



Guiding Light

July/August, 2022



TORONTO BUDDHIST CHURCH *a Jodo Shinshu Temple*

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

Upcoming Services English and Japanese

In case you did not know, we are welcoming everyone back for **IN PERSON services** every week and would love to see you! We miss you. Come and reconnect with your friends and make some new ones

The following is a list of the upcoming services.

The Toronto Buddhist Church will be switching over to a summer schedule. Zoom broadcasts will only be provided for Shotsuki (July 3rd and August 7th) and Hatsubon/Obon (July 10th) services. Regular zoom broadcasts will resume with the September 11th Shotsuki service. Other Sunday meetings will follow a more casual format.

		Kids' Sangha 10:30 am	9:00/11:00 AM	1:00 PM
		Zoom & In Person	In Person & Zoom	In Person & Zoom
July 10, 2022 9:00 am	Hatsubon Family Service	NONE	English/Japanese	NONE
July 10, 2022	Obon Service	NONE	English	Japanese
July 17, 2022	Summer Service	NONE	English—IN PERSON ONLY	None
July 24, 2022	Summer Service	NONE	English— IN PERSON ONLY	None
July 31, 2022	Summer Service	NONE	English— IN PERSON ONLY	None
August 7, 2022	Monthly Memorial Service	NONE	English	Japanese

While the government no longer mandates the wearing of masks in indoor settings, the Toronto Buddhist Church Board of Directors has decided to continue to require that people visiting the temple wear masks. We take the health and safety of our members seriously and have considered the risk to our seniors as well as others who may be in a more vulnerable situation.

Please wear your mask correctly throughout the entire time you are in the temple.

SUMMER CHANTING SERVICES

Have you ever wanted to know more about chanting? Have you ever wanted to "be better" at chanting? You will have the opportunity to do both these things this summer at TBC. It will be an opportunity to learn and practice many things about chanting, from posture and vocalizing, to content and meaning (we will not be studying the text).

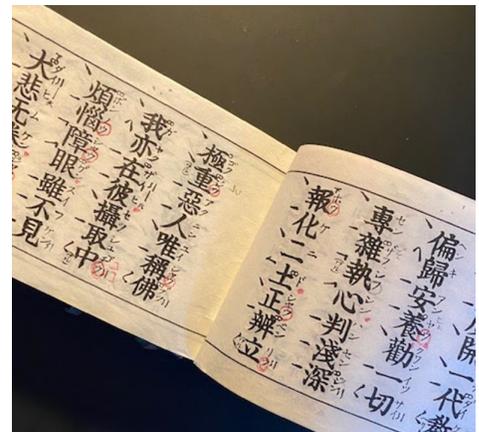
Summer Chanting Services will be held at 11:00 am on the following Sundays:

July 17, 24, 31

August 14, 21

September 4.

Summer chanting services will *not* be accessible over Zoom.



2022 TBC HAKAMAIRI (IN-PERSON) SCHEDULE**SATURDAY JULY 9, 2022****Toronto Buddhist Church will be holding services at cemeteries again this year.**

Please check the below schedule for times.

Cemetery	Central Service Location	Time	Service Leader
Salem U.C. Cemetery	Graveside— Pls advise location	1:00 PM	PAULINE KNUDE
Pine Ridge Memorial Gardens	Graveside— Pls advise location	1:30 PM	PAULINE KNUDE
Highland Memory Gardens	Mausoleum near parking lot	11:30 AM	DENNIS MADOKORO
Elgin Mills Cemetery	Sec. 2/8	12:30 PM	DENNIS MAKOKORO
York Memorial Cemetery	York Cemetery Pond, west of Senlac Rd.	9:30 AM	JOANNE YUASA SENSEI
Pine Hills Cemetery	Sec. 7	10:45 AM	JOANNE YUASA SENSEI
Resthaven Memorial Gardens	Circle Block, near the large parking lot	11:45 AM	JOANNE YUASA SENSEI
Mt. Pleasant Cemetery	Sec. 51 by sundial by Bayview Ave. Skeena Memorial Sec. 33	9:00 AM	REV. Y. OUCHI
St. James Cemetery	Memorial Wall between Sec. 2 + 7	10:30 AM	REV. Y. OUCHI
Toronto Necropolis	Graveside— Pls advise location	11:15 AM	REV. Y. OUCHI
Park Lawn Cemetery	In front of Paradise Mausoleum, Sec. 5	1:30 PM	REV. Y. OUCHI
Prospect Cemetery	St. Clair Ave. entrance, veer right; decide Mausoleum of the Sacred Souls, inside circular grace wall, Sec. 3/7	2:30 PM	REV. Y. OUCHI

