:00 pm Taiko	<b>22</b> 10:00 am Tai Chi 1:00 pm Buyo 7:00 pm Meditation	<b>23</b>  7:30 pm Buyo	<b>24</b> 11:00 am *Family Memorial Srv 2:00 pm *Family Memorial Srv
<b>25 REGULAR SERVICE</b> 19:30 am Keirokai Mtg 1:00 am Service	<b>26</b> 10:00 am Sr. Karaoke 10:00 am Japanese Service	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>  7:00 pm Taiko	<b>29</b> 10:00 am Tai Chi 1:00 pm Buyo 7:00 pm Meditation	<b>30</b>  TEMPLE CLOSED	<b>31</b>

**Morning Service** is held on Mondays from 10:00 am –10:30 am when a minister is available. As emergencies do come up, last minute cancellations may occur. Thank You

## A Meditation & A Pure White Lotus

You are in luck today as today's talk introduces a lovely simple meditation & a pure white lotus

First here is the meditation by Thich Nhat Hanh, the world-renowned Zen master.

**Breathing in, I calm my body.**

**Breathing out, I smile.**

**Dwelling in this present moment,**

**I know this is a wonderful moment.**

I suggest that you do this meditation at least three times, five to seven would even be better.

We can simplify this to: In: Calming. Out: Smiling. In: present Moment. Out: Wonderful Moment.

It is very important that you really really smile. This will relax your facial muscles and spread a lovely calm throughout your body.

Now that you are a little quieter in your mind & body, I invite you to the topic of a pure white lotus. From Shinran Shonin's opus "Shoshinge" here is

**Verse 10: " All foolish beings , whether good or evil,  
when they hear & entrust themselves to Amida's Universal Vow,  
Are praised by the Buddha as people of vast & excellent understanding;  
Such a person is called a pure white lotus."**

How about you? Would you like to be a pure white lotus? I do, most sincerely.

However for me and perhaps for you, I find that there are many obstacles.

My passions, my ego, my arrogance, these are some of the things that get in my way.

**Verse 11: " For evil beings of wrong views & arrogance,  
The nembutsu that embodies Amida's Primal Vow  
Is hard to accept in SHINJIN:  
This most difficult of difficulties, nothing surpasses it."**

So, evil beings sounds a bit harsh to our ears. Here I believe if we substitute "unfortunate", then perhaps this reads a little more palatable. "Unfortunate beings, that certainly describes me. Until I am able to recognize myself as this 'unfortunate being' totally incapable of saving myself, then I am lost.

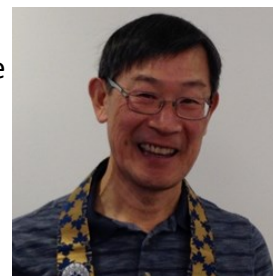
**Verse 27: "The person burdened with extreme evil( = unfortunate being")  
should simply say the Name;  
Although I too am within Amida's grasp,  
Passions obstruct my eyes & I cannot see Him;  
Nevertheless great compassion is untiring & illumines me always."**

Namu Amida Butsu, Namu Amida Butsu, Namu Amida Butsu.

PS Shoshinge is available in a nice format Romanji Japanese | Plain English

For free at: <http://web.mit.edu/stclair/www/shoshinge.html>

Enjoy, gassho, Dennis Madokoro, Minister Assistant



## Life



2017 was an enlightening year. I was blessed to have been able to backpack through Southeast Asia (Vietnam, Laos, Cambodia)

The scenery and Buddhist temples were beautiful, but what touched my heart was the people. They live a life of suffering, by our standards. Poor housing, limited food and working long hours. It reminded me of the Buddhist teaching of compassion and generosity. Even though they live in these conditions they are always smiling, very pleasant, courteous and grateful. I got to chance to know my Tuk Tuk driver a little, and like many of the people living there, he has had a tragic life. I hired him for the day for on \$15. Imagine, he has to give some of that to his boss. I wanted to help him out so I gave him a tip of a days pay \$15. I wanted to give more but I knew there are lots of other people to help out there.

