



Guiding Light

MAY 2017

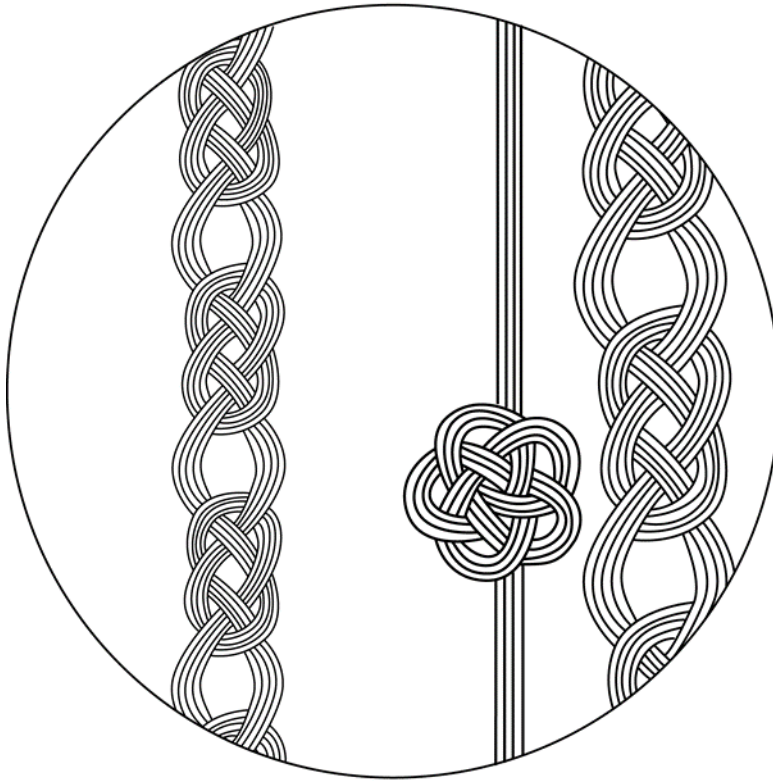


Illustration by Nanako Iwata

み だ え っ こ う じ ょ う じ ゅ
 弥陀の回向 成就して

お う そ う げ ん そ う
 往相還相 ふたつなり

え っ こ う
 これらの回向に よりてこそ

し ん ぎ ょ う
 心行ともに えしむなれ

*Amida has fulfilled the directing of virtue, Which has two aspects:
 that for our going forth and that for our return.*

*Through these aspects of the Buddha's directing of virtue, We are brought to realize
 both mind and practice.*

Shinran Shonin

TORONTO BUDDHIST CHURCH a Jodo Shinshu Temple

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

MAY 2017

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNES-	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
PLEASE NOTE Events marked with an “*” are private and NOT open to the general public Thank You	1 10:00 am Sr. Karaoke	2 10:00 am Fujinotomo 11:30 am 1:00 pm *School Visitations 8:00 pm Bon Odori	3 7:00 pm Isshin	4 10:00 am Tai Chi 11:00 am * Family Memorial Service 1:00 pm Buyo 7:00 pm Meditation	5 8:00 pm Bon Odori Buyo	6 3:00 pm *Funeral Service and reception
7 MONTHLY MEMORIAL SVC 9:30 am Scholarship Mtg (Mezz) 9:30 am *Bazaar Mtg (Eko) 10:30 am Kid's Sangha 11:00 am Service 12:30 pm Dana Mtg (Eko) 12:30 pm Sangha Mtg (LDC)	8 10:00 am Sr. Karaoke	9 10:00 am Fujinotomo 8:00 pm Bon Odori	10 7:00 pm Isshin	11 10:00 am Tai Chi 10:30 am * Japanese Garden Club Mtg 1:00 pm Buyo 2:00 pm* Momiji 3:00 pm Ikebana 4:00 pm * Yee Hong 7:00 pm Meditation	12 8:00 pm Bon Odori 8:00 pm Buyo 4:00 pm *Funeral Service	13 11:00 am * Family Memorial Service and reception
14 PARENTS' DAY SERVICE 9:15 am * Management Committee Mtg 11:00 am Service 12:30 pm * BOD Mtg Service in Hamilton	15 10:00 am Sr. Karaoke	16 10:00 am Fujinotomo 8:00 pm Bon Odori	17 1:00 pm Ohara School 7:00 pm Isshin	18 10:00 am Tai Chi 1:00 pm Buyo 2:00 pm *Castlevieview 3:00 pm Ikebana 7:00 pm Meditation	19 8:00 pm Bon Odori 8:00 pm Buyo	20 11:00 am *Funeral Service & reception
21 GOTANYE SRV & HATSUMAIRI (Infant Presentation) 10:30 am Kid's Sangha 11:00 am Service	22 Victoria Day <div>CHURCH CLOSED</div>	23 10:00 am Fujinotomo 8:00 pm Bon Odori	24 1:00 pm Ohara School 7:00 pm Isshin	25 10:00 am Tai Chi 1:00 pm Buyo 3:00 pm Ikebana 7:00 pm Meditation	26 8:00 pm Bon Odori 8:00 pm Buyo	27 4:00 pm *Family Memorial Service
28 REGULAR SERVICE 11:00 am Service 12:30 pm Lecture Diabetes Service in Montreal	29 10:00 am Sr. Karaoke	30 10:00 am Fujinotomo 8:00 pm Bon Odori	31 1:00 pm Ohara School 7:00 pm Isshin			