2022 TBC HAKAMAIRI SCHEDULE

SATURDAY JULY 9, 2022, continued

Cemetery	Central Service Location	Time	Service Leader
Sanctuary Park	ONE central service for North and South—Meet in parking lot south side	9:00 AM	SUSAN EBISUZAKI
Riverside Cemetery	Graveside—Pls advise location	9:30 AM	SUSAN EBISUZAKI
St Philips	Graveside—Pls advise location	10:15 AM	SUSAN EBISUZAKI
Glendale Cemetery	Graveside	9:30 AM	JOHN NISHIKAWA
Glen Oaks	South entrance, west side of 9th line. 1st right past mausoleum, down hill. Turn right past chapel. On left in nook	9:30 AM	JEFF WILSON SENSEI
Spring Creek	Under big tree in centre of cemetery Sec M52	10:00 AM	JEFF WILSON SENSEI
Meadowvale	Gazebo, graveside	11:15 AM	JEFF WILSON SENSEI



“Wedding & Makuragyo Rituals”



We are already halfway through the year 2022. As you all know, it is a wonder how quickly time flies. Time is funny. Its value is fixed, but depending on our situation, it can seem so much longer or shorter. When I studied history in high school, I felt the class was forever. When

I looked at the clock, I thought it was broken because the minute hand seemed not to move correctly. But I realized that I looked at the clock too many times. Now, I enjoyed learning history because it is very meaningful for my life. And I feel time goes too fast when I read a book. So, we can spend time so carefully or waste it.

By the way, there was a wedding ceremony at the Toronto Buddhist Church in June. I guess Buddhist weddings are becoming popular now. This year, already 6 couples asked me to hold their weddings. What a sweet moment to send off a couple who are going to start their future life together in front of Amida Buddha. And it is a very precious moment. I wished those happy moments could last forever.

But when I thought about it, I always remembered my brother's wedding ceremony that was held 7 years ago. During the ceremony, an officiating minister said to my brother and his wife that you have been facing each other, but now you must face the same direction and start a new life together. This time, now, when you are making your vows in front of Amida Buddha to start that process, maybe the happiest moment of your life.

In other words, the two of you will have more difficulties to overcome than happiness. (When I heard that I thought he was a real Buddhist, because he talked to them not only about happiness but also suffering which that is a part of the teachings of the Buddha during the wedding ceremony.) Fortunately, they are both dedicated Buddhists. They understood what the officiating minister wanted to say. The officiating minister went on to say, “Perhaps in the future, there will be more suffering for both of you than happiness. And you must strive to live through that

suffering in the same stride. However, there will always be some suffering in life that cannot be resolved by two people alone. At such times, please listen to the voice of Nembutsu and rely on Amida Buddha.”

When a Buddhist minister holds a service, they must chant sutra and perform Buddhist rituals, because the rituals and liturgies of Buddhist wedding and funeral, it does not only give us a great opportunity to encounter Buddha's teachings, but also it teaches us about turning points in our lives. In my case, most people request me to hold a funeral rather than a wedding. And I always consider that all these funerals are valuable and honorable. Recently I had a very precious encounter at the makuragyo service as well.

A family asked me to hold a makuragyo service, because their mother had chosen to have a medically assisted death. I have witnessed several of these situations in the past. What they all have in common is that they are prepared to die and are treasuring every moment with their last energy. People tend to want to decide if something is good or bad when discussing such sensitive topics. But I cannot judge whether their decision is good or not about the medically assisted death. I believe I just need to respect them and their families' decisions as a Buddhist minister. And it is most important to be close to their grief as a human being

When I did the service for her, I chanted Shoshinge. She closed her eyes during the chanting, but when I recited Nembutsu at the end of Shoshinge, she moved her mouth saying Namu Amida Butsu and did Gassho. After the chanting, I usually say that you don't have to worry about anything because Amida Buddha is always beside you. But before I say that, she said 「先生、私は何も心配していないよ。だって阿弥陀さまは、いつも私のことを見守ってくれていたから。」 She said “Sensei, I'm not ever worried about anything, because Amida Buddha is always accepting me just as I am.” When I heard that, I thought she was sincerely taking refuge in Amida Buddha's compassion and entrusting everything to the Buddha. Then we shook

Continued on page 6

hands and said 「お浄土でしましょう。」 “See you in the Amida’s Pure Land.”