When I was in Laos, my roommates and I went out to the street market buffet. Being a Canadian, I filled my plate and wasn't able to finish it. I felt sooo bad, but my roommate said it was alright just leave it on the table and the street kids will come and eat it. And sure enough they did. Sooo sad.

We are so fortunate to have been born in Canada.

Namu Amida Butsu,

Michael Tamaki

## **New Year's Eve Bell Ringing Service**

It may have been a chilly and wintery night outside but this year we stayed warm and comfortable inside the temple to "ring in the New Year" as we took turns to hit the kansho bell 108 times. By ringing the bell 108 times, we symbolically acknowledge the 108 blind passions that we possess and bring ourselves into a greater awareness so that we can start the New Year with a more conscious mind of the Buddha's workings in our lives.

Thank you to all who came out to participate in the bell ringing and to the volunteers who helped serve tea and hot chocolate.



# 2018



**\*\*NEW\*\* Memorial (Shotsuki) Listing for the Month of March**

Our monthly memorial services (shotsuki) are usually held on the first Sunday of each month (please check our temple calendars to confirm the day of the monthly memorial service) to remember and honour those who have passed away in that month regardless of year.

Usually, mail reminders are sent out to the next of kin but due to changing circumstances we have not always been able to reach families and hope that by publishing the names of those who have passed, we can still reach and remind families and dear friends of the month of their loved ones honouring.

Below is our listing of our members and supporters who have passed away during the month of March. All are invited and welcome to attend.

