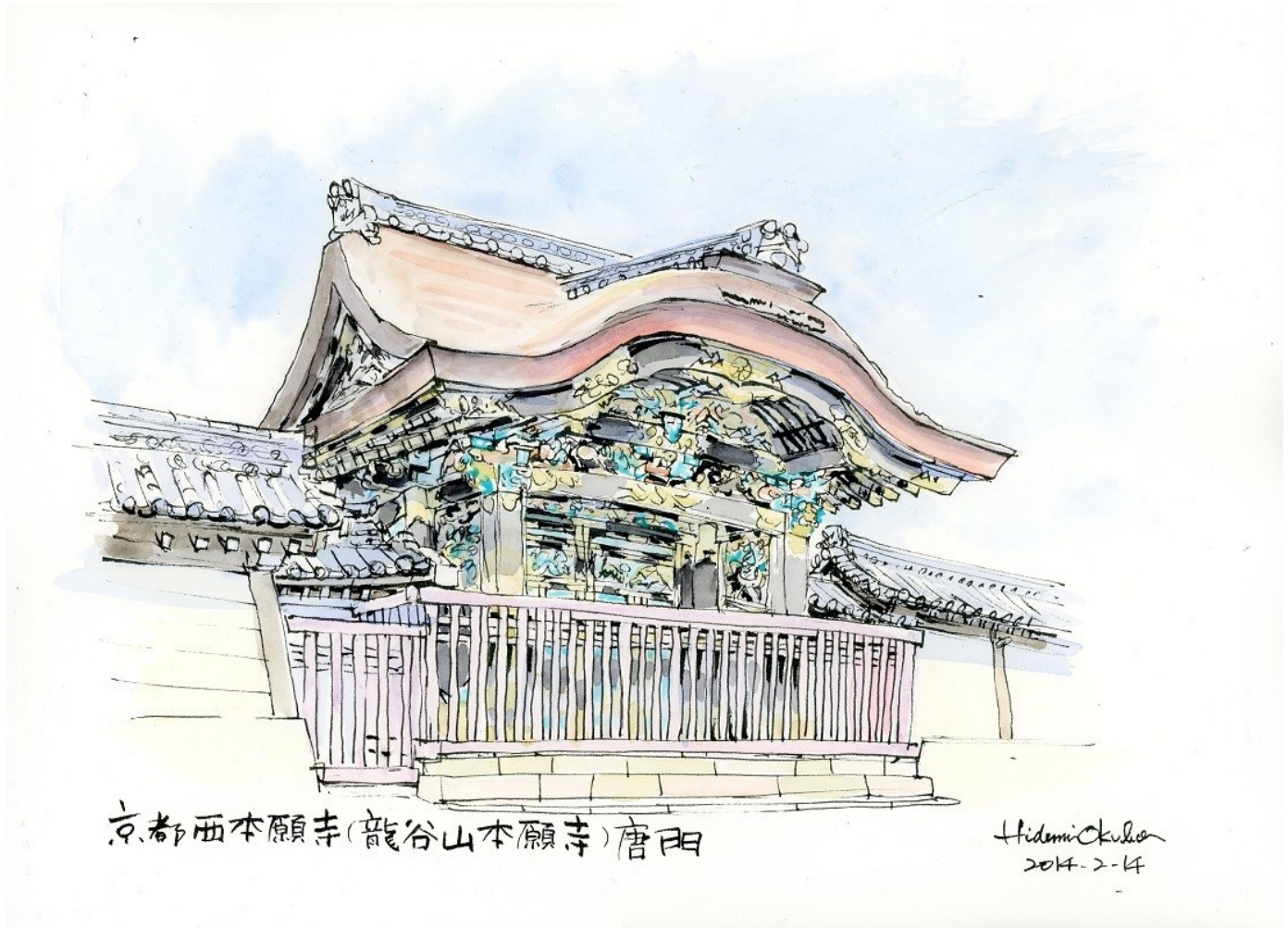




Guiding Light

February 2020



Nishi Hongji Temple Gate

TORONTO BUDDHIST CHURCH *a Jodo Shinshu Temple*

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

FEBRUARY 2020

Please Note: All events marked with an asterisk * are private and not open to the general public Thank You