Morning Services are held on the weekdays on Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays from 10:00 am –10:30 am when a minister is available. As emergencies do come up, last minute cancellations may occur.
 Thank You

JUNE 2017

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
PLEASE NOTE Events marked with an “*” are private and NOT open to the general public Thank You				1 10:00 am Tai Chi 1:00 pm Buyo 3:00 pm Ikenobo School 7:00 pm Meditation	2 8:00 pm Bon Odori 8:00 pm Buyo	3 12:00 pm * Family Service *Kid's Sangha Sleepover
4 MONTHLY MEMORIAL SERVICE 10:30 am Kid's Sangha 11:00 am Service 12:30 pm Dana Mtg 12:30 pm Sangha Mtg	5 10:00 am Sr. Karaoke	6 8:00 pm Bon Odori	7 1:00 pm Ohara School 7:00 pm Isshin	8 10:00 am Tai Chi 2:00 pm Buyo 2:00 pm *Momiji 3:00 pm Ikenobo School 4:00 pm *Yee Hong 7:00 pm Meditation	9 8:00 pm Bon Odori 8:00 pm Buyo	10
11 TBC CHURCH PICNIC at Camp Green Acres <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: fit-content;"> CHURCH CLOSED </div>	12 10:00 am Sr. Karaoke	13 8:00 pm Bon Odori	14 1:00 pm Ohara School 7:00 pm Isshin	15 10:00 am Tai Chi 2:00 pm Buyo 2:00 pm * Castleview 3:00 pm Ikenobo School 7:00 pm Meditation	16 8:00 pm Bon Odori 8:00 pm Buyo	17
18 REGULAR SERVICE 11:00 am Service Service in Hamilton	19 10:00 am Sr. Karaoke	20 8:00 pm Bon Odori	21 1:00 pm Ohara School 7:00 pm Isshin	22 10:00 am Tai Chi 2:00 pm Buyo 3:00 pm Ikenobo School 7:00 pm Meditation	23 8:00 pm Bon Odori 8:00 pm Buyo	24 * 10:00 am TBC Sr. Karaoke Party
25 REGULAR SERVICE 11:00 am Service	26 10:00 am Sr. Karaoke	27 8:00 pm Bon Odori	28 11:30am *Momiji Community mtg 7:00 pm Isshin	29 10:00 am Tai Chi 2:00 pm Buyo 3:00 pm Ikenobo School 7:00 pm Meditation	30 8:00 pm NO Bon Odori 8:00 pm NO Buyo	

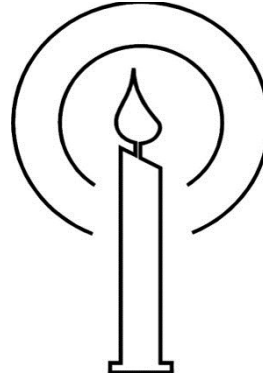
Morning Services are held on the week days on Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday from 10:00 am-10:30 am when a Minister is available. As emergencies do come up, last minute cancellations may occur

Thank you !

The Voice of the Candle

By: John Skelton

“Better to light a candle than curse the darkness.”



One of my favorite tasks in each week is to be at the temple for Sunday service and to light the candles on the naijin.

Perhaps you have seen me at work on the naijin. My job as *egakari* is to make sure that the altar area is ready for the service. It needs to be clean and well-organized, the table cloths (called “*uchishiki*” and “*mizushiki*”) must be laid out and appropriate for the service, and the offerings of rice, fruit, and manju should be arranged carefully. I check to make sure that the altar adornments are properly arranged, and that the service agendas are ready for the ministers.

My last responsibility, before the service begins with the sounding of the bell (*kansho*), is the lighting of the three white candles that are positioned before Amida Buddha, Shinran Shonin, and Rennyo Shonin respectively.

It’s a simple ritual, but for me it is full of meaning. As I put on my *montoshikisho*, I light the source candle and step up onto the altar. I light the candle in front of Amida Buddha first, respectfully, then move on to the candles in front of the images of Shinran and Rennyo. This is the moment when I focus entirely on the service itself. The outside world is banished to the outside world. The next hour is mine – mine to share with the Buddha, the Dharma, and the Sangha. It’s always a peaceful and transformative moment.

