



Guiding Light

JANUARY 2018

HAPPY NEW YEAR



YEAR OF THE DOG

TORONTO BUDDHIST CHURCH
a Jodo Shinshu Temple

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

JANUARY 2018

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Please Note: All events marked with an asterisk * are private and <u>not</u> open to the general public Thank You						
	1 NEW YEAR'S DAY SRV 11:00 am and 1:00 pm	2	3 7:00 pm Taiko	4 1:00 pm Buyo	5 7:30 pm Buyo	6 9:30 am *EBL Mtg 11:00 am * Family Memorial
7 MONTHLY MEMORIAL SRV & PIE SALE 10:30 am Kid's Sangha 11:00 am Service 12:30 pm *Dana Mtg 2:00 pm Odorizome	8 10:00 am Morning Svc	9	10 7:00 pm Taiko	11 10:00 am Tai Chi 2:00 pm * Momiji Srv 4:00 pm * Yee Hong Srv 7:00 pm Meditation	12 7:30 pm Buyo	13
14 REGULAR SRV 9:15 am * Management Committee Mtg 10:30 am Kid's Sangha 11:00 am Service 12:30 pm * Board Mtg 12:30 pm * Sangha Mtg Srv in Hamilton	15 10:00 am Morning Srv Sr. Karaoke	16	17 7:00 pm Taiko	18 10:00 am Tai Chi 2:00 pm Castlevew 7:00 pm Meditation	19 7:30 pm Buyo	20 5:00 pm Vegetarian Potluck Dinner 6:30 pm Hoonko Eve Srv
21 HOONKO SRV 11:00 am Service <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;">* TBC AGM 1:00 pm</div>	22 10:00 am Morning Srv Sr. Karaoke	23	24 7:00 pm Taiko	25 10:00 am Tai Chi 7:00 pm Meditation	26 7:30 pm No Buyo	27
28 REGULAR SRV 11:00 am Service 12:30 pm TBC New Year's Social (Shinnenkai) Srv in Montreal	29 10:00 am Morning Svc Sr. Karaoke	30	31 7:00 pm Taiko			

Morning Services are held on the weekdays on Mondays, 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

FEBRUARY 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Please Note: All events marked with an asterisk * are private and not open to the general public.						
				1 10:00 am Tai Chi 7:00 pm Meditation	2 No Buyo	3
4 MONTHLY MEMORIAL Srv & FOOD FEST TBC Board Installation 10:30 am Kid's Sangha 11:00 am Service 12:30 pm *Dana Mtg (Eko)	5 10:00 am Morning Srv Sr. Karaoke	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 REGULAR SRV 9:15 am *Management Committee Mtg 11:00 am Service 12:30 pm *Board of Directors Mtg 12:30 pm *Sangha Mtg (LDC) Service in Hamilton	12 10:00 am Morning Svc Sr. Karaoke	13	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	17
18 NIRVANA DAY SRV & SANGHA DAY 10:30 am Kid's Sangha 11:00 am Service 9:30 am CCOV Mtg 4:00 pm * Family Memorial Svc	19 FAMILY DAY <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;">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
25 REGULAR SERVICE 11:00 am Service	26 10:00 am Morning Svc Sr. Karaoke	27	28 7:00 pm Taiko Workshop			

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

New Year's Greeting

At the beginning of this New Year, I would like to extend my warmest greetings to you.

From October 1, 2016 until this past May 31, the Commemoration on the Accession of the Jodo Shinshu Tradition was conducted at Hongwanji in Kyoto, Japan with attendance of about one hundred fifty thousand people from throughout Japan and our overseas sanghas. Since the days of our founder Shinran Shonin, for nearly 800 years, the Jodo Shinshu teaching has been cherished and carefully handed down to us today by our predecessors. Reflecting on this, I am truly grateful to have been able to recite the Nembutsu together with many of you who took part in the services whether it be in person or through the internet.

Being enabled to hear the working of Amida Buddha's voice calling to us, we become aware of our true self, in which we have the difficulty of accepting things just as they are, and being caught up in our own selfish mindset. That is why it becomes all the more important that we continue to listen to the teaching of Amida. As we appreciate the Buddha's great wisdom and compassion, we are naturally guided to care for and aspire to live together with one another.

In this New Year, let us continue to listen to the teaching while following the Nembutsu path together with everyone.