\* \* \* \* \*

<b>AKADA</b> , Shigeru	<b>AMEMORI</b> , Asa	<b>AMEMORI</b> , Rinji	<b>AOYAMA</b> , Koshiro
<b>BABA</b> , Masao	<b>DATE</b> , Kenzaburo	<b>EBATA</b> , Jeannie	<b>EDAMURA</b> , Fumi
<b>ELLIS</b> , Emi	<b>FUJIBAYASHI</b> , Chiyo	<b>ENDO</b> , Masatomo	<b>FUKAKUSA</b> , Shigeru
<b>FUKUZAWA</b> , Sada	<b>HAMADE</b> , Hana	<b>HASHIZUME</b> , Kane	<b>UYESUGI</b> , Tomoichi
<b>HAYASHI</b> , Miwa	<b>HAYASHI</b> , Tsunekichi	<b>HAYASHI</b> , Yosotaro	<b>HIRAKI</b> , Chikai
<b>HIRANO</b> , Tomisaburo	<b>HIRASAWA</b> , Takeo	<b>HIRATA</b> , Shizuo	<b>HORI</b> , Toshio
<b>HUANG</b> , James	<b>IDENOUE</b> , Kuyemon	<b>IIDA</b> , Hideo	<b>IJIMA</b> , Matazo
<b>IKEDA</b> , Haruo	<b>INAMOTO</b> , Tojuro	<b>INATA</b> , Shigeru	<b>IRIZAWA</b> , Shizuka
<b>ISHIDA</b> , Tsuru	<b>ISOGAI</b> , Isao	<b>ISOSHIMA</b> , Mas	<b>ITO</b> , Chusaburo
<b>JACKSON</b> , John Joseph	<b>KADOHAMA</b> , Katsuyuki George	<b>KAMATA</b> , Yoko	<b>KAWAGUCHI</b> , Itsuno
<b>KESHIKAWA</b> , Gisaburo	<b>KIKUCHI</b> , Kiju	<b>KINOSHITA</b> , Kiyoshi	<b>KITAMURA</b> , Miyo
<b>KITAMURA</b> , Shinichi	<b>KITAMURA</b> , Yoshiye	<b>KITAZAKI</b> , Ronald Yoshisumi	<b>KONO</b> , Kyonosuke
<b>KOBAYASHI</b> , Isojiro	<b>KONDO</b> , Tome	<b>KONISHI</b> , Masaharu	<b>KUMAGAI</b> , Yasuyuki
<b>KOTANI</b> , Tatsuo Fred	<b>KOZAI</b> , Eiko	<b>KOZAI</b> , Minoru	<b>MARK</b> , Yasuko Sue
<b>KUROKAWA</b> , Meiji	<b>MAIKAWA</b> , Kiyu	<b>MAKIMOTO</b> , Shizuko	<b>MAYUMI</b> , Ichiro
<b>MATSUMOTO</b> , Fumiko	<b>MATSUMOTO</b> , Tetsu	<b>MATSUMOTO</b> , Yuki	<b>MIZUYABU</b> , Carl Kazumi
<b>MENDE</b> , Ronald Masaichi	<b>MINEMOTO</b> , Mitsuo	<b>MIYASAKI</b> , Herbie Masao	<b>MORITA</b> , Sumi
<b>MORI</b> , Ben	<b>MORI</b> , Hikobei	<b>MORI</b> , Sukeyoro	
<b>MURAKAMI</b> , Tsuneyuki Roy	<b>NAGAHARA</b> , Kayo	<b>NAKAGAWA</b> , Kiyokazu George	<b>NISHIDERA</b> , Yuki
<b>NAKAGAWA</b> , Yoshiko	<b>NAKAGAWA</b> , Tojiro	<b>NAKATA</b> , Shige	<b>NISHIMURA</b> , Tsuya
<b>NISHIHAMA</b> , Takashi	<b>NISHIMURA</b> , Chiyo Frances	<b>NISHIMURA</b> , Toyomatsu	<b>NISHIZAKI</b> , Joe Yoshio
<b>NISHIMURA</b> , Mitsuo	<b>NISHIMURA</b> , Yosojiro	<b>NISHIZAKI</b> , Jack Hideo	<b>NISHIZAKI</b> , Kimiko
<b>NODA</b> , Tamejiro	<b>NOSE</b> , Shigezayemon	<b>NOSE</b> , Stuart Eijiro	<b>OKU</b> , Haruko
<b>OHARA</b> , Thomas Shunichi	<b>OHASHI</b> , Tomekichi	<b>OKIHIRO</b> , Koichiro	<b>OUYE</b> , Shige-yoshi H.
<b>OMOTO</b> , Tokujiro	<b>ONAMI</b> , Tomiji	<b>ONISHI</b> , Kazuo Jack	<b>SASAKI</b> , Miyumi Lisa
<b>OKAZAKI</b> , Marie Yoshiko	<b>SAKAI</b> , Kahei	<b>SANO</b> , Yuwa	<b>SEIRIKI</b> , Fukutaro
<b>SASAKI</b> , Minato	<b>SATO</b> , Shingo	<b>SATO</b> , Takeko	<b>SHIMODA</b> , Masakazu
<b>SHIBATA</b> , Tome	<b>SHIBATA</b> , Toshihiro	<b>SHIGA</b> , Shizuko	<b>SUEFUJI</b> , Akie
<b>SHINMOTO</b> , Yoshiyuki	<b>SHISHIDO</b> , Shiu	<b>SHOJI</b> , Yaeko Elsie	<b>TAHARA</b> , Sadaichi
<b>SUEFUJI</b> , Toshiaki	<b>SUGIYAMA</b> , Takeshi	<b>TAGUCHI</b> , Shigeru	<b>TAKATA</b> , Toyoaki
<b>TAHARA</b> , Sadaichi	<b>TAJIRI</b> , Ronald Akira	<b>TAJIRI</b> , Torao	<b>TANABE</b> , Iya
<b>TAKATA</b> , Misuyo	<b>TAKAYAMA</b> , Kimiye	<b>TANABE</b> , George	<b>TANAKA</b> , Sataro
<b>TANAKA</b> , Fujimatsu	<b>TANAKA</b> , Roger Hideo	<b>TANAKA</b> , Takayuki	<b>TEHARA</b> , Tetsuko
<b>TANIISHI</b> , Shizue	<b>TANINO</b> , Masuye	<b>TANINO</b> , Masuye	<b>TSUJI</b> , Tami
<b>TETAKA</b> , Hatsumi	<b>TSUBOUCHI</b> , Fumiko	<b>TSUJI</b> , Nancy Yaeko	<b>WAKISAKA</b> , Kinu
<b>TSUJIMOTO</b> , Otozo	<b>UYEDA</b> , Mike Masahiro	<b>WAKABAYASHI</b> , Kino	<b>WATANABE</b> , John Isao
<b>WALL</b> , Donald George	<b>WARNER</b> , Mitsuye Mitzi	<b>WATADA</b> , Matsujiro	<b>YAMASHITA</b> , Masayuki
<b>WATANABE</b> , Larry Masato	<b>YAKO</b> , Kiri	<b>YAMAMOTO</b> , Haruko	
<b>YOSHIDA</b> , Takeo	<b>YAMASHITA</b> , Jihei	<b>YOSHIKAWA</b> , Yukiyoshi	

