



Guiding Light

October 2020



Nishi Hongwanji by Andrew Allan, Jpn/Flickr

TORONTO BUDDHIST CHURCH *a Jodo Shinshu Temple*

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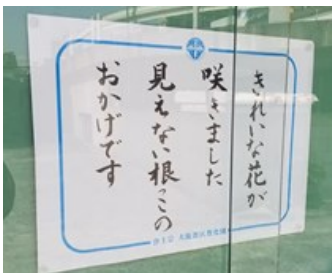
2020 JSBTC Day Message from the Office of the Bishop

The first recorded assembly of Japanese Buddhists living in Canada took place in Vancouver in 1904. Fourteen Buddhists met to request a minister from Nishi Hongwanji (our mother temple), in Kyoto, Japan. Rev. Senju Sasaki, appointed as a *Kaikyoshi* (overseas minister) arrived in Vancouver with his wife, Tomie on October 12th, 1905. With the minister's arrival, the local Buddhists formed the Vancouver Nihon Bukkyo-kai (Japanese Buddhist Association) and 116 years ago our history began.

I would like to express my most sincere appreciation to all the Jodo Shinshu Temples of Canada (JSBTC), temple ministers, assistant ministers, the national board of directors, and all temple members and non-members for keeping our organization active and accessible; for working tirelessly for the sake of our temples, for all the members, and the community at large. May I ask for your continued support to our ministers and directors.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, I started walking and running every morning, and in the process I lost 11 pounds. As I go to do my daily exercise outside, I notice the daylight is getting shorter, the air is getting cooler, and the leaves are starting to change colour. When I observe the transition of nature and the change in myself, it reminds me of the Buddhist teaching of impermanence.

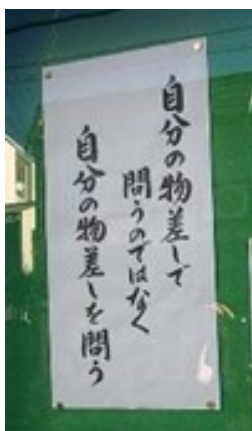
When I was studying and living in Kyoto, I didn't have a car. I took public transit and walked every day. While walking, I enjoyed reading bulletin boards at the front entrance of temples. The bulletins usually had a Buddhist quotation, and even though those quotes are very short, they were telling many teachings. I would like to share some of them with you.



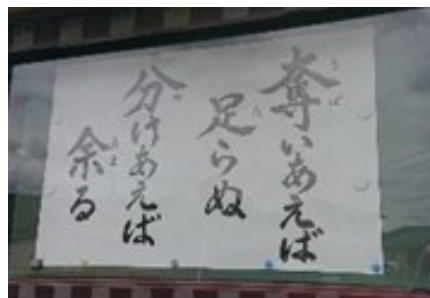
*"Beautiful flowers
have Bloomed!
Because of the
roots we do not*



*"It is already half full,
It is still only half full,
Depending on your way of
thinking."*



*"We should not question
using our judgement.
We should question our
judgement*



*"When we plunder there
is not enough
When we share, there is
enough"*

In gassho,

Tatsuya Aoki, Bishop

Jodo Shinshu Buddhist Temples of Canada

A Time for Rejuvenation

It has been six months since we have been able to meet at the Temple. As many of us have serious health issues, it may be a while before we can come to the Temple to greet our friends in person. We had hoped that Rev. Ouchi would be "back to work" but his paperwork is still waiting to be processed as we have been told that Immigration is working with critical staff only.

Sadly, during this time, we have lost members of our Temple family. The COVID-19 pandemic has affected families, businesses, schools and our health. The pandemic has made us stop, rethink and revise how we do things.

You will see many changes at the Temple. With new Ontario government protocols designed to safeguard us, there is physical distancing, 30% capacity restriction of any room, keeping attendance records, wearing of face coverings, completion of health questionnaires, hand sanitizing, signing up to attend services at the Temple, enhanced cleaning and disinfecting to name a few. As a result, services needed to be modified, classes and meetings cancelled and areas of the Temple closed. Many thanks to Donna Nakano and Paul Aoki, our Religion co-chairs for organizing the Temple reopening and organizing the services.