The lighting of candles has symbolic importance in Buddhism, as it does in many faith systems. The light represents wisdom: it is through the light of wisdom that the darkness of ignorance that dwells in the mind can be driven away.

“There is not enough darkness in all the world to put out the light of even one small candle.” (Rev. Robert Alden)

In some traditions, the candles represent life. When the wax of the candle is good, and the wick is of sufficient quality, the candle is capable of receiving and carrying the wisdom of the flame.

It struck me a short while ago that some candles are easy to light, others are more difficult. New candles sometimes take a little extra encouragement to accept the flame. Perhaps that is the way that we human beings, who might be encountering Buddhism for the first time – maybe anxious and a bit confused - struggle to accept the wisdom of Buddha’s teaching. It’s OK to be skeptical. Buddha taught that healthy skepticism is preferable to blind faith. In the Kalama Sutra, Buddha advised:

When you know for yourselves that, ‘These qualities are skillful; these qualities are blameless; these qualities are praised by the wise; these qualities, when adopted & carried out, lead to welfare & to happiness’ — then you should enter & remain in them.”

Cont’d on page 5

The Voice of the Candle, continued

If I have difficulty lighting a candle, the thought never occurs to me to try to bully the candle into lighting. I have never felt it necessary to reach for a flame thrower. I simply take my time, I remain patient, but I am gently persistent. Eventually the candle takes the flame. This is one of the beautiful strengths of Buddhism, as I have experienced it. The Dharma has never been forced upon me. It has come to me with a kind and gentle touch. If I have been able to reflect any wisdom that is contained within the Buddha's teaching, it is because the wisdom was brought to me with loving kindness.

Have you ever tried to light a candle outside on a windy day? It's not easy. I have a friend who used to smoke cigarettes. He had a rare skill. I swear that he could light a cigarette in a hurricane! He would cup his hands around his lighter, protecting the flame from the wind and rain, and he would light up his smoke. He never failed.

The wind and rain of the storm outside makes it challenging for candles to accept the flame. The storm represents the anxieties, pains and worries that we all suffer in the outside world. The storm can prevent us from understanding the wisdom of Buddha's teaching. But if we surround the candle with a paper lantern, or if we cup our hands around the candle's wick as we are lighting it, the flame will ignite. I think of the "lantern" as being our Jodo Shinshu Buddhist Temple. Or, the "lantern" might be the peaceful protection of a mindful meditation. I think of the hands as being the hands of our ministers or senseis, carefully bringing the flame of Amida's compassion and wisdom to us. And for those protections, I am always grateful.

And what happens at that moment when the candle's wick takes the flame? To me, that moment is *shinjin*. It is the point at which all doubt is cast aside, and that we have faith that we are on the right spiritual path. From that moment forward, we can rest assured that we have been embraced by Amida Buddha's infinite light and compassion, never to be forgotten.

The candles speak to me. Each has a voice. Listen deeply to hear their lessons. Every Sunday, I am happy that we can have a little conversation, in the peace and protection of our temple. They help me prepare to listen to the Dharma with the gentle guidance of our ministers.

HANAMATSURI SERVICE, APRIL 16



2017 Hanamatsuri Family Banquet

On Saturday April 15th, the TBC Sangha had the privilege of hosting the annual Hanamatsuri Family Banquet.

Over a hundred temple members, family and friends sat down to enjoy a delicious meal of Roast Beef, Salmon or Falafels, Hummus and Tabbouleh (that's vegan food for those not in the know). Many thanks to our head chefs Toku Suyama, Randy Sakauye and Joanne Kataoka. The chefs also cooked up an extra batch to contribute to the Hanamatsuri lunch the following day. Thanks also to the many volunteers without whose help this event could not have taken place; a special shout out to CCOV Team Two members who were instrumental in helping to clean up after the event.



In the past, the event had been held as a multi-generational event for families of Japanese descent. As our

Temple population continues to diversify, the event is now as much multi-cultural as it is multi-generational. Further to the multi-cultural, multi-generational theme, I was very happy to have had the opportunity to welcome Alexis and Abigail Geneau who provided us with a breath-taking demonstration of gymnastics where they literally flew through the air with the greatest of ease – feats which are more impressive considering that they are usually performed on a 4" wide beam.



The two sisters are the grand-daughters of Fred and Ann Kotani and are in the top 10 in their respective categories in Ontario. Glen Takasaki also graced the stage with his excellent renditions of James Taylor's Carolina On My Mind and Paul Simon's Kathy's Song.



After the entertainment, we enjoyed fruit salad courtesy of Nobby Shiraishi, followed by Bingo and Door prizes.