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 11:00 am *Family service 4:00 pm *Family Service
2 MONTHLY MEMORIAL Service & FOOD FEST Guest: James Martin Sensei 10:30 am Kids' Sangha 12:30 pm Dana Mtg (Eko) 2:00 pm * Visitation, Funeral Service and reception	3 10:00 am Sr. Karaoke	4	5 7:00 pm Taiko	6 10:00 am Tai Chi 7:00 pm Meditation	7 7:30pm *Buyo	8 10:00 am * Private Event
9 REGULAR SERVICE 11:00 am Service 12:30 pm Sangha Mtg (LDC) 12:30 pm Shin Fujinkai Mtg 1:00 pm * Private Event	10 10:00 am Sr. Karaoke	11 8:00 pm Miyo Teachers' Workshop	12 7:00 pm Taiko	13 10:00 am Tai Chi 1:00 pm Buyo 2:00 pm * Momiji Service 4:00 pm *Yee Hong Service 7:00 pm Meditation	14 *No Buyo	15
16 NIRVANA DAY SERVICE & SANGHA DAY 10:30 am Kids' Sangha 11:00 am Service	17 FAMILY DAY <div>TEMPLE CLOSED</div>	18	19 7:00 pm Taiko	20 10:00 am Tai Chi 1:00 pm Buyo 7:00 pm Meditation	21 *No Buyo	22
23 REGULAR SERVICE 9:30 am *Management Committee Mtg (Mezz) 11:00 am Service 12:30 pm * BoD Mtg (Eko)	24 10:00 am Sr. Karaoke	25	26 7:00 pm Taiko	27 10:00 am Tai Chi 1:00 pm Buyo 7:00 pm Meditation	28 7:30 pm *Buyo	29

MARCH 2020

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
PLEASE NOTE: Events marked with an asterisk * are private and <u>NOT</u> open to the general public Thank You !						
1 MONTHLY MEMORIAL & SHIN FUJINKAI WINTER WARMUP 10:30 am Kids' Sangha 11:00 am Service 12:30 *Dana Mtg (Eko)	2 10:00 am Sr. Karaoke	3	4 7:00 pm Taiko	5 10:00 am Tai Chi 1:00 pm Buyo 7:00 pm Meditation	6 7:30 pm Buyo	7
8 REGULAR SERVICE 11:00 am Service 3:30 pm * Private Event (Mezz) 3:30 pm Service in Hamilton	9 10:00 am Sr. Karaoke	10	11 7:00 pm Taiko 1	12 10:00 am Tai Chi 1:00 pm Buyo 2:00 pm * Momiji 4:00 pm *Yee Hong 7:00 pm Meditation	13 7:30 pm Buyo	14 3:00 pm Isshin Workshop
15 HIGAN & KEIRO KAI 10:30 am Kids' Sangha 11:00 am Service	16 10:00 am Sr. Karaoke	17	18 7:00 pm Taiko	19 10:00 am Tai Chi 1:00 pm Buyo 7:00 pm Meditation	20 7:30 pm Buyo	21 11:00 am * Private Event
22 REGULAR SERVICE 11:00 am Service	23 10:00 am Sr. Karaoke	24	25 7:00 pm Taiko	26 10:00 am Tai Chi 1:00 pm Buyo 7:00 pm Meditation	27 7:30 pm Buyo	28 Service in Ottawa
29 REGULAR SERVICE 11:00 am Service Higan Service in Montreal	30 10:00 am Sr. Karaoke	31				

HO-ONKO



On Sunday, January 19, 2020, TBC held its Ho-onko service. Ho-onko marks the passing of the founder of Jodo Shinshu school of Buddhism, Shinran Shonin. We mark the day he was reborn in the Pure Land, January 16, 1262, and as such is considered Jodo Shinshu's most important annual observance. I was very honoured to have been asked to lead the service for the occasion. January, being the first month of the new year, is a time that is considered by many to be one of renewal and in this spirit, I like to take the occasion of Ho-onko to reaffirm my respect and gratitude for Shinran Shonin and the Nembutsu practice. Not just me, but Shin Buddhists in temples all over the world are inspired and moved to gratitude on Ho-onko by reflecting on his life.

Shinran was born in 1173 in Japan, to a relatively privileged family but one that fell on hard times during a time of war and natural disasters that brought tremendous turmoil not just to him, but to the Japanese population. He entered the life of a Buddhist monastic at the age of 9, after becoming orphaned. Legend says that even at that very young age, he was keenly aware of people's suffering, including his own of course, and recognized, as did Japanese society at that time, that becoming a Buddhist monk was a path that would end in enlightenment and peace. In fact, monasticism was the ONLY path that would lead to enlightenment. When he arrived at the temple to receive tonsure, the shaving of his head, the senior monk told him it would be done the next morning because he had arrived too late in the evening. Shinran famously asked that he receive tonsure immediately, stating through a poem that no one could be certain that the next morning would come for them. He did not want to miss the opportunity to start immediately on the path to enlightenment.