Sunday, September 13, 2020, was not our normal Rally Sunday. For the Temple reopening, a small group of dedicated volunteers greeted and introduced attendees to the new protocols at the Temple. The service was also our first "official" live stream service. Thank you to Jeff Wilson Sensei, Joanne Yuasa Sensei and all of our volunteers who made this possible.

With the restrictions for gatherings, reluctantly we will be cancelling our November bazaar. New fundraising ideas are being discussed and will be announced in the near future. Celebrations for TBC's 75th anniversary are also on hold.

You will notice that the office door has been converted to a Dutch door (split door). Our office staff has health issues and we have had to restrict access to the office area.

Although many of us dislike change, the pandemic has made us rethink how we live our lives. If we are working, we may be working from home. We have had to restrict our "social bubble" and unable to see family and friends. We have also had to change the way we shop. On a more positive note, we are able to spend more time at home with family. There is less traffic and air pollution. We are also finally able to make the changes that we had thought and planned a while ago. We have learned not to take things for granted and to be more appreciative. During these extraordinary times, we need to realize and accept that there is a new "normal" that comes with many "bumps in the road".

This year has resulted in a significant decrease in memberships and donations. Please renew your membership and if you are able, donate to Toronto Buddhist Church.

Thank you to all for your patience and understanding.

Dawn Anzai

President, Toronto Buddhist Church



NEED A MASK FOR THE OCCASION?

*We have a variety of Japanese Print Cotton Masks
for sale at the temple.*

Lovingly made and generously donated by our members

Joanne Omori and Naomi Tamaki

THANK YOU JOANNE AND NAOMI

\$10.00 EA. OR 3 FOR \$25.00



UPCOMING SERVICES

Service Date	On Naijin	Occasion
October 4, 2020	Joanne/Jeff	October Shotsuki Memorial
October 11, 2020	Joanne/Dennis	October Shotsuki Memorial
October 18, 2020	Joanne/Dennis	JSBTC DAY Service
October 25, 2020	Joanne/Jeff	October Shotsuki Memorial
November 1, 2020	Joanne/Jeff	November Shotsuki Memorial
November 8, 2020	Joanne/Dennis	November Shotsuki Memorial
November 15, 2020	Joanne/Jeff	Eitaikyo Service
November 22, 2020	Joanne/Dennis	November Shotsuki Memorial
November 29, 2020	Joanne/Jeff	Shotsuki or Regular Service?



Even Though My Loved One Has Gone

Time is a funny thing. One day last month, I decided to pass the time by watching Netflix, but I didn't know what I wanted to watch. I started looking at different titles and descriptions, but I just couldn't choose. Before I knew it, an hour and 30 minutes had passed, and I still hadn't made a decision! But where did the time go? I was so tired from just trying to choose something, that I gave up watching TV all together. It was such a waste of time!

A second is always a second, but I am certain that sometimes it is shorter, and at other times longer. (Like in high school history class when I could look at the clock after what felt like forever, but the minute hand hadn't even moved.)

Last week, I received an email from a temple member who lost her husband last year. In that email, she remarked that after her husband passed away, at first, she felt as though the days went by so slowly. However, in time, she started to feel as if each day was flying by so quickly, so she was surprised that her husband's 1st year memorial service was coming up so soon. Time is funny. Its value is fixed, but depending on our situation, it can seem so much longer or shorter and we can spend it so carefully or waste it. But when I read her email, I was reminded that at some moments in our lives we feel the need for time to go by quickly, especially when we have lost loved ones, because we wish time to move quickly to help us get through a difficult time or period. However, at the same time, we worry that time is going by too quickly, and that we are moving too far away from our lost loved ones and our treasured memories. We worry that



Even Though My Loved One Has Gone, continued

we will forget our loved ones and lose them as their memories fade. But, in Shin-Buddhism, we never lose those memories even though we feel the days are going by quickly. One minister said:

Even if our loved ones pass away, their smile won't be gone.

Even if our loved ones pass away, their words won't be gone.

Even if our loved ones pass away, their warm heart won't be gone.

Even if our loved ones pass away, they won't leave from me. They always come back into my Gassho by placing our hands together.