Many thanks to those who so generously donated door prizes, your donations are greatly appreciated. Finally, many thanks to my good friend and business partner James Tetaka through whose resources we were able to transport a van load of Temple members from Momiji so that they would be able to enjoy the banquet.

To everyone who attended this event and especially to all those who donated and volunteered – my heartfelt personal thanks and I hope to see you all next year!

Cary Kataoka, President
TBC Sangha

Coordinating Committee of Volunteers (CCOV) Update

April was a very busy month at the Temple. On April 15, Sangha held their annual Hanamatsuri Family Banquet assisted by CCOV Team 2. On April 16, there was a light luncheon served after the Hanamatsuri service which was looked after by CCOV Team 3.

From April 20 to April 23, Toronto Buddhist Church hosted the JSBTC AGM. Although CCOV Teams were not asked to help with specific aspects of the AGM, there were many volunteers helping with transportation, refreshments, meals and more.

The month of May looks like a quiet month. Updates will be coming from your team captains.

Please contact your co-captains or Dawn at canzai@sympatico.ca or Darlene at darlene.rieger28@gmail.com for more information.

Thank you.

Share the Wealth



\$2 each or 3 for \$5

**The more money raised,
the bigger the prize!**

**To be drawn on
*June 11, 2017***

at the TBC Annual Picnic

See you at Camp Green Acres!

OBITUARIES

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

Mr. Yasuyuki Kumagai	85 yrs.	March 29, 2017
Mrs. Yasuko Mark	88 yrs	March 29, 2017
Mr. Ken Komori	91 yrs	April 4, 2017



Bon Odori 2017

It feels like spring is in the air, and with spring comes Bon Odori. Join us at the Toronto Buddhist Church to practice Japanese folk dances in preparation for the Obon festival on July 8. Women, men and children are all welcome and step-by-step instructions are given. Practices will be held every Tuesday and Friday, 8:00-9:30 pm, beginning April 25.

Obon is an important Buddhist festival. It would be great to see more TBC members participating in the odori this year as we also celebrate Canada's 150th birthday.

Bon odori practices, Toronto Buddhist Church

Tuesday and Friday nights, starting April 25, 2017

8:00 – 9:30pm *please note the time of Friday practices

FURNITURE AND APPLIANCES NEEDED FOR CAMP LUMBINI AND THE TEMPLE

The Temple and Camp Lumbini are looking for donations of gently used furniture and appliances to replace items that are old, worn and inefficient.

At the Temple the sofa in the mezzanine is beginning to show it's age and is due to be replaced.

Camp Lumbini is looking to replace sofas, kitchen chairs, beds, refrigerators and stoves.

If you are downsizing or replacing items and think you have items that may be suitable for the Temple or Camp Lumbini please contact the Temple at 416 534 4302 with details of what you have, a contact number and someone will be in touch with you. Thank you.

DANA Membership Dues Reminder

A reminder that the 2017 Dana membership fee of \$15 per member is now due.

Please mail a cheque for **\$15** made payable to Toronto Buddhist Church, to the Temple, give it to any of the Dana executive or place your membership fee in the Dana mail slot in the temple office. Indicate on the payment that it is for your Dana membership. Also, if you are turning 80 years of age in 2017, please let us know as you will become an honorary member and not be required to pay the membership fee.

DIABETES, DIET AND LIFESTYLE INFORMATIONAL SESSION

Sunday, May 28, 2017

12:30 to 2:00 p.m.

Guest Speaker:

Jessica Chan

Registered Nurse and Certified Diabetes Educator

North York Family Health Team

You are invited to join us to learn about the practical life choices that are important in preventing and living with diabetes in your everyday life.

Brochures and pamphlets in English and some in Japanese will be available.

This free presentation will take place in the Mezzanine after the morning service. Please bring your own lunch.

Living Dharma Centre Virtual Book Club

Thank you for following our past discussions on Sensei Jeff Wilson's book Buddhism of the Heart: Reflections on Shin Buddhism and Inner Togetherness. We hope that the readings and comments have sparked thought and reflection within yourself as well as reconnecting to some of the basics of Shin Buddhism. Our thanks go to Sensei Jeff for writing such an easy to read and approachable book!

Our next title for the LDC Virtual Book Club will be Man's Search For Meaning by Viktor E. Frankl. We will be starting this title on April 28th and we will complete it by May 28th. This book is widely available in paperback, audiobook and ebook format.

From a Good Reads Review:

“Psychiatrist Viktor Frankl's memoir has riveted generations of readers with its descriptions of life in Nazi death camps and its lessons for spiritual survival. Between 1942 and 1945 Frankl labored in four different camps, including Auschwitz, while his parents, brother, and pregnant wife perished. Based on his own experience and the experiences of others he treated later in his practice, Frankl argues that we cannot avoid suffering but we can choose how to cope with it, find meaning in it, and move forward with renewed purpose. Frankl's theory-known as logotherapy, from the Greek word logos ("meaning")-holds that our primary drive in life is not pleasure, as Freud maintained, but the discovery and pursuit of what we personally find meaningful.”