Again, time is a very interesting thing. The time she had the makuragyo service might have been a short time in her long life. It may also not have been enough time for her children and grandchildren to accept her passing and say "goodbye." However, it was a time they would never forget, and I believe it became so meaningful for them. Even though the time was short, the time will be alive in their long life.

Time is always moving, and we cannot go back to the past. It is like the flow of the river. Water of the river will not come back to the same place, because the river constantly flows. That is why Buddha teaches us that we cannot change the past, but we can change how we view the

past." In other words, Amida's compassion let us know to accept sorrow like sorrow, but not to let it remain sorrow.

As I said any Buddhist service gives us not only an opportunity to encounter Buddha, but also it teaches us about turning points in our lives. Therefore, there are memorial services held on 49th days, 100 days, first year, 3rd year and so on in Buddhism. And these services are very important because they are way to feel the connection with the deceased.

There will be Obon services and we will be gathered for the service in July. I am looking forward seeing you at the service and doing Gassho with you to Amida Buddha through our loved ones who went to Amida Buddha’s Pure Land.

Gassho, Rev. Yoshimichi Ouchi

O-SONAE



The Buddha’s light is supreme in radiance;

Thus, Amida is called, “Buddha, Lord of Blazing Light.”

It dispels the darkness of the three courses of affliction,

So take refuge in Amida, the great one worthy of offerings.

(“Hymns Based on Gathas in Praise of Amida Buddha - verse 8” from Hymns of the Pure Land by Gutoku Shinran. CWS pg 326)

This is one of many verses from Shinran Shonin’s “Hymns of the Pure Land,” a section focused on praising Amida Buddha. Just before this section praising Amida Buddha begins, there is a list of 37 different names for Amida Buddha. Some would be familiar to us, like “Immeasurable Light” “Inconceivable Light” and “Light that Surpasses the Sun and Moon.” There are also some that are lesser known such as “Ultimate Shelter” “Music of Purity” and “Great One Worthy of Offerings”. All of them, including the one in the verse above, “Buddha, Lord of Blazing Light” are all words put to something so great that no words can sufficiently capture it. Our vocabulary - in any language - is man-made, so is naturally limiting. Still, all

the different ways of describing and naming Amida Buddha are trying very hard to convey its greatness.

I found this verse interesting because Amida Buddha is described as “the great one worthy of offerings” and it made me think of how often the topic of “offerings” or o-sonae comes up at the temple. Mostly, it comes up in the office when we’re making sure we know who is bringing the buppan (“Buddha-rice” offering), who is arranging the flowers and who is picking up the oranges. Those of you who attend regular Sunday services will notice these things in the najjin (“inner-area” altar) carefully placed in front of the statue of Amida Buddha. We are often asked about offerings during funeral consultations with families - “what should we bring? How many? What colours?” “May we bring something else?” People also ask about what they should be offering in their butsudān (“Buddha-shelf” home altar).

We describe that customarily, butsudān doors are opened first thing in the morning, and white rice is offered. If possible, fruit or flowers might also be offered. A candle and incense might also be lit. Everything offered in the morning is withdrawn in the evening and the doors are closed. What’s important to note here is that these are all customs, not rules.

Continued on page 7

O-SONAE, continued

Despite Amida Buddha being called “the great one worthy of offerings,” Shinran Shonin did not leave any instruction on what the offerings should be. This is because the offering is not required for us to receive Amida Buddha’s wisdom and compassion. We are not giving food and flowers so that it pleases Amida Buddha so that we may receive something. We give *o-sonae* because we’ve realized what an amazing gift we’ve already received - the life-sustaining wisdom and compassion that leads to rebirth in the Pure Land and eventual Buddhahood.

Very recently, I came to a realization that Shinran Shonin himself probably did not have access to white rice all the time - if at all! In his exile, in times of famine as well as the nature of the food culture of the times he lived, white rice was not eaten widely. Throughout Japanese history and until relatively recently, the white rice that we are all used to and which is easily obtainable was a rarity. The custom of giving white rice as *o-sonae* came out of the Nembutsu followers’ wish to give and share the best that they could as a sign of their deep gratitude for being in the compassion of Amida Buddha. When white rice was not possible, I am sure they offered whatever they were able and *if* they were able.