With this fervour, he lived the life of a Tendai monk for the next 20 years, until he came to the realization that it was getting him nowhere. Instead of moving towards feeling free of suffering, the intense monastic practices made him concentrate even more on his own suffering. He admitted failure, left the monastery and decided to do a 100-day meditation in the hopes for inspiration. On the 95th day of the retreat, a vision of Avalokitesvara (the Bodhisattva of Compassion) came to him and told him to seek Honen who was another monk who had left the monastic life. They met, and listening to him describe the Nembutsu (voicing the name of Amida Buddha - *Namo Amida Butsu*) practice, Shinran fast became a devoted follower, as did many others. The Nembutsu practice became so popular that the Buddhist establishment in Kyoto imposed a ban on it and sent Honen and Shinran into exile. Shinran, his wife (Shinran was the first Buddhist priest to be publicly married in Japan) and family were forced to move to a village in northern Japan and Honen was exiled to the south of Japan.

Needless to say, life in exile was difficult but villagers grew to respect Shinran as he worked hard to contribute to the well-being of the village. Villagers also learned to respect Shinran as a Buddhist teacher because although his monastic status was taken away from him, he continued to teach and study the Nembutsu path. This would prove to be an important time in his life because it allowed him to experience the power of the Nembutsu for the lower social classes, including, of course, himself and his family. The exile was lifted after a handful of years and Shinran and Honen were pardoned. Unfortunately, teacher and student would never be reunited, as Honen died shortly after their pardon. Shinran moved south near present-day Tokyo and lived the rest of his life, until the age of 90, studying and spreading the Nembutsu teaching. He wrote his most significant text, *Kyogyoshinsho* (the shortened form of the Japanese title that translates as "The True, Teaching, Practice, and Realization of the Pure Land Way")

For Ho-onko, and indeed every morning in temples across Japan, Shin Buddhists chant *Shoshin-ge* (Hymn of True Entrusting) that comes from the second chapter of this work; the chapter on Practice. This work is important to Shin Buddhists because it is where Shinran lays out the doctrinal lineage of the Nembutsu practice through sutra and commentaries that were written and recorded by 7 Buddhist monks who came before him (2 from Japan [including Honen], 3 from China, and 2 from India), right back to Sakyamuni Buddha.

HO-ONKO, continued

The Nembutsu teaching points only to voicing the name of Amida Buddha - Namo Amida Butsu - as the path to Enlightenment. Shinran understood intimately, through his own life experiences, that if Amida Buddha's wisdom and compassion to deliver all beings to enlightenment through the Pure land are truly unlimited and immeasurable, then there must be a practice and path available for everyone, not just monks who practice in monasteries. Women, laypeople, farmers, butchers, soldiers - *everyone* - is a recipient of the wisdom and compassion of Amida. *I* am in the wisdom and compassion of Amida Buddha, and so are *you*.

I am in awe to think that we in Canada in the year 2020, are able to read his words and to know that the same sounds - Namo Amida Butsu - come out of our mouths as they did out of his. It is impossible to know all of the causes and conditions that brought the Nembutsu practice and each of us to Toronto Buddhist Church, but Shinran Shonin is one person to whom we can direct our gratitude.

Namo Amida Butsu

Joanne Yuasa

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.