January 1, 2018
OHTANI Kojun
Monshu
Jodo Shinshu Hongwanji-ha



Akemashite Omedetou Gozaimasu Happy New Year!!!

Happy New Year! It is always a great joy to welcome the New Year.

At this beginning of the year, I would like to extend my deepest appreciation to all who got involved with Temple activities last year. Thank you so much for contributing your time, tireless effort and understanding. May I ask you for your continuing support and helpful guidance throughout 2018.

Do you know the song "Don't Worry Be Happy"? The song was written by Bobby McFerrin. He sings: "Here's a little song I wrote. You might want to sing it note for note. Don't worry. Be happy. In every life we have some



Continued on page 5

Akemashite Omedetou Gozaimasu , continued

trouble. But when you worry you make it double. Don't worry be happy. Don't worry be happy now." When I listen to his song his voice is so gentle. Even if I did not know the lyrics, the song made my mind so calm and happy. Just like the song, when we say "Happy New Year", the words make us feel good and happy.

I am reminded of an old story. Once upon a time, a minister named Rev. Ikkyu was in Kyoto City in Japan. He went around asking people who believed that New Year's Day made everyone happy, whether it was really true?

When people celebrated New Year's Day in Kyoto, everyone went out of their homes and into the City and greeted one another with "Happy New Year". Rev. Ikkyu also walked about in Kyoto City, but his robe was filthy and he carried a human skull in his hand. He showed the skull to everyone.

Rev. Ikkyu was famous in Kyoto, but the people felt uncomfortable when they saw him carrying a skull. They started to whisper that he was becoming crazy. But Rev. Ikkyu ignored all of that..

A little later, he visited a big house and he knocked on the door.

"I am Rev. Ikkyu! I am here!" he shouted. The owner of the house opened the door and invited Rev. Ikkyu in. The owner said, "Oh, Rev. Ikkyu, welcome to my house on New Year's Day. I am so happy." But then the owner became angry when he saw Rev. Ikkyu's awful robe and the skull.

The owner shouted at him, "Today is New Year's Day. Why is your robe so filthy? And, you are carrying a skull. You are making me unhappy!" . Rev. Ikkyu laughed and said "It is true that New Year's Day is a happy time. However, New Year's Day is also a day that reminds each and every one of us that we are getting older. One day we will all become like this skull. House owner, you have so much money and you are keeping all of it for yourself. But you know you will not be able to take the money to the Pure Land. Please share your wealth with the poor people. And behave kindly in this world. " The owner was shocked by Rev. Ikkyu's words, but he became inspired by his message.

So we are in this world in this New Year. We exist at this moment. And we are able to meet face to face and to say "Happy New Year" to one another. And so we are able to share our happiness in this New Year.

Our life is impermanent. I know some lost loved ones last year. That is difficult and sad. But these sad occasions also remind us how lucky we are to be able to spend time with one another today. This is a precious time for us. Let's remind ourselves that every day is a precious time. We should spend time being happy together. It is not always easy. We sometimes forget how fortunate we are for each moment until it is too late. New Year's Day is a reminder for us to value our time together. A reminder that each day is precious and each moment is a gift.

Finally, I would like to share the teaching of Buddha and Amida-Buddha's Vows with you. When I have to leave this world, I will say "Don't Worry Be Happy", because I am sure that Amida-Buddha has been calling me to the Pure Land whenever, wherever and just as I am. And my loved ones are watching over me at all time as I recite and hear the words "Namo Amida Butsu."

In Gassho

Rev. Yoshimichi Ouchi

Happy New Year and Best Wishes

I hope all of you had a peaceful and joyous Holiday Season and especially were able to stay toasty warm during the recent bitter cold spell.

As this will be our last winter in Toronto, I found myself appreciating the season more than I usually do. I became fascinated by the different kinds of snowflakes and the heavy snowfalls covering the roads and sidewalks and trees and parks with a heavy blanket of beautiful white. In past winters, a heavy snowfall might have given me feelings of dread. But this year has been much different.

When Dave's rental car spun its wheels the other day trying to make it up Bathurst Street I found myself laughing. I ordered my helpless California-born husband to pull over and let me drive. After all, I was from Alberta where snow is everybody's best friend. I used all the tricks...pumping the gas, driving along the side so that I could get more traction, jiggling up and down in the car seats. It all worked for the most part, but we still needed some help. A very kind stranger braved the storm and came to the rescue. Together with my husband they used all their strength to push our car over the hilly, slippery spots.