In May, the children who came to the Kids Sangha service on Fathers’ Day shared with me what they were doing for their fathers. They all shared that they had made cards for them and it reminded me of the things I’d made for my father when I was their age. I especially remembered

making him a horribly misshapen, blue ceramic ashtray (hard to imagine that’d be allowed in schools today!). I never saw my father use it; I don’t even know if it “worked.” But I remember that he seemed very impressed by it and he looked happy when he opened it and I felt good about that. I imagine he appreciated the gesture more than the item itself.

Just as children show love and appreciation by giving what they can from their level of ability, we place offerings in front of Amida Buddha according to the best of our abilities, as a sign of our appreciation. In both relationships, the giving comes *because of* a meaningful relationship; it is not the gift-giving that generates the relationship. This is fortunate for us, because I can’t begin to imagine what kind of offerings, we’d have to make to a Buddha with 37 different names that describe the indescribable! Moreover, if we were required to make offerings to receive Amida Buddha’s compassion, that would make it transactional and conditional and therefore would contradict its unlimited, non-discriminate nature.

At TBC - and other temples - we give offerings of fruit, rice, flowers, and other items as carefully and as beautifully as we are able. It is the best we can do in our circumstances to show how much we appreciate being able to hear the Nembutsu - *Namo Amida Butsu* - and know we are in Amida Buddha’s compassionate activity, on the path to the Pure Land and Buddhahood.

Namo Amida Butsu

**Aging and Humility**

“The person burdened with extreme evil should simply say the Name:

Although I too am within Amida’s grasp,

Passions obstruct my eyes and I

cannot see him;

Nevertheless, great compassion is untiring and illumines me always.”

(Verse 27 of Shoshinge)

After two plus years of Covid, there is a lot of suffering out there. For me as a senior of 77 years, the above verse from Shoshinge gives me a lot to reflect upon. As a good Dharma friend once said to me, “Old age is a privilege not granted to many.”

For this Shin Buddhist, I am grateful to be in good health today after having survived an angina attack in April of last year. One artery was clogged at 90% and another clogged at 80%. The cardiologist who installed two stents said that they call those types of blockages “widow makers”. I am grateful to be here writing for you this dharma talk.

Continued on page 8

Aging and Humility, continued

Aging has a few positive issues and a few negative ones. As we get older the more our older bodies tend to have more aches and pains. Another good friend said that it was a good thing that he was retired, as now he has enough time to make all his doctor's appointments. I think now I can identify with that statement.

Another issue of aging is our sleep patterns. I find that my sleep is broken up each night by one, two and sometimes three visits to the bathroom. It is sometimes hard to go back to sleep after each visit. Some friends suggest meditation, reading, or even listening to the radio. I have tried them all with varying success.

Another aging issue is forgetfulness. Beyond the stereotypical example of walking into a room and forgetting why, there is the example of not seeing what is before your eyes. Last week, I looked in the fridge to see if I needed to buy butter. Then when I come home from the supermarket, I see a block of butter on the fridge shelf. Oh My!

There are some good benefits to aging as well. I find myself calmer than my younger self. Things that used to upset me tend to roll off my shoulders now. I am also able to reflect on my life's issues such as covid, rising gas and grocery prices and politics without getting too excited. Perhaps old age gives one the perspective that these things too will change.

So, what do all these issues have to do with verse 27 of Shoshinge and us?

"Passions obstruct my eyes certainly applies. I believe that these aging issues point out to us the fact that we do not know as much as we think we know. It points out our faults and imperfections. I believe that as we age, we are more likely to acknowledge ourselves as lacking in knowledge.

We have the opportunity to become humble people.

The Funk and Wagnall dictionary defines humility as 1. The state of being humble, a modest sense of one's own merits. 2. An act of submission or deference.

"The [more ripe](#) a cluster of rice becomes the lower it bows its head."

(A Japanese proverb)

From the book "Dharma Breeze" by Nobuo Haneda comes this opening paragraph:

"Shin Buddhism, or the teachings of Shinran (1173-1262), teaches us the importance of humility, the most important universal virtue. Many people think that the ultimate goal in Buddhism as well as human life is to become good. But according to Shinran, it is to become humble. Being good is not good enough, we must become humble persons. We must know our evilness, the existence of our ineradicable egoism. We must know our ignorance, and the limitations of our intellects. We must become humble persons who can say "I'm evil and ignorant."