AKADA, Shigeru	HIRASAWA, Takeo	KESHIKAWA, Gisaburo	MATSUMOTO, Yuki
AMEMORI, Asa	HIRATA, Shizuo	KIKUCHI, Kiju	MAYUMI, Ichiro
AMEMORI, Rinji	HORI, Toshio	KINOSHITA, Kiyoshi	MENDE, Ronald Masaichi
AOYAMA, Koshiro	HUANG, James	KITAMURA, Miyo	MINEMOTO, Mitsuo
BABA, Masao	IDENOUYE, Kuyemon	KITAMURA, Yoshiye	MIYASAKI, Herbie Masao
DATE, Kenzaburo	IIDA, Hideo	KITAZAKI, Ronald Yoshisumi	MIZUYABU, Carl Kazumi
EBATA, Jeannie	IJIMA, Matazo	KOBAYASHI, Isojiro	MORI, Ben
EDAMURA, Fumi	IKEDA, Haruo	KONDO, Tome	MORI, Hikobei
ELLIS, Emi	INAMOTO, Tojuro	KONISHI, Masaharu	MORI, Sukegoro
FUJIBAYASHI, Chiyo	INATA, Shigeru	KONO, Kyonosuke	MORITA, Sumi
ENDO, Masatomo	IRIZAWA, Shizuka	KOTANI, Tatsuo Fred	MURAKAMI, Tsuneyuki Roy
FUKAKUSA, Shigeru	ISHIDA, Tsuru	KOZAI, Eiko	NAGAHARA, Kayo
FUKUZAWA, Sada	ISHIKAWA, Shozo	KOZAI, Minoru	NAKAGAWA, Kiyokazu George
HAMADE, Hana	ISOGAI, Isao	KUMAGAI, Misa	NAKAGAWA, Yoshiko
HASHIZUME, Kane	ISOSHIMA, Mas	KUMAGAI, Yasuyuki	NAKAGAWA, Tojiro
UYESUGI, Tomoichi	ITO, Chusaburo	KUROKAWA, Meijiro	NAKATA, Shige
HAYASHI, Miwa	JACKSON, John Joseph	MAIKAWA, Kiyo	NISHIDERA, Yuki
HAYASHI, Tsunekichi	KADOHAMA, Katsuyuki George	MAKIMOTO, Shizuko	NISHIHAMA, Takashi
HAYASHI, Yosotaro	KAMATA, Yoko	MARK, Yasuko Sue	
HIRAKI, Chikai	KAWAGUCHI, Itsuno	MATSUMOTO, Fumiko	
HIRANO, Tomisaburo		MATSUMOTO, Tetsu	

Continued on page 6

Memorial (Shotsuki) Listing for the Month of March , continued

NISHIMURA, Chiyo Frances	OKAZAKI, Marie Yoshiko	TAGUCHI, Shigeru	TSUJI, Tami
NISHIMURA, Toyomatsu	SAKAI, Kahei	TAHARA, Sadaichi	TSUJIMOTO, Otozo
NISHIMURA, Tsuya	SAKAUYE, Shigeo	TAJIRI, Ronald Akira	UYEDA , Mike Masahiro
NISHIMURA, Mitsuo	SANO, Yuwa	TAJIRI, Torao	WAKABAYASHI, Kino
NISHIMURA, Yosojiro	SASAKI, Miyumi Lisa	TAKATA, Toyoaki	WAKISAKA, Kinu
NISHIZAKI, Jack Hideo	SASAKI, Minato	TAKATA, Misuyo	WALL, Donald George
NISHIZAKI, Joe Yoshio	SATO, Shingo	TAKAYAMA, Kimiye	WARNER, Mitsuye Mitzi
NODA, Tamejiro	SATO, Takeko	TANABE, George	WATADA, Matsujiro
NOSE, Shigezayemon	SEIRIKI, Fukutaro	TANABE, Iya	WATANABE, John Isao
NOSE, Stuart Eijiro	SHIBATA, Tome	TANAKA, Fujimatsu	WATANABE, Larry Masato
KITAMURA, Shinichi	SHIBATA, Toshihiro	TANAKA, Roger Hideo	YAKO, Kiri Y
OHARA, Thomas Shunichi	SHIGA, Shizuko	TANAKA, Takayuki	YAMAMOTO, Haruko
OHASHI, Tomekichi	SHIMODA, Masakazu	TANAKA, Sataro	YAMASHITA, Masayuki
OKIHIRO, Koichiro	SHINMOTO, Yoshiyuki	TANIISHI, Shizue	YOSHIDA, Takeo
OKU, Haruko	SHISHIDO, Shiu	TANINO, Masuye	YAMASHITA, Jihei
OMOTO, Tokujiro	SHOJI, Yaeko Elsie	TEHARA, Tetsuko	YOSHIKAWA, Yuki Yoshi
ONAMI, Tomiji	SUEFUJI, Akie	TETAKA, Hatsumi	
ONISHI, Kazuo Jack	SUEFUJI, Toshiaki	TSUBOUCHI, Fumiko	
OUYE, Shigeyoshi H.	SUGIYAMA, Takeshi	TSUJI, Nancy Yaeko	

CALLING ALL SANGHA KIDS**FEBRUARY'S THEME: "IMPERMANENCE"**

February 16, 2020 – Nirvana Day

Let's honour the Buddha, his life and his journey into Nirvana. A family day craft activity

**MARCH'S THEME: "KEIROKAI"**

An annual celebration event, where we honour our temple members who are "keiro", that is, those who have reached the age of 77, 88 and over 90.