Actually, this year will be my grandmother's 7th year memorial. I had lived with her growing up since I was born. She taught me very important things about life. She worried about me a lot and often had to get upset with me.

When I was a high school student, I usually went out with my friends until midnight. Sometimes, I would come back home really late. I would tiptoe into the house so slowly and quietly, but somehow my grandmother always heard my footsteps and would suddenly be standing in front of me. I was always surprised, because I never heard her footsteps. She got angry with me many times. At that time, I felt annoyed by her worries. However, now I understand that her anxiety came from her kindness and warm heart. Now whenever I hold a memorial service for someone's grandmother, I usually recall memories of my grandmother. I cannot see her existence, but I feel her warm heart as it comes back into my Gassho with the voice of Namo Amida Butsu.

Today, many people have an interest in the teachings of the Buddha. They know Buddhist members are always doing Gassho. However, have you ever thought about why you do Gassho? For some members, the first time they do Gassho from the bottom of their heart is when they have lost a loved one. The same is true of me. When I was growing up in the family temple, I did Gassho without thinking. But when I lost my grandmother, I placed my hands together from the bottom of my heart, and I said "Namo Amida Butsu". It seems easy to place our hands together, but actually, it is quite difficult.

The woman who emailed me last week, she started coming to the temple with her family after her husband's death. I believe they encountered Buddhism through the loss of her husband. In Shin-Buddhism, we believe our loved ones give us the great opportunity to do Gassho and to say "Namo Amida Butsu" in the temple.

This opportunity is made by Amida Buddha's great compassion. He established great vows for all sentient beings and attained perfect enlightenment. Our loved ones connect us to Buddhism, and Amida Buddha connects us to our loved ones. So, we can meet our loved ones again when we do Gassho, even though we cannot see their existence, through saying "Namo Amida Butsu".

Time will march on, however slowly or quickly, it will pass. We will make many new experiences throughout our lives, and our memory will inevitably fade away. However, we do not need to fight time, because our treasured memories of loved ones and their warm hearts will always come back into our Gassho.

Namo Amida Butsu

Yoshimichi Ouchi

* * CORRECTION * *

Memorial (Shotsuki) Listing for the month of October

To the following families, please accept our apologies for the omission of your loved ones names in the September newsletter on page # 4.

In Gassho, Toronto Buddhist Church

Tanaka, Hisao

Tanino, Eikichi

Tohana, Sachiko Ruby

Tanaka, Juhei

Tanino, Kenneth Susumu

Toyonaga, Matsuko

Tanaka, Thomas Sanya

Tatebe, Joyce

Tanaka, Yaye

Teshima, George Yukio

Memorial (Shotsuki) Listing for the Month of November

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. During the pandemic we will be holding 3 shotsuki service each month. See the listing of service at the beginning of the Guiding Light

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 November. All are invited and welcome to attend.