## Mochi Tsuki 2017 – Disaster Strikes Back!– and Bryan Saves the Day!

Last year's Mochi Tsuki article title was **Mochi Tsuki 2016 – Just About Right**. Well, it would appear that the hubris in the title was enough to anger the ghosts of Mochi Tsuki past and they worked hard to gremlin this year's event.

We had held a Mochi Readiness Check day on November 4<sup>th</sup> and knew some maintenance was in order. Then on December 28<sup>th</sup> while volunteers were washing 1,000lbs. (take that metric) of Mochi Gome, Bryan Day re-threaded the tired paddles of our aging Mochi machines. With the repaired paddles, we were supremely confident that Mochi Tsuki 2018 would be smooth sailing! Little did we know – it was more hubris – and the ghosts of Mochi Tsuki past were going to wallop us something good.



As you may remember, in the last few days of December Toronto was in the throes of deep freeze the likes of which we have not seen in recent years. As a result, a number of people who I was depending on to be key players for this year's Mochi Tsuki were struck down by illness and could not attend (yes, I'm talking about you Scott).

And of course, just because we had arrogantly believed that our Mochi Machines were in the greatest shape – they started to break down one after another. But behold – for there was a hero amongst us – Bryan Day saved the day! Had it not been for Bryan, our event would have literally ground to a halt. Through Bryan's efforts, our aging Mochi Machines managed to limp through the day.

We had many, many, other challenges – a shortage of Mochi Tsuki veterans resulted in an imbalance of volunteer activity – we had many new volunteers (thank you all very much and hope to see you next year) but not enough supervision to make best use of the help we had. We had organized activities for kids (thank you Angela), but they were all more interested in making Mochi. On top of it all – we ran short of food – many, many apologies. But through it all the heart of volunteer Mochi Tsuki heroes shown through and we managed to steam, pound, form, cool and package 1,000 lbs. of Mochi.

As always, my thanks to Aki Ikebata, Ko-San, Isao Yoshida, Hamako Yoshida, Kathy Wani for their guidance and leadership. Thank you to Ouchi Sensei for reaching out to the Japanese community. Thank you Nobby and Jane Shiraishi for helping to get things started in the morning. Thank you to my wife Joanne and our kids Rachel, Abigail, and Joaquin who every year step up to the plate to support me in planning, running and cleaning up after this event.

Hope to see you next year!

In Gassho,

Cary Kataoka. President, TBC Sangha



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**Hatsumode Event  
Jan. 1 2018**

What a fantastic time! There were so many new people who attended the event at the temple on New Year's Day. Amazingly there were over 700 people who came throughout the day! The social hall was virtually at capacity from 11am to 9pm. So many people went through our Hondo for oshoko and also for a chance to ring our kansho bell to ring in the new year. Many people also attended the 11am and 1pm service too.