March 1, 2020 – Keirokai Preparations

Unfortunately, we did not have anyone register for the taiko performance with Isshin Daiko. Let's put our heads together and come up with an alternate plan for our performance for Keirokai 2020.

March 15, 2020 – Kids Sangha will perform on stage for Keirokai.

We hope to see you on Kids Sangha Sundays.

With gratitude,

Jessica, Yumi, Abigail, Rachel, Koji, Denise, Les and Naomi

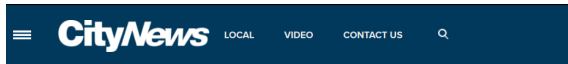


Dear Mother Nature,

Stop Messing with our Events!

Love, TBC Sangha

On our annual TBC Sangha Pancake Lunch on December 1, 2019, this is what the news looked like:



Dozens of crashes reported as freezing rain, snow hits the GTA and Niagara

BY NEWS STAFF
POSTED DEC 1, 2019 7:15 AM EST LAST UPDATED DEC 2, 2019 AT 12:01 AM EST

Really, Mother Nature does not like to show love for TBC Sangha events! Despite the frigid weather outside, we did manage to serve about 80 helpings of traditional and vegan pancake lunches.



My wholehearted thanks to the many volunteers who helped make this event possible.



Hope to see you next year!

In Gassho,

Cary Kataoka (Cary@247Systems.ca)

SAVE THE DATE MARCH 1, 2020

SHIN FUJINKAI WILL BE HOLDING THEIR ANNUAL WINTER WARM UP.

STAY AFTER SERVICE, JOIN US FOR A DELICIOUS SUKIYAKI LUNCH AND HAVE A WONDERFUL TIME WITH FRIENDS AND MEMBERS OF THE TEMPLE. ALL FOR ONLY \$10.00.

HOPE WE'LL SEE YOU!



FOREIGN COINS and USED STAMP COLLECTION

Please bring in any foreign coins from your travels and place them in the box provided in the Temple lobby. The Women's Federation collects for Air Canada charity. Also we still collect unwanted pennies.

Any collection of stamps will be sent to Save The Children. The stamps will be given to Women's Federation group at the end of April. If you have any stamps, a box is provided in the lobby of the Temple.



Guiding Light

REMINDER: ONLY MEMBERS ARE RECEIVING GUIDING LIGHT

As mentioned in our membership articles the rising cost of postage has forced us to implement a subscription fee for all those who are not members of the Temple. The subscription fee charged applies to those receiving the Guiding Light by mail. If you were not a member in 2019 or have not applied for or renewed your membership for 2020 you will not receive a Guiding Light. The subscription fee for January—December 2020 is \$35.00.

If you do not wish to apply for membership but wish to continue to receive a copy of the Guiding Light by mail please submit your subscription form and fee to the Toronto Buddhist Church (indicating it's for the Guiding Light).

The Guiding Light is also posted on the Toronto Buddhist Church website tbc.on.ca

SUBSCRIPTION REQUEST FOR THE GUIDING LIGHT FOR NON MEMBERS

SUBSCRIPTIONS IS FOR THE CALENDAR YEAR JAN—DEC

NAME (MR./MRS/MISS/MS) _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ PROVINCE _____ POSTAL CODE _____

EMAIL OR PHONE NUMBER _____

_____ ENGLISH ONLY

_____ ENGLISH/JAPANESE

Send your request to Toronto Buddhist Church, 1011 Sheppard Ave. W. Toronto, ON M3H 2T7, accompanied with your subscription fee of \$35.00. Cheques should be made payable to Toronto Buddhist Church indicating it is for subscription for the Guiding Light. You can also drop the form off at the Temple office.

****A tax receipt will not be issued for the subscription fee**

**Join or Renew
Online**

MEMBERSHIP
Join/Renew



IT'S 2020, TIME TO RENEW OR APPLY FOR MEMBERSHIP AND TO SHOW YOUR SUPPORT FOR THE TEMPLE

It is that time again to approach you and remind you to renew or apply for your membership for 2020. We are hoping to continue to have a strong membership. We know there are still some who have not applied for membership or have forgotten to submit the membership application with your membership fee. We hope that 2019 members will renew their memberships for 2020 and continue to support the Temple.