ABO , Tazuko	ITO , Denjiro	KOYATA , Betty Setsuko	NAKATA , Soichi
AZUMA , Kay Kikue	ITO , Junji George	KUSANO , Tsuyo	NAKATSU , Eiichi Ronald
BABA , George Seiichi	IZUKAWA , Kumiko Joyce	KUMABE , Shina	NAKATSU , Mitsue
EBISUZAKI , Kojiro	KAMADA , Mary Mariko	MASUDA , Ryohei	NISHI , Aiko
FUJIMOTO , Shigetaro	KAMINO , Hana	MATSUBA , Seiichi	NISHI , Kazuo
FUJIMOTO , Noboru Nick	KAMINO , Tamio Tom	MATSUBA , Shizuo Samuel	NISHIKAWA , Jisaburo
FUKAKUSA , Katsuya	KANDA , Yoshio George	MATSUBAYASHI , Heijir	NISHIKAWA , Koma
FUKAKUSA , Sakae	KASHINO , Tetsuji	MATSUHARA , Yaku	NISHIKAWA , Takashi
FUKUZAWA , Okujiro	KASHINO , Keiko	MATSUMOTO , Hidekaz-	NISHIMURA , Hatsue Hatty
GYOTOKU , Mary Fumie	KAWABATA , Bunjiro	MATSUMOTO , Hidezo	NISHINO , Yoshio
HAKODA , Yutaka Richard	KAWABATA , Fumio	MATSUMOTO , Kazuo	NODA , Kikuno
HARADA , Osamu	Ross	MATSUMURA , Fumiko	NODA , Sumie
HARADA , Yoshiko	KAWAGUCHI , Stanley	MATSUSHITA , Mineko	ODA , Tome
HARUTA , Toshi	Mamoru	MATSUYAMA , Soyo	OHASHI , Leslie Anne
HASHIMOTO , Koto	KAWANO , Katsumi &	MINAKATA , Kiyokazu	Kiyoko
HASHIMOTO , Naojiro	Matsuyo	MITSUKI , Kotaro	OHYAMA , Murae
HAYASHI , Doug	KAWASAKI , Allen	MIWA , Tami	OKAWA , Fumi
HAYASHI , Mitsuko	KAWASAKI , Shigeo	MIYAUCHI , Tsuruko	OMORO , Frank Kiyoshi
HAYASHI , Yosoya	KAYAMA , Yotaro	MIYAZAKI , Katsumi Joe	ONISHI , Emiko Amy
HEIKE , Muneharu	KIKUTA , Miyako	MIYAZAKI , Namiye	OTSU , Mikiko
HIGASHI , Natsuyo	KISHIMOTO , Ko	MORISHITA , Matsutaro	OYAMA , George Shigeiki
HIRANO , Harue	KISHIMOTO , Sydney	MURABAYASHI , Lloyd	OYAMA , Iwao William
HIZAKA , Kazukiyo	Seichi	Eikichi	SAMESHIMA , Tomio
HORI , Fusae Ann	KISHIMOTO , Yuichi	MURAI , Masazo	SAWADA , Tome
HORI , George	KITAMURA , Shinzo	NAGAMATSU , Joan	SAWADA , John Minoru
IBUKI , Masaji	KIYONAGA , Aki	Shimako	SEKO , Hatsuko
ICHII , Masa	KOBAYASHI , Shige	NAGAO , Kanezo	SERA , Toyojiro
IIDA , Kii	KODAMA , Fumiye June	NAGAO , Tadashi	SHIBATA , Magoji
IKEDA , Masao	KOHARA , Wakajiro	NAKAGAWA , Phyllis	SHIKATANI , Tasajiro
IKEDA , Michiyo	KONDO , Alice Ayako	NAKAGAWA , Shigeo	
ISEKI , Mitsugu	KONDO , Shizue	NAKAGAWA , Sute	
ISHII , Kazuo	KONO , Kosetsu	NAKAGAWA , Toshie	
ISOKI , Shunichi William	KOYANAGI , Harry Yukio	NAKAGAWA , Ruby Ayako	
		NAKAMURA , Minoru	
		NAKAMURA , Yukio	

Continued on page 7

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

SHIMIZU, Mary	TAHATA, Dorothy Toshiko	TERADA, Yoshio	WAKIDA, Iwamatsu
SHINYA, Kitayo	TAKAHASHI, Sae	TERASHITA, Kiyoshi	WALSH, Teagan Carroll
SHISHIDO, Akira	TAKAHASHI, Shoji	TESHIMA, Sashiro	YAMAMOTO, Kyoko
SPRATLEY, Sheila Jane Mary	TAKASAKI, Wataru	TOKI, Yoshiaki Rick	YAMASHITA, Mitoru
SUGAMORI, Yae	TAKENAKA, Toni Isamu	TSUJI, Ichijiro	YONEYAMA, Sumi
SUZUKI, Osamu	TAKENO, Peggy Chitose	TSUKADA, Roy Iwao	YOSHIDA, Jack Masao
TABATA, Denbei	TANAKA, Miki	TSUSHIMA, Chuzo	
TABATA, Yoshio	TANOUE, Kazumi	UYEDE, Akiko	
TAHARA, Moichi	TATEBE, Yae	UYENO, Kinu	
		UYENO, Shigeko	

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.

If we have missed any names, please notify the Temple office so that we may update our records.