Thanks go to Susan Ebisuzaki and Diane Mark for assisting at the event. Rev. Yoshi put in yeoman hours at the event. In addition, Rev. Yoshi was the person mainly responsible as the temple rep who helped to organize this very successful event. Thank you to Team Samurai Resurrection, the restaurant owners and their staff for organizing and executing a happy and wonderful event!

***Coordinating Committee of Volunteers  
(CCOV)***

After the holiday season, 2018 started off with a BANG! There was the Hatsumode event (first visit to the Temple in the New Year), January Shotsuki, many meetings and luncheons during January, but the first event for CCOV was the New Year's Social. Due to scheduling conflicts, the New Year's Social was held on the 4th Sunday in January this year. Following the morning service, there was a potluck luncheon, entertainment programme and bingo games. Thank you to Team 5 (co-captains Hamako Yoshida and Kathy Wani) for looking after the luncheon.

The next planned temple event is Keirokai with CCOV Team 1 (co-captains Aki Ikebata and Cary Kataoka) coordinating the luncheon.

Thank you to the CCOV teams for their help!

**OBITUARIES**

*The Toronto Buddhist Church wishes to extend its deepest condolences to the families, relatives and friends of the following individuals who have passed away during the past month.*

*Mr. Nicholas Dymytryshyn 59 yrs January 23, 2018*







# HOONKO DINNER AND SERVICE JANUARY 20, 2018



## MARK THE DATE

### SHIN FUJINKAI WINTER WARM UP LUNCHEON

PLEASE JOIN US FOR OUR FUNDRAISING LUNCHEON IN THE SOCIAL HALL, MARCH 4, 2018, AFTER SERVICE. ENJOY A HOT AND DELICIOUS LUNCH ( TO BE ANNOUNCED) WITH FRIENDS AND FAMILY.

PLEASE WATCH FOR FURTHER DETAILS IN THE TEMPLE LOBBY, BULLETIN BOARD AND ON OUR WEBSITE.

## SUCCESSFUL JANUARY PIE SALE

**A BIG THANK YOU** TO THOSE WHO BAKED THE DELICIOUS PIES AND TO ALL THOSE WHO SUPPORTED THE FUNDRAISER BY PURCHASING THE PIES AND ENJOYING THEM TO THE LAST CRUMB.



# KIDS SANGHA

## Calling all Sangha Kids

We are having a great start to the New Year. Come out and join us. Everyone is always welcome.

February's Theme: "Ksanti" – "Tolerance" – having and Showing respect towards others.

February 18, 2018 - Family Day and Crafts

-learn about Nirvana Day (Feb. 15),  
the day we observe the passing of  
Shakyamuni Buddha.

crafts

continue making plans for Keirokai



# KIDS SANGHA

## March's Theme: "Virya" - "Perserverence"

March 4, 2018 – Preparation for Keirokai

Crafts



March 18, 2018 – Keirokai

- All of our hard work in preparing for Keirokai will be showcased today as we celebrate and honour our senior temple members.



We hope to see you all there. Everyone is welcome.

In Gassho,

Jess, Yumi, Abigail, Rachel, Koji, Denise and Naomi

**TORONTO DANA****Membership Dues Reminder**

A reminder that the 2018 Dana membership fee of \$15 per member is now due.

Please mail a cheque for **\$15** made payable to the Toronto Buddhist Church Dana to the church, give your fee to any members of the Dana executive or place it in the Dana mail slot in the church office.

Also, if you are turning 80 years of age in 2018, you will become an honorary member and will not be required to pay the membership fee.

Thank you for your continued support of the Dana and the TBC.