The future of the Temple depends on our members so we need you to take the time or remember to submit your application and membership 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 your signed application and membership fee (minimum of \$135.00) 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 2020, or if already an Honorary Member, he or she must confirm 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 only.**





TORONTO BUDDHIST CHURCH

*a Jodo Shinshu Temple***2020 MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION***In the case of couples, please complete information for each applicant individually.*

Applicant #1 Renewal (<input type="checkbox"/>) New (<input type="checkbox"/>)		Mr. (<input type="checkbox"/>) Mrs. (<input type="checkbox"/>) Ms. (<input type="checkbox"/>)
Last Name: _____		Birthdate: dd/mm/year: _____
First Name: _____		Email: _____
Address: _____		Phone: _____
City: _____		Signature: _____
Prov: _____ Postal Code: _____		
<p>I promise to pay \$_____ as my Membership Fee for 2020 and am enclosing the amount of \$_____ on account of such fee. I will pay the balance of my Membership Fee, if any, by May 31, 2020. By signing this Membership Application I hereby adopt the vow print on the back of this application.</p> <p>I would like a Guiding Light mailed to me - English Only _____ English/Japanese _____</p> <p>-----</p>		
Applicant #2 Renewal (<input type="checkbox"/>) New (<input type="checkbox"/>)		Mr. (<input type="checkbox"/>) Mrs. (<input type="checkbox"/>) Ms. (<input type="checkbox"/>)
Last Name: _____		Birthdate: dd/mm/year: _____
First Name: _____		Email: _____
Address: _____		Phone: _____
City: _____		Signature: _____
Prov. _____ Postal Code: _____		
<p>I promise to pay \$_____ as my Membership Fee for 2020 and am enclosing the amount of \$_____ on account of such fee. I will pay the balance of my Membership Fee, if any, by May 31, 2020. By signing this Membership Application I hereby adopt the vow printed on the back of this application.</p> <p>I would like a Guiding Light mailed to me - English only _____ English/Japanese _____</p>		

Please note that this application is for membership from January 1, 2020 to December 31, 2020. The Individual Membership Fee for 2020 is a minimum of \$135. 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 Offertory 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.**

NEW, USED OR VINTAGE JAPANESE ITEMS

Do you have your parents', grandparents' or gifts of Japanese wares, ikebana supplies, kimonos, yukatas, accessories, dolls etc. in storage that you don't know what to do with? The Temple will be holding a Japanese Wares Sale to raise funds for the Temple and we are looking for donations of items to sell.

If you should have any items you'd like to donate please bring them to the Temple and clearly mark on the boxes or items that they are for the 'Japanese Wares Sale'

Thank you in advance for your generosity,

Shin Fujinkai



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.

Mr. Junge Jerry Kawaguchi 94 yrs December 30, 2019

Mrs. Mary Yaeko Ebata 95 yrs. December 30, 2019

Mrs. Kazuko Wakabayashi 89 yrs January 4, 2020



Nirvana Day Service

February 16, 2020 at 11:00am

On Nirvana Day, we celebrate and commemorate the passing of Shakyamuni Buddha into Parinirvana or the Final Enlightenment. Please join us on Sunday, February 16th for a service to reflect upon the Buddha's teachings, to remind ourselves of the impermanence of life and to be grateful for the historical Shakyamuni Buddha.



GUIDING LIGHT

Toronto Buddhist Church continues to work towards having a balance between English and Japanese. This includes translating English into Japanese and occasionally translating news from Japanese temples into English.

We are looking for volunteers who can understand and write in both English and Japanese. The main activities would be the translation of articles and announcements from English to Japanese once a month and occasionally from Japanese to English.

Please contact the Temple if you are interested and are able to spare some time.

E-mail: tbc@tbc.on.ca Phone: 416-534-4302

Mochi Tsuki 2019 – Truly Working Together

The TBC Sangha aims to host events which bring families together and maintains traditions at the Toronto Buddhist Church - at this year's Mochi Tsuki, I am happy to report that we successfully achieved both goals. There was a palpable sense of our extended Temple community truly working harmoniously together to achieve this year's goal of processing 1,000 pounds of mochi gome.

Many thanks to those who came out on the Dec. 27th to help wash the mochi gome, setup up the tables, prepare the machines, prepare the steamers and prepare the lunch. Special thanks to Kozue Sawahara-san who continues to provide invaluable assistance for our event and Rob Yonekura who came extra early to help out.



Two key components to the success of the event this year was the addition of cooling fans for our mochi machines and the loan of the JCCC's mochi machine.



The addition of the fans allowed our mochi machines to work throughout the event without over heating.

Thank you to Christine Takasaki for the loan of the JCCC's mochi machine. It took us a while to figure it out, but it turns out that it can process twice the mochi gome in half the time as compared with our mochi machines – we look forward to the opportunity to take better advantage of this resource next year.

It was gratifying to see the close to 150 volunteers – young and old – new and experienced – working side by side.