When I first came to this Temple I was so uneasy. I was nervous and self-conscious. I felt like I had to be the best at everything right from the start. It was almost overwhelming, but I knew I would try my hardest. I made many mistakes. So many times when I tried so hard to get to the top of a hill, I felt myself sliding backwards. But every time I slid backwards someone from our Temple would get behind me and push me back up.

Now it is time for me to step down as the resident minister here and although this departure is a sad one, I also feel tremendously grateful. Thank you for looking after me and my family. Thank you for being patient with me and for being kind and caring. Thank you for always pushing me up to the top of that hill.

Although the foreseeable future will be difficult in the Eastern District of our Kyoudan with Rev. Yoshimichi Ouchi being the only Kaikyoushi, you are fortunate to have such a vibrant, intelligent and dedicated minister to guide you. When Rev. Ouchi came to our Temple he brightened up every single one of my days with his light-hearted approach and deep devotion. I know you will look after him as you did me.

In the coming days you may occasionally see me at service as my U.S. Immigration status is still being processed. This also means that as of yet I do not have a forwarding address. Therefore, for the time being if you would like to get in touch with me please feel comfortable to email me at christinayanko@hotmail.com. As soon as we are able to secure a permanent address I will let you know.



Happy New Year! Akemashite Omedetou Gozaimasu!

Well, it's that special time of year again when we transition from one year into a new year.

I have always felt that this was a very special time of year for me. It has been a special time for me because it always meant that two pretty amazing things happen during this period.

First, it allows me time to conduct my own year in review. It is a time when I can reflect back on all the highs and lows of the year just passed. There is a lot which can happen in each of the 365 days during the past year. This review allows me the opportunity to remember moments of joy, peace, happiness, love, caring, compassion, elation, gratitude and a wide array of emotions and feelings which run the entire spectrum of all good things. It also provides a rear view mirror on things like sadness, failures, unhappy moments, hostile actions, terrorism, war, loss of loved ones and the entire spectrum of many less desirable things. In short, a unique blend of Yin and Yang.

Secondly, this is a time of year when I can, in my own mind, look into a crystal ball as to what might become in the next 365 days ahead in the new year. Unlike a realistic look and review of what actually occurred in real life during the last year, the future takes on a more hopeful wish or determination in shaping the next upcoming year ahead. It's a time when we can hope and fantasize what could happen in a full slate of the next 365 days which await us.

For instance, if I wanted to target to personally lose a total of 18 pounds over the course of the next year, I might justify to myself that I could lose the 18 pounds in weight if I only lost a mere one and a half pounds each month. This sounds doable and possible, right? Unfortunately for me, it usually means that going into the 12th month, I still have a shot at reaching my predetermined total target weight loss of 18 pounds if I could only lose the 18 pounds in the final month of December.

For me, what is more realistic and attainable is wishing that during the next year our temple and wonderful sangha community continues to grow in wisdom, in peace, in harmony and in the ability to spread and share the wonderful Buddha Dharma Teachings which have been thankfully passed down and transmitted to us by our Ministers, Ministerial Assistants and Dharma Lay Leaders. To me, this is more achievable and attainable because, together, we are infinitely stronger as a group and as a community which shares not only in the workload but also in the harvest of all good things which come about because of our joint efforts, care and concern for the whole and not just the parts.

My wish for the new year of 2018 is simply for our Temple members and supporters to keep on caring about each other. If we can continue to show care and concern for each other, then these simple acts of kindness can take our Otera a really long way.

Kotoshi mo yoroshiku onegaishimasu. I will continue to count on all of you to do your part in acting in the best interests of each other and in our Temple. Many thanks, appreciation and gratitude are extended for all the positive contributions which each of you have made to our Otera over the course of the last year and with hopes of another wonderful year ahead of us.

With Gratitude and in Gassho,

Larry Wakisaka
Toronto Buddhist Church



FOODFEST - SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 4TH, 2018

The Dana and Shin Fujinkai will be holding their Annual Foodfest on Sunday, February 4th, 2018, the proceeds from which will be used to support the JSBTC Women's Federation Outreach Program.

Donations of any food items, such as homemade preserves, jams, fukujinzuke, pickles, homemade senbei, makisushi, sekihan, inari sushi, chiraishi sushi, manjus, pastries and of course, any items that can be used in our bento boxes would be greatly appreciated.

Please bring items for the Foodfest to the temple before 9 am on February 4th so that they can be packaged and sold following the service.