**Nirvana Day Service**

Sunday February 18, 2018 at 11:00am

We are observing Nirvana Day or the commemoration of the passing of Shakyamuni Buddha into Parinirvana or the Final Enlightenment on Sunday February 18<sup>th</sup> at 11:00am. This is an opportunity to reflect upon the Buddha's teachings, to remind ourselves of the impermanence of life and to be grateful for the historical Shakyamuni Buddha. Please join us in gratitude to celebrate and pay homage to the transformation of Shakyamuni Buddha into the Buddha of Infinite Light and Infinite Compassion.

**Mindful Meditation Workshop Sunday February 11, 2018 @ 11:00am**

Have you wondered if there has been a wonderful and 'proper' way to meditate? Do you know the health benefits of meditation? We are pleased to offer a workshop on Mindful Meditation by Ray Nakano on Sunday February 11<sup>th</sup> at 11:00am instead of a traditional Sunday Jodo Shinshu service.

In our Jodo Shinshu tradition, we do not have a specific meditation practice. We often use a moment of silent reflection prior to our service to clear our minds and bring us to the present so that we may receive the Dharma. Many of our Jodo Shinshu temples across North America offer some meditation workshops to supplement the silent meditation and chanting that we normally have at our Sunday services. Meditation can bring our stress levels down, oxygenate our minds and body and help centre or ground us to be aware of ourselves and our surroundings.

Ray Nakano offers a meditation workshop Thursday evenings at the temple from 7 - 9pm and it is been a wonderful and enriching experience for many who attend. Now you can take part in Ray's workshops' offerings on Sunday February 11<sup>th</sup> at 11:00am in the hondo (worship hall).

<Please note that there is no service on this day>

**Zen Meditation and Mindfulness**

When: Every Thursday Evening from 7:00 pm – 9:00 pm

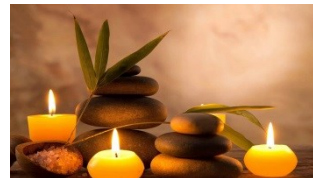
Where: Toronto Buddhist Church – Hondo.

**The two-hour session will include:**

- Guided Sitting Meditation
- Silent Walking Meditation
- Silent Sitting Meditation
- Dharma Talk

Please arrive at least 15 minutes early in order to allow time for "settling in" so the session can begin promptly at 7:00 pm.

If you have any questions please contact the Temple at 416-534-4302 or you can email Denise Crofton at [dcrofton@rogers.com](mailto:dcrofton@rogers.com)





## Toronto Buddhist Church Spring Higan and Keirokai

Sunday, March 18, 2018

On Sunday March 18<sup>th</sup> we will be observing our Spring Higan or Ohigan Service. "Higan" literally means "The other shore" and this term is used in our tradition to reflect and reaffirm our practice of the Buddhist teachings that lead us to "the other shore" of enlightenment on the equinox days when there is an equal amount of day and night. The balance of day and night is also a reminder to walk "the Middle Path" of Buddhism.

Keirokai is a Japanese term that we use for the event where we celebrate, honour and show our gratitude to our temple elders. Members who will reach **77 years (KIJU)**, **88 years (BEIJU)** and **99 years (HAKUJU)** or older during this calendar year, will be honoured during the Joint Higan Service at 11:00am. During the service, each honouree will be recognized and presented with a gift from the temple. In order to be included in the service, each honouree **must be a temple member** and **must submit the application form** (below) to the Temple office by **Sunday, March 4<sup>th</sup>, 2018.**

After the service a special luncheon will be held for our honourees. All honourees and other Temple members who are 77 years old or more this year will each receive a complimentary bento (lunch box). Everyone else may purchase a bento (price to be determined).

**PLEASE NOTE:** Honourees and honorary members must be on our list of Temple Members to receive their complimentary bento.

An entertainment programme will follow the luncheon in the Social Hall. We look forward to seeing you there!