Please join us by emailing Barb MacCarl at: bm.livingdharmacentre@gmail.com to be included in the discussions.

2017 EASTERN BUDDHIST LEAGUE CONFERENCE



The Eastern Buddhist League (EBL) conference will be hosted this year by Midwest Buddhist Temple in Chicago, Illinois on Labour Day weekend September 1-3, 2017. The conference theme is North American Buddhism: A Path Forward. Keynote speaker will be Rev. Kurt Rye from Placer Buddhist Temple in California. Also to be in attendance will be Rev. Kodo Umezu, Bishop of the Buddhist Churches of America.

Registration fee for the EBL is \$100 US if paid by July 31, 2017. After that date the fee will be \$125 US. All conference events will take place at Midwest Buddhist Temple including services, seminars, Obon and Taiko workshops, Dharma School activities, TED talks. The final day Sunday will end with a Barbeque dinner and the chance to taste MBT's famous Chicken Teriyaki which is always served at their annual Ginza Holiday Festival.

All hotel accommodations and transportation arrangements must be made individually. There is no centrally booked hotel and Toronto Buddhist Church will not be sponsoring any chartered bus, so there is the flexibility to make a customized vacation to Chicago including the EBL.

EBL conferences are a time for recreation and renewing acquaintances, with time for fun and fellowship. As the EBL is under the BCA's Eastern District Council (EDC), other attendees are expected from Cleveland Buddhist Temple, Ekoji Buddhist Temple, New York Buddhist Church, Seabrook Buddhist Temple, Twin Cities Buddhist Association and Buddhist Temple of Chicago as well as the host Midwest Buddhist Temple.

For much more detailed information on EBL 2017, please see MBT's website and the conference section: <http://mbtchicago.org/eb1-2017/>. Limited registration forms will be available in the TBC information area in the lobby.

THANK YOU

Thank you so much to ALL THE VOLUNTEERS. Everyone in the Temple worked as a team to support the Toronto Buddhist Church in hosting the 2017 JSBTC AGM here in Toronto. If success is measured by dedication of the participants and volunteers, the number of smiles one sees, the laughter one hears, the aroma of delicious home cooked meals and the special connection you feel when exchanging greetings, then:

IT WAS A SUCCESS!!

THANK YOU

JSBTC AGM COMMITTEE

GOTANYE: The Birthday of Our Founder, Shinran Shonin

SHOSANSHIKI (Hatsumairi): Infant Presentation Service

May 21, 2017

11:00 a.m.

Gotanye is the observance of the birthday of Jodo Shinshu founder, Shinran Shonin, born on May 21, 1173. It is an expression of joy and happiness and an opportunity to reflect upon the influence and contributions that Shinran Shonin has made upon our lives.

Because we are grateful for Shinran's contribution to our lives, this is the perfect time to hold our yearly Shosanshiki or "Infant Presentation Service". This is a service to welcome our newest members and for the infant's parents to affirm their intention to raise their child with Buddhist values. The ceremony is open to all children three years and under.

For those wishing to have a child participate in this special ceremony, please complete and submit the application form below to the church office by **Sunday, May 14, 2017**.

Application for Infant Presentation Service

Sunday, May 21, 2017

11:00 a.m.

Child's Full Name _____

Date of Birth (dd/mm/yy) _____ M _____ F _____

Mother's Name _____

Father's Name _____

Address _____

City _____ Postal Code _____

Telephone _____

E-mail _____

KIDS SANGHA

May 21, 2017 – 11:00 am – 12:00 pm

Outdoor Games

In Celebrating Shinran's Birthday and the start of the warm weather we will hold outdoor team games in the park behind the Temple.

Please have the kids dress in loose clothing and running shoes.



image courtesy of www.themodestmomblog.com

June 3rd and 4th - KIDS SLEEP OVER!

Kids Sangha Annual Sleep Over

Starts on Saturday June 3rd at 4:00 pm until Sunday June 5th 12:00 pm

If you are interested in signing up for this event please contact Denise Crofton at dcrofton@rogers.com or call (647) 993-7735.

We have great activities planned for this event;

Indoor scavenger hunt

Team games

Walking meditation with the Ministers

Movies & Popcorn

And so much more...



KIDS SANGHA

Sunday June 11th - 11:00 am

IMPORTANT NOTE: Kids Sangha will be held at Camp Green Acres in Markham to celebrate TBC Annual Picnic.

Join us at 11:00 am for a fun craft with Yumi and Jess!

Gates open at 10:00 am and closes at 6:30 pm.