THANK YOU!

TBC Coordinating Committee of Volunteers (CCOV)

On December 17, 2017 the congregation held a Farewell Potluck Luncheon for the Yanko-Ringle family. (Unfortunately, Dave was unable to join us.) **19 members** of CCOV Team 4 (co-captains Jessie Ebata and Susan Ebisuzaki) plus friends did a great job in preparing and setting out the food contributions as well as looking after the clean up. Thank you Team 4!

On January 28, we will be having our annual New Year's Social. CCOV Team 5 (co-captains Kathy Wani and Hamako Yoshida) will be organizing the potluck luncheon for this event.

We are happy to welcome any new volunteers who would like to join us. Please contact Darlene Rieger or Dawn Anzai or leave a message at the temple office and we will get in touch with you as soon as we can.

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

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.

Mrs. Sumiko Wakisaka 91 yrs December 3, 2017

Ms. Nina Doucette 64 yrs December 14, 2017





Guest Speaker

Sunday January 14, 2018

Rev. Dr. Ryo Imamura

Ryo Sensei is a retired Hawaiian and BCA minister and professor living in Toronto who has kindly volunteered to help at our temple. Ryo Sensei comes from a long line of ministers on both sides of his family - his father served as Bishop in Hawaii (1967-74), one of his grandfathers was also Bishop of Hawaii (1900-32) and his other grandfather was a strong pioneering minister in the BCA . Ryo Sensei, his father and grandfathers have a background in innovation and were in the forefront of the development of the BCA and the Hawaiian Kyodans (overseas districts of Hongwanji). Many of the children’s gathas which we sing were composed by Ryo’s mother, Jane Imamura . Former Bishop of Canada Rev. Newton and Mary Ishiura were Ryo’s uncle and aunt.

Ryo Sensei’s academic specialty is in East-West Psychology with an emphasis on Buddhist thought and practice and he was also a clinical psychologist in California prior to his professorial and research career at Evergreen State College in Washington State. Ryo Sensei and his wife, Tery, are now settled in Toronto where they both have family and hope to be more active in the Buddhist community in Toronto.

Ryo Sensei will be leading our service on Sunday January 14th while Rev. Yoshi is in Hamilton.



Sangha Board of Directors

Name	Position	Name	Position
Cary Kataoka	President	Kunio Suyama	Special Projects
Nobby Shiraishi	Past President	Sid Ikeda	Publicity
Dennis Madokoro	Treasurer	Phil Miller	Publicity
Ron Shimizu	Secretary	George Nakano	Religion Education
Martin Cartledge	Social	Mas Matsuyama	Membership
Fred Kotani	Welfare	Toku Suyama	Director
Aki Ikebata	Special Projects	Mits Sumiya	Advisor
Richard Goto	Board Member	Jordan Freeman	Board Member

****NEW** Memorial (Shotsuki) Listing for the Month of February**

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 February. All are invited and welcome to attend.

AMANO, Tojiro
AMANO-O'SHEA, Karen Akemi
ARIZA, Riku
ARIZA, Takeru
DOI, Terrie Teruya
EBATA, Nami
EDAMURA, Kane
DRYGAS, Ronald Walter
FUJITA, Shigeo
FUJIWARA, Douglas Tetsumori
FUKUSHIMA, Hanae
FURUYA, Isamu
HAMA, Hirokichi
HAO, Yoshitada
HARADA, Mitsuru
HATANAKA, Sally Sachiko
HAYASHI, Frank
HAYASHI, Genichiro George
HAYASHI, Yoshiye
HAYASHI, Yoshio
HIDAKA, Tsuyoshi
HIKIDA, Toyoko
HIROSE, Masayuki
HONKAWA, Kise
TSUCHIDA, Suejiro
HOSAKI, Takeko Eileen
HYUGA, Hisatoshi
IGARASHI, Shigeru
INATA, Ei
IWAMOTO, Yuri
IWASAKI, Kiyoshi Henry
KAMADA, Denroku
KAMINO, Atsumu
KASHINO, Wai
KATO, Saju
KAWABATA, Sayono
KAWABATA, Tobei
KAWAGUCHI, Hanaye
KAWAGUCHI, Kanetaro