In addition to our regular cast of super stars including Ko-san (thank you for steaming the rice), we had brand new people stepping up to the plate – special thanks to Aaron Aoki for tirelessly working with our mochi machines and Joanne Mack who helped coordinate production.



My personal thanks to my family for their support and to each and everyone who gave up part of your holidays to help out with Mochi Tsuki at the Toronto Buddhist Church! I can't thank you enough and...hope to see you next year!

In Gassho,

Cary Kataoka (Cary@247Systems.ca)

TBC Sangha Drops the F Bomb Again!!!

Sangha Day February 16th, 2020

Yes, the TBC Sangha is at it again! On February 16th, directly after the Nirvana Day service, we will be offering a **FREE Lunch!!!** Once a year on Sangha Day, we take time to welcome new Sangha members and to recognize Sangha members who have achieved 65 years of age and are granted lifetime membership.

For 70 years, the TBC Sangha volunteer group has had the privilege of providing volunteer support and hosting events at our Temple. Each year we host events such as Sangha Day, Hanamatsuri Family Banquet, Pancake Lunch and Mochi Tsuki. We have also undertaken projects such as video broadcasting services and providing transportation for Momiji residents.

Our aim is to host events and sponsor projects which honour the history of our Temple, allow families to spend time together and make it attractive for families to attend our Temple. If you have attended and enjoyed any of our services or events in the past, please consider volunteering so that we may continue to host these and other events and services in the future.



Toronto Buddhist Church Spring Higan and Keirokai

Sunday, March 15, 2020

On Sunday March 15th we will be observing our Spring Higan Service.

“Higan” literally means “The other shore”. Twice a year on the days of equinox, when there is an equal amount of day and night, it is our Jodo Shinshu tradition to reflect and reaffirm our practice of the Buddhist teachings that lead us to “the other shore” of enlightenment. The balance of day and night is also a reminder to walk “the Middle Path” of Buddhism.

Keirokai is 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 submit the application form to the Temple office by Sunday, March 1st, 2020.

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.

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



2020 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+

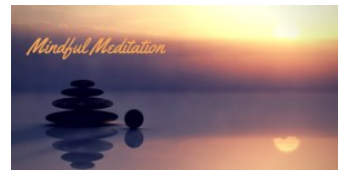
PLEASE RETURN THIS FORM TO THE TEMPLE OFFICE BY SUNDAY MARCH 1, 2020 TO ENSURE INCLUSION IN THE CEREMONIES.

MINDFUL MEDITATION WITH RAY NAKANO

WHEN: Every Thursday Evening—7:00 pm to 9:00 pm **WHERE:** Toronto Buddhist Church—Mezzanine

The 2 hour sessions will include:

- Guided Sitting Meditation
- Silent Walking Meditation
- Silent Sitting Meditation
- Dharma Talk
- Sharing in the Sangha



If you have any questions please email: mindfulnesspracticesangha@hotmail.com or Denise Crofton at dcrofton@rogers.com

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. Doors are locked at 7:10 pm. There are no fees but donations are graciously accepted.

NOTICE TO GUIDING LIGHT SUBSCRIBERS

We must advise you that there will not be a Busshin (Japanese) version of the Guiding Light for the next few months. We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause our Japanese readers. We hope that we will be able to resume providing the Busshin again soon.

Guiding Light Staff

NEWS FROM THE OFFICE

For the past five years, since changing over to our current donation receipting programme, we have issued receipts on a quarterly basis. However, due to the ever-increasing cost of paper, envelopes and postage; we will, in 2019 begin issuing receipts semi-annually or twice a year. Therefore, you will receive a receipt for any donations made January to June, in early July 2019 and in early January, 2020 for donations made July to December, 2019.

We would also like to take this opportunity to remind everyone that cheques **MUST** be made out to **TORONTO BUDDHIST CHURCH**. Please note that **TBC or T.B.C IS NOT ACCEPTABLE OR CASHABLE BY THE BANK**. If you would like your donation to be directed to one of the church groups or funds, please indicate this information in the memo line of your cheque...ie: Dana, Sangha, Altar Flower Fund, etc.

We would like to thank everyone for their co-operation and understanding in these matters.

Toronto Buddhist Church Office.