Camp Green Acres is a great place for the family with many amenities:

picnic tables (large sheltered area in case of inclement weather)

baseball diamond, biking and hiking trails, soccer fields, mini golf and so much more!

Camp Green Acres

11123 Kennedy Road, Markham

(between Elgin Mills Rd and 19th Avenue)

Lunch will be served after - hot dogs are available or you can bring your own lunch and dinner.

For those who haven't been to our Annual Picnic and want more information please see the event poster at the Temple or Guiding Light for more details

Please Note:

Kids Sangha will take a short break for the Summer...

June 11^h will be our last kids Sangha until September. We wish everyone a safe and happy summer and look forward to seeing you in the fall.

Denise, Naomi, Rachel, Koji, Abigail and Leanne

KIDS SANGHA'S VISION

Our vision is to bring together young children of all ethnic backgrounds and help them learn and experience the Buddha Dharma in a way that is relevant to their everyday lives.

Our Kids Sangha program is run in a safe and fun environment by a team of volunteers who are passionate about teaching children. Our hope is that children aged 4 to 13 yrs of age will build new friendships, have fun and feel good about time spent at the Temple as they participate in activity-based programs geared towards this age group.

Kids Sangha meets every 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month. No classes during the summer. Classes resume Rally Sunday September 10th.

The program is open to all families so please feel free to drop in anytime.

INTERESTED IN VOLUNTEERING?

We are always looking for volunteers who are passionate about teaching young children. We currently have opportunities open in our classroom or daycare.

If you are interested, please contact Denise Crofton at dcrofton@rogers.com

Please note: Volunteers must pass a background check and agree to TBC's policies and procedures as they relate to childcare.

OBON 2017

SATURDAY JULY 8 & SUNDAY JULY 9 , 2017

The Obon committee is pleased to begin our preparations for Obon 2017.

We eagerly awaited Spring's arrival and here we are heading towards Summer and with it, our annual Obon ohaka mairi tradition of visitation and homage to our loved ones, now passed.

Our special guest speaker this year will be Bishop Kodo Umezu. He will deliver his Dharma talks at all services, the Hatsubon at 9am, English service at 11am and the Japanese language service at 2pm. It is our pleasure to host our American guest and thank him for his participation in the Toronto Buddhist Church Obon weekend.

Please take note of the time changes to the cemetery schedule at three locations. And, we ask families to wait patiently for the Senseis and choshos to arrive at your family gravesites. Whenever there are changes made, we might have unexpected delays.

This list will be found in the June edition of the Guiding Light. Please look to see if any changes have been made since this first submission in May.

We encourage all families to bring their family homyos and Obon Memory Lanterns and remind you to please pick them up at the end of each service.

The solemnity of the cemetery services is balanced with the joyous Obon dancing that is held at the Japanese Canadian Cultural Centre on Saturday evening, at 7pm. Please come out and join the festive gathering as it coincides with the JCCC's Natsu Matsuri. You will find friends, family, fun and food.

Obon Committee

OBON GUEST SPEAKER 2017

Obon services will be held on Sunday, July 9 and we are pleased to announce that Bishop Kodo Umezu of the Buddhist Churches of America will be our guest speaker.

Bishop Kodo Umezu was born in Fukuoka, Japan. He graduated from Ryukoku University in 1973 and immediately made his voyage to the United States to become a BCA minister. He was first assigned to the Fresno Betsuin and at that time continued his studies at the Institute of Buddhist Studies where he received his Master's Degree in 1976.



Later that year, he enlisted in the U.S. Navy and after serving for four years, he returned to the BCA ministry and was assigned to the Los Angeles Betsuin in 1980. In 1987 Rev. Umezu was assigned to the Buddhist Church of Oakland and in 1996 he was appointed as the Executive Assistant to the Bishop under Bishop Hakubun Watanabe. He was then appointed Director of the Center for Buddhist Education in 2006 by Ogui Socho and on April 1, 2012, he assumed the position as the 14th Bishop of the BCA sangha.

Bishop Umezu is married to the former Janet Teraoka, and together they have three daughters, Amy, Stacy and Michelle.

VESAK DAY 2017**Buddha's Birthday Celebration****Celebration Square 300 City Centre Drive****Mississauga, ON****Sunday, May 28, 2017****Parade: 2:00 p.m.****Program: 3:00 p.m.**

This is a wonderful event that brings together many different sects of Buddhism from around the Greater Toronto area and is an excellent opportunity to meet and interact with fellow Buddhists.

Toronto Buddhist Church has participated in this celebration for many years but we, unfortunately, are not able to take part this year.

For more information, please check the website: www.vesakcelebration.com or on Facebook: www.facebook.com/vesakcelebration

Meditation and Mindfulness with Ray Nakano

Are you suffering from stress?

Have you tried meditation on your own but it hasn't worked?