KINOSHITA, Raisuke
KISHIBE, Aki
KOBO, Takayo
KOMATSU, Sakaye
KONDO, Tohachiro
KONDO, Tomekichi
KONDO, Tsune
KONDO, Zenshiro
KONO, Itoyo
KOZAI, Sute
KUBOTA, Hide
KUSANO, Tsurukichi
MAEMURA, Ritsu
MAEMURA, Ritsu
MASUDA, Yasuo
MATSUDA, Yoshimi
MATSUSHITA, Tatsumi
MENDE, Masuno
MINEMOTO, Hisako
MIYAGAWA, Yoshiko
MIYANISHI, Toyozo
MIYASAKI, Harryn Juichi
MIZUNO, Fumiyo
MIZUTANI, Tsuneichi, Harold
MIZUYABU, Yonekichi
MORI, Sumi
MURAKAMI, Yukimi
MURANAKA, James Kinsuke
NAGAO, Moyo
NAKAMURA, Genroku
NAKAMURA, Sumi
NAKATA, Kimi
NAKATSU, Kimiko
NISHI, Hanae
NISHIKAWA, Shoji
KANSHIRO, Harry Kanshiro
NISHIMURA, Riyeko Frances
NISHIMURA, Seitaro
NISHIZAKI, Barry Jon Yoshio

OGATA, Sakae
OHASHI, Mitsuo William
OMORI, Isamu
OMOTO, Tatsuya
RYUJIN, Isamu
SAITO, Harry Hiromitsu
SAKAGUCHI, Shizue
SARUYAMA, Lucy
SASAKI, Tokubei
SHIMIZU, Asato
SHIMODA, Clara Shizue
SHIOZAKI, Akira
SHISHIDO, George Tetsuto
SHOJI, Gin
SUGIMOTO, Itsuno
SUMIYA, Chikayoshi
SUYAMA, Tei
TAMAKI, Mitsuko
TAKAOKA, Hideo
TANAKA, Itsuo
TEHARA, Chiyo
TERAKITA, Mitsuo
TSUCHIDA, Suejiro
TSUJI, Donald Akira
TSUJI, Edward
TSUJI, Etsuko
TSUJI, Toshiro Roy
TSUKAMOTO, Masato
TSURUOKA, Mas Masaaki
URA, Tsutomu
UYEDA, Toshihiro
WATANABE, Haruno
WATANABE, Sumiye
YAHIRO, Kin
YAMAMOTO, Yasue
YAMASHITA, Yoshiko
YASUI, Toshie
YOSHIDA, Kanjiro & Chika
YOSHIDA, Natsu

Happy New Year

謹賀新年



Dawn, Toshi, Crystal and Emi2 Anzai

Wishing you all the best in 2018

Toivo & Pauline Knude

Dianne Ishida and Mochi

Wishing family and friends a peaceful, harmonious and happy 2018!

Happy 2018!

George and Emi Nakano

Naomi Tamaki

Harry and Helen Tetaka

Donna Yumi and Jessica

Happy New Year

Larry and Amy Wakisaka

All the best for 2018!

Darlene Rieger

Tin Goto

Diane Mark

Pamela Yoshida

Tomoko Yoshida

Eishiro Higo

Tad Takeda

Mrs. Yoshiko Tanaka

Rev. Christina Yanko

Rev. Yoshimichi Ouchi



HAPPY NEW YEAR

AKEMASHITE OMEDETOU GOZAIMASU

明けましておめでとうございます

CALLING ALL SANGHA KIDS!



IT'S A NEW YEAR AND KIDS SANGHA IS OFF TO A GREAT START. LET'S CONTINUE OUR JANUARY THEME

“WISDOM”.



JANUARY 21 – COOKING ACTIVITY

HAVE YOU EVER WONDERED WHAT “HOONKO” MEANS? COME AND LEARN ABOUT THIS SPECIAL MEMORIAL FOR SHINRAN SHONIN AS WE RECALL AND APPRECIATE HIM.

DISCUSS THE UPCOMING EVENT KEIROKAI (A YEARLY EVENT HONOURING OUR SENIOR MEMBERS) ON MARCH 18, 2018. AS A GROUP, LET'S COME UP WITH IDEAS FOR THIS SPECIAL EVENT.



FEBRUARY'S THEME : KSANTI – TOLERANCE

FEBRUARY 4, 2018 – KIDS SANGHA OLYMPICS

PUT YOUR SNEAKERS ON AND GET READY FOR SOME FUN AS YOU RUN AND JUMP WITH YOUR FRIENDS, PLAYING SOME AWESOME AND CHALLENGING GAMES.