Thank You and take care

Ms. Yoko Kobayashi	81 yrs.	August 21, 2020	Mr. Teruya Kobayashi	45 yrs.	August 25, 2020
Mrs. Yoshiko Tanaka	95 yrs.	August 25, 2020	Mrs. Fujiko Konishi	99 yrs.	August 27, 2020

**CALLING ALL SANGHA KIDS**

At this time, Kids Sangha will remain temporarily closed.

Although we have all been living following new guidelines over the past few months, the summer was not a total loss. Abigail organized and ran a very successful virtual Camp Lumbini, themed "Self Meditation". I think this theme was appropriate, as we all have had more time to think and reflect on different things. Thank you Abigail and your helpers who made the 8 campers who attended, very happy.



As you continue with our school studies, whether they are in class or virtually, I hope you will all continue to stay healthy and safe.

Further communications and updates will be in the Guiding Light and the TBC website.

With gratitude,

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



KIDS SANGHA VIRTUAL CAMP LUMBINI

After the lockdown of Ontario, it was saddening to hear that the temple was shut down as well. Of course, it was understandable for the safety of everyone at the temple and all of our members, but that meant that many of our beloved events were cancelled until September. Family banquet, Hanamatsuri, Father's Day picnic, Ohakamairi, Obon, and camp Lumbini. To me, and the other youth organizers, we felt that it was very unfortunate that camp Lumbini was cancelled, as we believe that camp is such a vital part of keeping the youth together and active with the temple. As time had gone by, virtual meetings were starting to become normalized and easier to access for everyone, so we had the idea to try to run virtual camp Lumbini.

During mid-July we had sent out emails to the parents, inviting them to join us for virtual camp. We gathered some volunteers and started to get activity kits together for the kids to prepare for camp. Once our kits were together, our volunteers helped us deliver these kits to each family, and it was also a nice way to drop by and say hello to our fellow temple members, remembering physical distancing of course.

Our theme this year was self-meditation. We decided that it would be good to make the best out of this quarantine and get the kids to do some deep contemplation. We asked them to take some time, do some meditation and think about what they wanted to accomplish that week. At the end of the week, they would be showcasing their work as our usual Friday variety show. I told them they could do anything from playing piano, reviewing a book to us, or sports tricks. The week of our camp ran on August 3rd, 5th, and 7th, as we had to work around summer programs, work schedules, and other various factors. Our sessions ran roughly 2-3 hours.

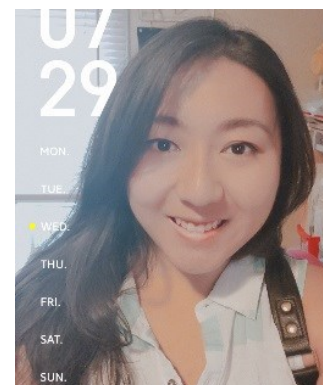
Each session started with service. I had sent everyone a digital copy of our service book, so we had our chanting, gathas, and dharma talks. My brother, Joaquin, and I did the dharma talks through the week. We coordinated them to help guide the campers in this week of self-meditation. We talked about the different components of what it is to self-meditate. First, there is taking time for yourself. Doing a self-assessment. How do you feel physically, emotionally, and mentally? What do you want to accomplish? What would you like to improve, and what are the steps to improvement? Second, Joaquin talked about self-discipline. Keeping a schedule or a routine in order for you to accomplish your goals. Third, we discussed self-reflection/self-appreciation. When you are working on your goal you need to sometimes take breaks and look at how far you have gone since you started to your goal. Reminding the kids that it's not always about the ending result, but about the progress and how far they have gotten since they started.

After our services, we did various activities. The first session, after service we socialized with the kids giving us the time to catch up and socialize. After things had settled down we went on to our shirt decorating. We used fabric paints instead of tie-dye this year, as we thought we would try to make this easier on the parents. We could tell that the kids still missed the tie-dye, as many of them did a painted tie-dye design. The second session, we held an open discussion on their progress. Afterwards, we went on to making our Nenjus. As we were making our Nenjus we talked about what nenjus are, and what they represent. In our third session, we had the kids summarize their week and talk about their progress, how they felt about working on their goals, and how fun it was to see each other. Then we ended things off with our traditional variety show! This is where they showed us what they had been working for the whole week. We were very fortunate to have a piano piece by Ryan Yoshida, a magic show by Ryan Mack, a ukulele piece by Joaquin Kataoka, and a two musical pieces by Elly and Shohei Hayakawa, and Mika and Mizuki Shimozato.