Would you like to be more mindful in what you say and do every day?

Then, you may want to attend our meditation and mindfulness sessions.

Ray Nakano has facilitated meditation sessions for over 5 years and is leading 2 hour meditation sessions at the Toronto Buddhist Church. You can sit on a chair or a cushion.

Come out and join us!

When: Every Thursday evening from 7 to 9 pm.

Where: Toronto Buddhist Church

A typical 2 hour session includes:

Guided sitting meditation (30 minutes)

Silent walking meditation (10 minutes)

Silent sitting meditation (20 minutes)

Dharma talk

Sangha sharing

Dharma talks are basic Buddhist teachings. Some talks that we have had: the 4 Noble Truths, the Noble Eightfold Path, the 5 Awarenesses.

Sangha sharing is an opportunity for the group to share regarding their mindfulness practice and talk about their experience and any problems or concerns they are having.

If you would like to attend:

Please arrive at least 10 minutes early in order to allow time to "settle in", so the session can begin promptly at 7 pm.

Please turn off your smartphone upon entering the meditation room (the Hondo).

If you have any questions, please contact Reverend Christina Yanko at 416-534-4302 or you can email Ray Nakano at mindfulnesspracticesangha@hotmail.com.

IMPORTANT MESSAGE FROM THE OFFICE

TORONTO BUDDHIST CHURCH gratefully appreciates all donations received.

Due to the strict guidelines set out by the banks, we have been advised that they will be closely monitoring all cheques to be deposited to the church account to ensure that they are made out correctly. They can and will refuse any cheque(s) that are improperly written.

All cheques are to be made out as follows:

Toronto Buddhist Church

Please do not use any short forms such as TBC, T.B.C and especially please **do not use** Toronto Buddhist Temple or TBT.

If you are making a donation to either Dana or Sangha, Guiding Light, Altar Flower Fund, etc. they should be made out to Toronto Buddhist Church with a notation in the memo section as to which organization or fund the donation is to be directed.

We appreciate everyone's co-operation in this matter.

SHARE YOUR CREATIVITY.

The Guiding Light is seeking artists, whether hobbyist or professional, who are willing to show their work on the cover of our monthly newsletter. We have in the past received contributions from many of our Temple members, and most recently Rev. Yoshi. We would love to see pieces of sumie, calligraphy, drawings, photographs etc. which would be suitable for our Buddhist publication.

If you have artwork you'd like to share with the readers of the Guiding Light please send a digital reproduction to:

darlene.rieger28@gmail.com

Guiding Light

Thank you!

The TBC Buyo Group would like to thank the Temple and its congregation for their support of our annual Food and Bento Sale that was held on April 2, 2017. Thank you to our generous benefactors and special thanks for the donations of delicious food items.

TBC Buyo Group

REMINDER TO GUIDING LIGHT SUBSCRIBERS

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 will apply to those receiving the Guiding Light by mail. If you were not a member in 2016 or have not applied for or renewed their membership for 2017 you will no longer receive your Guiding Light after the July/August issue (this has been extended from June as mentioned in the article). The subscription fee will be \$25.00.

If you do not wish to apply for membership but wish to continue to receive a copy of the Guiding Light by mail please make a donation 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

TORONTO BUDDHIST CHURCH MEMBERSHIP DRIVE



REGULAR MEMBERSHIP

- Those wishing to become a Temple member please complete the application form as early as possible at the start of each year
- Membership card will be sent once your signed application and membership fee or your promise to pay the total fee by May 31 have been accepted
- Please note increase in minimum fee in 2017, from \$100 to \$125 per year

HONORARY MEMBERSHIP

- Issued to all members 77 years of age & over
- If already an Honorary Member, simply confirm each year your wish to continue Honorary Membership
- Honorary Members do not need to pay any annual membership fees, although donations are always welcome

Valid from January 1 to December 31 each year

Can't make it to the Temple?

You can submit your application and membership fee online at tbc.on.ca



TORONTO BUDDHIST CHURCH

*a Jodo Shinshu Temple***2017 MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION***In the case of couples, please complete information for each applicant individually.*

Applicant #1 Renewal () New ()		Mr. () Mrs. () Ms. ()
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 2017 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, 2017. By signing this Membership Application I hereby adopt the vow printed on the reverse side of this Application.</p> <p>-----</p>		
Applicant #2 Renewal () New ()		Mr. () Mrs. () Ms. ()
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 2017 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, 2017. By signing this Membership Application I hereby adopt the vow printed on the reverse side of this Application.</p>		

Please note that this application is for membership from January 1, 2017 to December 31, 2017. The Individual Membership Fee for 2017 is a minimum of \$125. 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 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.**

SAVE THE DATE

Were you ever a DANA SCHOLARSHIP recipient
(or know someone who was)?
If so, we want YOU!