CONTINUE TO DISCUSS AND MAKE PLANS FOR THE UPCOMING KEIROKAI



FEBRUARY 18, 2018 – FAMILY DAY AND CRAFTS

LEARN ALL ABOUT NIRVANA DAY

CRAFTS

CONTINUE WORKING ON PLANS FOR KEIROKAI NEXT MONTH – MARCH 18

WE HOPE TO SEE YOU ALL THERE. EVERYONE IS WELCOME.

JESS, YUMI, ABAGAIL, RACHEL, DENISE AND NAOMI

NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE MEMBERS OF TORONTO BUDDHIST CHURCH

Date: **Sunday, January 21, 2018**

Time: **1:00 pm following the morning service and a light lunch**

Place: **Temple Social Hall**

The Board of Directors of Toronto Buddhist Church wishes to notify all members of the Annual General Meeting of Members which will be held at the time, date and place set out above, and cordially invites all members to attend and vote on the matters raised at the Meeting. The following matters will be raised at the Meeting:

1. Approval of the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on Sunday, January 22, 2017;
2. Presentation of Financial Statements of the Temple for the year ended October 31, 2017;
3. Consideration and approval of the Budget for the year ending October 31, 2018;
4. Election of Directors;
5. Consideration and approval of an increase in TBC Membership fees of \$5 for the calendar year 2018.

Such other business as may properly come before the Meeting.

Please note that while attendance at the Meeting is open to all friends of the Temple, **only members of the Temple will receive a package of reports and will be entitled to speak and vote on any matters coming before the meeting.** A member of the Temple is

(a) one who has been designated by the Temple as an honorary member, or (b) an individual whose written application for membership has been accepted and who has paid his or her membership fee for 2017.

BY ORDER OF THE BOARD

NEW YEAR'S GREETINGS FROM TBC DANA

On behalf of TBC Dana, we wish everyone a very happy and healthy New Year for 2018. We have had a very busy year again raising funds for the JSBTC Women's Federation Outreach Program and also helping with our support for the annual TBC Bazaar.

We hope to continue to participate and support in the many temple activities as much as possible in 2018.

In Gassho,

Jessie Ebata, President, TBC Dana

Founder's Memorial (Ho-Onko) Weekend

January 20 & 21st, 2018

Ho-Onko or Founder's Memorial is one of the most important occasions observed in the Jodo Shinshu Buddhist tradition where we observe and honour the memorial of the passing of our founder Shinran Shonin.



We celebrate throughout the weekend of January 20th and 21st.

On Saturday January 20th we have a vegetarian potluck dinner in which everyone brings a vegetarian dish to share. Please come for 4:30pm so we have time to set up your contribution for dinner at 5:00pm, followed by a special Ho-Onko Eve Service at 6:30pm and a celebratory bowl of zenzai (sweet red bean soup).

On Sunday January 21st at 11:00am we have the regular Ho-Onko or Founder's Memorial Service. Shinran was a rebel monk in the sense that he brought the Dharma (Buddha's Teachings) out of the monastery to the common people during a time of great political turmoil, social unrest and violence. He introduced Buddhism to everyone regardless of class or intellect as a way for all to attain peace and happiness. Please join us in honouring our Founder and his struggle to deliver Buddha's Teachings to all of us.

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 18th 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.

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

NOTE: WE WILL RESUME CLASSES JANUARY 11, 2018

Toronto Buddhist Church Spring Higan and Keirokai

Sunday, March 18, 2018

On Sunday March 18th 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 4th, 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): _____

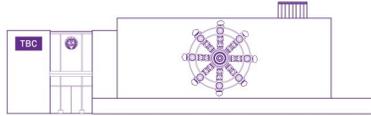
Address: _____

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.

**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.

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: dy/mm/year: _____
First Name: _____		Email: _____
Address: _____		Phone: _____
City: _____		Signature: _____
Prov: _____ Postal Code: _____		
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 May 31, 2018 . 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 _____		

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: dy/mm/year: _____
First Name: _____		Email: _____
Address: _____		Phone: _____
City: _____		Signature: _____
Prov. _____ Postal Code: _____		
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 May 31, 2018 . 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



TBC New Year's Social

Sunday, January 28, 2018
following the morning service

Bring your favourite dish for the potluck luncheon.

There will be a short entertainment programme,
door prizes & bingo.

Donations are welcome!