I want to say thank you to all of the volunteers that helped make virtual camp Lumbini! Thank you to Cynthia Tetaka for helping us get virtual camp started. To Kazu Maeda for making the wonderful shirt design. To Grace Tamaki for helping to make the nenju kits. To Joanne, Cary, Rachel, Joaquin Kataoka, and Koji Goto for helping set up the program, picking up, and delivering the camp kits! And lastly, thank you to all of the parents and kids that participated in this year's virtual camp Lumbini! We couldn't have done this without the help of all of these people!

At the end of it all, I can confidently say that we had success with Virtual Camp Lumbini 2020!

Thank you,
Abigail Kataoka





KIDS SANGHA VIRTUAL CAMP LUMBINI

At camp: Joanne & Ryan Mack, Ryan Yoshida, Mika and Mizuki Shimozato. Elly and Shohei Hayakawa, Joaquin Kataoka

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

The Temple is now open. But, for The Temple to remain open we will need volunteers to help us enforce the many regulations required to re-open. For the safety of our members, we have limited volunteers to those under the age of 70 as those 70 and over are the most vulnerable to the disease.

Think of helping your parents, grandparents and great grandparent who founded the Temple. Help keep the Temple open; the time needed to keep the Temple open should not be the responsibility of just a few. Please, if you have a few hours that you can spare on Sundays to ensure we follow the regulations set out by the government please email Darlene Rieger at darlene.rieger28@gmail.com. Your help will be greatly appreciated by all the Temple members.



We're Open!

We are pleased to announce that we have opened our doors for Sunday Services on September 13th with approximately 35 people in attendance. The safety of all our temple members and guests continues to be at the forefront and we thank everyone for adhering to the new protocols that we have put in place. At this time we are not open for other activities or Children's Services at the temple.

You will notice changes at the temple including many signs and posters meant to keep everyone safe.

Please read "[General Protocols for Service Attendees](#)" in the September Guiding Light or the TBC website for details.

SOME HIGHLIGHTS of the new Safety Protocols

- As the Hondo is limited to 50 people per service, you will be required to register your attendance in advance
- **Each** attendee (including children) must complete and submit a health questionnaire for every service
- You will be required to wear a face covering at all times while on TBC property, sanitize your hands and observe physical distancing practices.
- The temple will be fully cleaned after each service with all high touch areas sanitized/disinfected frequently.
- The office will not be accessible on Sunday. Please speak with a volunteer for your requests.
- The upper and lower levels are closed. Lower level washrooms are reserved for emergencies only.

If an attendee chooses not to abide by TBC's protocols they will be asked to leave for the safety of others, but they will be able to attend our live-streaming services.

SOME HIGHLIGHTS of Changes

- Shotsuki Services will be held 3 times per month in order to accommodate everyone. Please check the schedule or website for dates.
- There will be no group singing or chanting out loud. Minister/leader only.
- There will be no books, nenju, headsets, or montoshikisho to borrow
- Please leave your offertory in the box as no baskets will be passed
- There will be no refreshments or socializing inside the temple.
- All services are live-streamed on Facebook Live. Please join the [TBC Broadcast Group](#).

Even a carefully measured reopening carries the risk of contagion, so please carefully consider your own risk category (eg. over the age of 70; with compromised immune systems; living with or caring for someone with a compromised immune system) and your willingness and ability to abide by our carefully considered safety protocols.

Please let us know if you have any questions. We hope you are well and we look forward to seeing you soon.