When: Sunday, September 24th, 2017

Where: Toronto Buddhist Church
1011 Sheppard Avenue West
Toronto, ON

Why: To celebrate the 50th Anniversary of
the Dana Scholarship!

Please email TBC.scholarship.1967@gmail.com
with your mailing address so we can send you more details!



ANNUAL TBC

PICNIC

JUNE 11 @ 10AM - 6:30 PM

Located at

CAMP GREEN ACRES

11123 Kennedy Road, Markham

(between Elgin Mills Road and 19th Avenue)

ADMISSION

Car and Driver	\$5	Seniors (65+)	Free
Adults (16+)	\$3	Children (15 and under)	Free



**LARGE ACREAGE!
NUMEROUS
FACILITIES!**

Among the amenities are:

- ▶ Picnic tables
- ▶ Baseball diamonds
- ▶ Volleyball areas
- ▶ Biking and hiking trails
- ▶ Large sheltered areas in case of inclement weather
- ▶ Basketball/Tennis courts
- ▶ Soccer fields
- ▶ Mini-golf
- ▶ Large number of bathroom facilities

As this is a Children's Day Camp, there are...

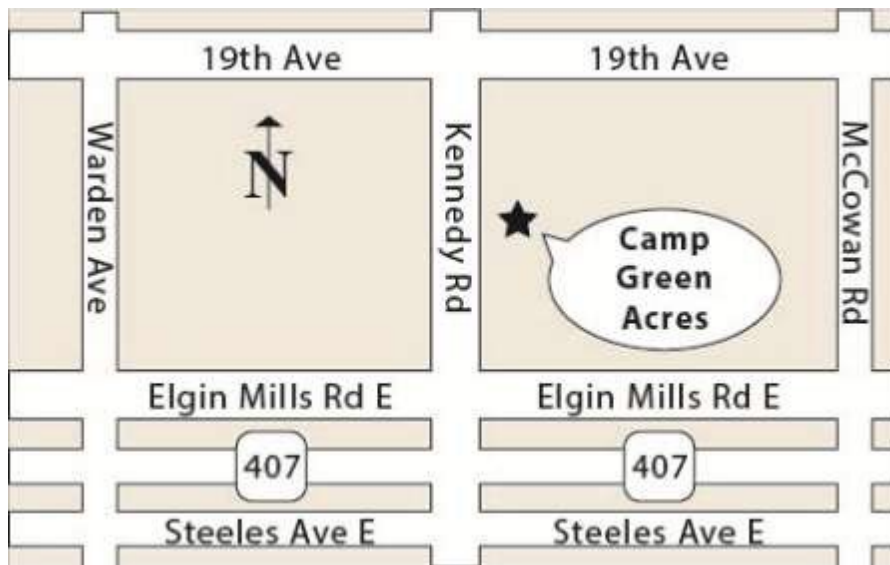
- ▶ NO PETS ALLOWED
- ▶ NO BARBECUES
- ▶ NO INSERTION OF STAKES OR POLES IN THE GROUND
- ▶ NO BALLOONS (FOR THE SAFETY OF THE FARM ANIMALS)
- ▶ NO TOBACCO OR ALCOHOL

We look forward to seeing you at the Annual TBC Picnic!

TBC Annual Picnic
Sunday, June 11, 2017
at Camp Green Acres
11123 Kennedy Road, Markham, ON

Admission fee:	Car and driver	\$5.00
	Adults (16 yrs+)	\$3.00
	Seniors (65 yrs+)	free
	Children (15 yrs and under)	free

10.00am	Gates open
10.30am – 11.30am	Free Time
11.45am – 12 noon	Open Air Service
12 noon – 12.30pm	Free hot dogs
12 noon – 1.00 pm	Lunch
1.00 pm – 2.00 pm	Races and games
2.00pm – 3.00pm	Yoga session with Denise Crofton
3.15pm – 4.15pm	Bingo
4.15pm	Fukubiki
5.00 pm – 6.00 pm	Supper
6.30pm	Clean up and load truck



HELP WANTED

Following the picnic, around 7.30pm, the Picnic Committee is seeking volunteers to help unload the van and put everything away at the Temple.

涼しきうたごえ
夏のカラオケパーティー
Sugushiki Utageo
Natsu no Karaoke Party

**Saturday June 24, 2017
12:00 - 5:00PM
at TBC Social Hall
EVERY ONE WELCOME !!**

**ENKA SONGS ODORI
JACKPOT BINGO
FUN GAMES
MINYO SO- ODORI
OISHII BENTO**

**for tickets please call:
Jessica Nakamura (416) 733-1894
Setsuko Lambeau (416) 225-4747
Kazuko Tsuyuki (905) 897-7942**

**TBC Senior Karaoke Club
Kanagawa Kenjinkai in Support**