Thank you,  
Special Projects and Religious Committees



### 2018 KEIROKAI HONOREE APPLICATION FORM

Name (English): Mr./Mrs./Miss \_\_\_\_\_

Last Name in Kanji (if known): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

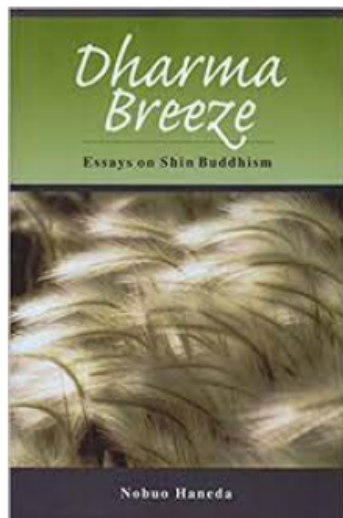
City: \_\_\_\_\_ Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_ Province: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ *Please circle: 77 88 99 100+*

**PLEASE RETURN THIS FORM TO THE TEMPLE OFFICE BY SUNDAY MARCH 4, 2018 TO ENSURE INCLUSION IN THE CEREMONIES.**

## The Living Dharma Centre Book Club

### NEW BOOK BEGINNING MARCH 1, 2018



This spring we will be reviewing “Dharma Breeze – Essays on Shin Buddhism” by Dr. Nobuo Haneda. A Japanese-born Buddhist scholar, translator, and teacher. Dr. Haneda is the Director of the Maida Institute for Buddhism in Berkeley, California and comes from the teaching line of Kiyozawa-Akagerasu-Maida-Haneda which is important in the powerful way they get us to take a fresh look at things.

The following excerpt is from an article written by Rev. Fred Ulrich after a talk given by Dr. Haneda at the Manitoba Buddhist Temple in Winnipeg, Manitoba Canada in 1992:

(<http://www.manitobabuddhistchurch.org/dharma/future-of-shin-buddhism.html>)

*“Dr. Haneda challenged us to redefine our priorities, to place the emphasis in our temples on the essence of Buddhism, the Living Tradition and “not on the ethnic and cultural elements or part of the Dead Tradition...This is the essence of Buddhism. It is the spirit of the student, the seeker. It is also the creative spirit. The living tradition comes directly from Sakyamuni himself, from his enlightenment which was the insight into the truth of impermanence.” Dr. Haneda goes on to explain that there is a difference between culture and religion: “Culture is not self-negating. It is something that we enjoy. Religion, on the other hand, challenges and negates the self. Culture can give us amusement, comfort and pleasure, but only the Dharma can give us deep joy, rebirth and a fundamental spiritual transformation.”*

Dharma Breeze is a straightforward, easy to read book that anyone wishing to learn more about Shin Buddhism should read.....whether you agree with his views or not. The essays are grouped together in four sections: 1. Amida Buddha, 2 The Pure Land, 3. True Practice and 4. General Topics. Beginning March 1 we will spend approximately two weeks on each section, with discussion/posts at the end of each section.

This book is available through Amazon or BCA bookstore (unfortunately, **not** available through Chapters or in electronic format) so please give yourself enough time to order the book in.

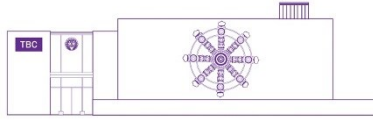
We encourage you to read this book and begin to interact with our world-wide virtual sangha. This book should create some lively discussion!

If you have not already signed up for the club, and wish to join, please contact:

Barb MacCarl [bm.livingdharmacentre@gmail.com](mailto:bm.livingdharmacentre@gmail.com)

Note: a Gmail account is required to make posts/comments

**Join or Renew  
Online**



**MEMBERSHIP  
Join/Renew**

## IT'S TIME FOR YOUR 2018 MEMBERSHIP

We must now approach you and remind you to renew or apply for your membership for 2018. This past year our membership again climbed to over 300 and exceeded 2016's memberships. This is most encouraging and this steady upward trend bodes well for the future of our Temple. But we know there are still some who have not applied for membership or have forgotten to submit the membership application with your membership fee.