First Service September 13

TO REGISTER FOR SERVICE**PLEASE CONTACT BY:****VISIT THE WEBSITE AT: <https://tbc.on.ca/>****EMAIL: tbc@tbc.on.ca****PHONE: 416-534-4302****PLEASE FILL OUT AND BRING THIS QUESTIONNAIRE WITH YOU TO EACH SERVICE**

Please complete the following questions

Name: _____ Phone: _____
 Date: _____ Time: _____
 Email: _____

Do you have any of the following:

Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>  Fever	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>  Cough	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>  Difficulty breathing	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>  Sore throat, trouble swallowing
Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>  Runny nose	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>  Loss of taste or smell	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>  Not feeling well	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>  Nausea, vomiting, diarrhea

Yes ☐ Have you been in close contact with someone who is
 No ☐ sick or has confirmed COVID-19 in the past 14 days?

Yes ☐ Have you returned from travel outside Canada in the
 No ☐ past 14 days?

**If you answered YES to any of these questions,
 go home & self-isolate right away. Call Telehealth
 or your health care provider, to find out if you
 need a test.**

TORONTO.CA/COVID19

The logo for Toronto Public Health, featuring a stylized building icon and the text "TORONTO Public Health".

JSBTC DAY

Sunday, October 18, 2020

Jodo Shinshu Buddhist Temples of Canada (JSBTC) Day is a special memorial service traditionally held in either October or November to observe and honour our Jodo Shinshu Buddhist founders and followers from across Canada. Within two months of Rev. and Mrs. Senju Sasaki arriving in Vancouver in 1905, they, along with their supporters established the first Jodo Shinshu temple in Canada.

JSBTC Day allows us to gather together at our local temples to express our gratitude to all those who have spread the Dharma Teachings before us. It is a time to direct any special JSBTC Day donations towards helping our hardworking Ministers to further their education and provide supplemental retirement benefits. Funding is also allocated towards supporting the many activities of our Bishop. The National Board of JSBTC is responsible to help provide meaningful programs and assistance to local temples but the financial challenge is becoming increasingly difficult, especially this year, so any contribution you can make will help JSBTC.

Board of the Toronto Buddhist Church.

PLEASE MAKE YOUR CHEQUE DONATIONS PAYABLE TO THE TORONTO BUDDHIST CHURCH MARKED 'JSBTC DAY'. ENVELOPES WITH CASH SHOULD ALSO BE MARKED 'JSBTC DAY'

TAX RECEIPTS WILL BE ISSUED BY THE TORONTO BUDDHIST CHURCH

JSBTC VISION AND MISSION

Vision: A community living a life of gratitude on the path of the Buddha Dharma

Mission: Acting as a catalyst for growing a network of Jodo Shinshu Buddhist centres through dynamic and focused leadership

Jodo Shinshu Buddhist Temples of Canada (JSBTC) Day 2020

JSBTC Day is a special memorial service held by Canadian temples in October/ November to remember and honour Jodo Shinshu Buddhism pioneers and followers in Canada. The month of October is important in Canada as it marks the historical beginning of Jodo Shinshu Buddhism in Canada: the first Jodo Shinshu minister arrived from Nishi Hongwanji (our mother temple in Kyoto, Japan) in Vancouver on October 12, 1905.



Traditionally JSBTC Day has allowed us to gather at our local temples to collectively express our gratitude to all those who spread the Dharma Teachings before us. Unfortunately, this year, it is not likely that we will all be able to physically meet in October or November. Some temples may not yet have reopened while the others will be practising responsible social distancing and limiting the number of attendees. However, even if we are not actually in our temples, we can meet electronically to remember and honour those dedicated Jodo Shinshu followers and ministers and to honour those ministers who guide us today.

Last year, donations made on JSBTC Day went into the Ministers' Retirement Fund, recognizing the commitment of the JSBTC Board to ensure a sufficient fund to support our dedicated ministers as they take well earned retirement. This year's donations will be directed to the JSBTC Sustaining Fund.

Let us remember with gratitude those who have and those who continue to spread the Dharma. Please check with your local temple for the date of the JSBTC Day Memorial Service and let us all remember and honour with gratitude together as one common national sangha.

With Gratitude and in Gassho,

Laura Sugimoto
JSBTC President

*** Please note that due to the requirements of the Canada Revenue Agency and the Canada Not-For-Profit Act, we ask that any donations made by cheque should be payable to your local temple and marked "JSBTC Day". All donations made to JSBTC Day are gratefully accepted.