KIDS SANGHA HOONKO DHARMA TALK BY JOANNE YUASA SENSEI, JANUARY 19, 2020



TORONTO BUDDHIST CHURCH
HAMILTON BUDDHIST TEMPLE, MONTREAL BUDDHIST CHURCH, OTTAWA FELLOWSHIP
2020 SCHEDULE

JANUARY

1	New Year's Day Service
5	Monthly Memorial Service
12	Regular Service
	<i><u>Hamilton Buddhist Temple: Hoonko Service</u></i>
19	Hoonko Founder's Memorial Service
	TBC Annual General Meeting
26	Regular Service
	New Year's Social (Shinenkai)

FEBRUARY

2	Monthly Memorial Service & BOD Installation
9	Regular Service
	<i><u>Hamilton Buddhist Temple: Nirvana Day Service</u></i>
16	Nirvana Day Service (Nehan-e) & Sangha Day
23	Regular Service

MARCH

1	Monthly Memorial Service
8	Regular Service
	<i><u>Hamilton Buddhist Temple: Spring Higan Service</u></i>
15	Spring Equinox Service (Higan-e) & Keirokai
22	Regular Service
28	<i><u>Ottawa Fellowship: Spring Higan & Hanamatsuri Service</u></i>
29	Regular Service
	<i><u>Montreal Buddhist Church: Spring Higan Service & Hanamatsuri</u></i>

APRIL

5	Monthly Memorial Service
12	Eshinni Day; Wife of Shinran Shonin Service
	<i><u>Hamilton Buddhist Temple: Hanamatsuri Service</u></i>
19	Hanamatsuri Service
22-26	JSBTC Ministerial Association, BOD, LDC meetings and AGM at BTSA, Lethbridge, AB
26	Regular Service

Please note that scheduled events are subject to change

TORONTO BUDDHIST CHURCH
HAMILTON BUDDHIST TEMPLE, MONTREAL BUDDHIST CHURCH, OTTAWA FELLOWSHIP
2020 SCHEDULE

<u>MAY</u>	3	Monthly Memorial Service
	10	Parents' Day Service
		<i><u>Hamilton Buddhist Temple: Gotan-e Service</u></i>
	17	Gotan-e & Infant Presentation (Shosan shiki) Service
	24	Regular Service
	31	Regular Service
		<i><u>Montreal Buddhist Church: Gotan-e Service</u></i>
<u>JUNE</u>	7	Monthly Memorial Service & TBC Dana Scholarship Presentation
	14	Regular Service
	21	Regular Service
		<i><u>Hamilton Buddhist Temple: Regular Service</u></i>
	27	<i><u>Ottawa Fellowship: Obon Service</u></i>
	28	Regular Service
		<i><u>Montreal Buddhist Church: Obon Service</u></i>
<u>JULY</u>	5	Monthly Memorial Service
	11	Obon Cemeteries Services
		Obon Service & Bon Odori Dance at JCCC
	12	Obon Services
	19	Summer Services Begin
		<i><u>Hamilton Buddhist Temple: Obon Service</u></i>
	26	Summer Service
<u>AUGUST</u>	2	Monthly Memorial Service
	9	Summer Service
	16	Summer Service
	23	Summer Service
	30	Summer Service

Please note that scheduled events are subject to change

TORONTO BUDDHIST CHURCH
HAMILTON BUDDHIST TEMPLE, MONTREAL BUDDHIST CHURCH, OTTAWA FELLOWSHIP
2020 SCHEDULE

SEPTEMBER

4- 6	<u>2020 EBL at New York Buddhist Temple</u>
6	Summer Service
13	Monthly Memorial Service and Rally Sunday
20	Fall Equinox “Higan-e” Service <u>Hamilton Buddhist Temple: Fall Higan Service (Afternoon)</u>
26	<u>Ottawa Fellowship: Fall Higan Service</u>
27	Regular Service <u>Montreal Buddhist Church: Fall Higan Service</u>

OCTOBER

4	Monthly Memorial & JSBTC Day Service
11	Regular Service <u>Hamilton Buddhist Temple: Regular Service</u>
18	TBC 75 th Anniversary Service
25	Pet Appreciation Service

NOVEMBER

1	Monthly Memorial Service
8	Regular Service <u>Hamilton Buddhist Temple: Regular Service</u>
15	Eitaikyo Service
22	Regular Service
28	<u>Ottawa Fellowship: Eitaikyo Service</u>
29	Regular Service <u>Montreal Buddhist Church: Eitaikyo Service</u>

DECEMBER

6	Monthly Memorial Service
13	Regular Service <u>Hamilton Buddhist Temple: Bodhi Day Service</u>
20	Bodhi Day Service
27	Regular Service
31	Year-End Service Year-End bell ringing at TBC

Please note that scheduled events are subject to change.