Needless to say the future of the Temple depends on our members so we need you to take the time or remember to submit your application and fee.

We continue trying to improve the benefits of being a member of the Temple, here are a few reasons why a membership is valuable:

1. Most importantly, as a member you will have the right to vote on all important matters affecting the Temple, such as the election of the President and the Directors, the approval of budgets and all significant matters affecting the future of the Temple.
2. As a member you are subscribing to the Jodo Shinshu values of the Temple.
3. As a member you are entitled to free notarial services offered by one of our Temple members.
4. As a member you are entitled to a discount on premium-level CAA memberships.
5. As a member you will be entitled to attend special Temple activities free of charge or at rates not available to non-members.

**Regular memberships** are valid from January 1 to December 31 each year, so we ask that those wishing to be recognized as a Temple member complete the application form as early as possible at the start of each year. Once you've signed and submitted your application and membership fee of \$130.00 per year or your promise to pay the total fee by May 31 have been received, your membership card will be sent to you.

**Honorary Membership** Cards will be issued to all members 77 years of age and over who sign up for the year 2018, or if already an Honorary Member, he or she confirms in each year his or her wish to continue Honorary Membership. Honorary Members do not need to pay any annual membership fees, although all donations are welcome. **Membership card will be issued once.**

### **As a member of Toronto Buddhist Church, I:**

1. Recognize and accept that our Temple is based on the Jodo Shinshu Pure Land Teachings;
2. Vow to strive to live a life of gratitude and to do my best to care for the welfare of society; and
3. Vow to observe and uphold the Charter and By-laws of the Temple.



## TORONTO BUDDHIST CHURCH

*a Jodo Shinshu Temple*

### 2018 MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Please note that this application is for membership from January 1, 2018 to December 31, 2018. The Individual Membership Fee for 2018 is a minimum of \$130. However, the Temple welcomes and will be grateful for any amount over and above this minimum fee.

A tax receipt will be issued for the total Membership amount paid.

*Please note that \$80 of your Individual Membership Fee is paid to Jodo Shinshu Buddhist Temples of Canada (JSBTC) as an assessment for each member of our Temple.*

Membership Fees may be paid in one lump sum or in monthly or quarterly installments. **Please do not use Offering envelopes to pay membership fees. Instead, please insert them in separate plain envelopes clearly marked "For Membership". Please make any cheques payable to Toronto Buddhist Church.**

*In the case of couples, please complete information for each applicant individually.*

<b>Applicant #1</b>	Renewal ( )	New ( )	Mr. ( )	Mrs. ( )	Ms. ( )
Last Name: _____			Birthdate: dy/mm/year: _____		
First Name: _____			Email: _____		
Address: _____			Phone: _____		
City: _____			Signature: _____		
Prov: _____	Postal Code: _____	_____	Regular Member	_____	Honorary Member
I promise to pay \$_____ as my Membership Fee for 2018 and am enclosing the amount of \$_____ on account of such fee. I will pay the balance of my Membership Fee, if any, by <b>May 31, 2018</b> . By signing this Membership Application I hereby adopt the vow printed on the reverse side of your membership card.					
I would like a Guiding Light mailed to me _____					
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<b>Applicant #2</b>	Renewal ( )	New ( )	Mr. ( )	Mrs. ( )	Ms. ( )
Last Name: _____			Birthdate: dy/mm/year: _____		
First Name: _____			Email: _____		
Address: _____			Phone: _____		
City: _____			Signature: _____		
Prov. _____	Postal Code: _____	_____	Regular Member	_____	Honorary Member
I promise to pay \$_____ as my Membership Fee for 2018 and am enclosing the amount of \$_____ on account of such fee. I will pay the balance of my Membership Fee, if any, by <b>May 31, 2018</b> . By signing this Membership Application I hereby adopt the vow printed on the reverse side of your membership card.					
I would like a Guiding Light mailed to me _____					

**REMINDER: MEMBERSHIP FOR 2018 IS \$130.00**