As a senior of 77 years, I am happy to write here for you here and now, "I am evil and ignorant."

But note the final line of verse 27:

"Nevertheless, great compassion is untiring and illumines me always."

Now that is comforting to this old-timer.

Thank you for listening.

Namo Amida Butsu, Namu Amida Butsu, Namu Amida Butsu

Dennis Madokoro

How to donate to Toronto Buddhist Church

While TBC has had to have its doors closed to visitors for most of the duration of the COVID-19 pandemic, the business of spreading the Shin Buddhist teachings to our sangha and beyond continues. Forwarding a financial donation will help prepare TBC to welcome everyone back to temple.

There are 3 ways to donate to TBC from home:

- **cheque:** mail to 1011 Sheppard Ave. West, Toronto, ON, M3H 2T7
- **E-transfer:** use email address darlene.rieger@tbc.on.ca
- **online donation via Paypal:** follow directions on www.TBC.ca "Make a Donation" page

Please include the purpose of your donation, as well as your **full name, mailing address, email address, and phone number. This is particularly important if you're donating by cheque or e-transfer.** This helps ensure you will receive a donation receipt for tax purposes. Detailed information can also be found on the TBC website: www.tbc.on.ca.

Memorial (Shotsuki) Listing for the Month of August

Our monthly memorial services (shotsuki) are usually held on the first Sunday of each month 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 August. All are invited and welcome to attend.

ANDREONE, Jo Anne Yasuko	ITO, Lily	MURATA, Hanae	SHOJI, Tsunehiro Tony
ARIZA, Darrell Patrick	ITO, Peter Shizuma	NABETA, Matsuichi	SHOJI, Genji Gene
AZUMA, Sano	ITO, Zenya	NAGAO, Kazuko Betty	SUMIDA, Yoshinari
BABA, Teruko	KAJI, Jiro	NAKABAYASHI, Hiroshi	SUYAMA, Kenji Larry
BABA, Tejiro	KAKINOKI, John Mashiro	NAKAGAWA, Miyoko	TAKANO, Denji
BANDO, Mark	KAWABATA, Masao	NAKAMURA, Ginpachi	TAKASAKI, Matsue
CHIA, Kean Weng	KAWAGUCHI, Kameo	NAKANISHI, Kenichiro	TAKEDA, Augusta Suma
CHIJIWA, Yoko	KISHIBE, Tokichi	NAKATSU, Yoshiharu	TAKEDA, Kumasaburo
EBATA, Matsuko Betty	KITAMURA, Masaru	NARUSE, Kimi	TAKEHISA, Michiko
EBATA, Joe Ryota	KOBAYASHI, Shigeno	NATSUHARA, Kichi	TANAKA, Mitsuo
EBISUZAKI, Hide	KOBAYASHI, Teruya	NISHIMOTO, Harumi	TANAKA, Nobby Nobuyoshi
EGUCHI, Shizu	KOBAYASHI, Tokujiro	NISHIMURA, Albert Masatoshi	TANAKA, Jinya
ETO, Shigeo	KOBAYASHI, Yoko	NISHIMURA, Eitaro	TANAKA, Mine
FUJITA, Hikosaku	KONDO, Harry Shota	OHASHI, Ross Shozo	TANAKA, Tatsuya
FUJITA, Kii	KONDO, Kimiko	OKAZAKI, Robert	TANAKA, Yoshiko
FUKUMORI, Hatsuno	KONDO, Shigeo	OMOTO, Sada	TATEBE, Kazuo
FUKUMOTO, Umechiyo	KONISHI, Fujiko	OTAGURO, Sumiye	TERASHITA, Allen Akitoshi
FURUKAWA, Gentaro	KOSHIBA, Hiroshi Ben	SAITO, Fred Ichiro	TOKUYAMA, Fumie
FURUYA, Minoru	KUROYAMA, Sannosuke	SAKAI, Nobuko Jean	TOYAMA, Akiko
GYOTOKU, Unta	KUSHIDA, Takashi	SAKURA, Hikotaro	TSURUDA, Kikuye
HAKKAKU, Kiyo	MATSUDA, Shizuka	SATO, Akira Mooney	TSUSHIMA, Ayako
HAMAMOTO, Yoshio	MATSUYAMA, Hikohei	SATO, Keiko	URA, Taneshiro
HARA, Kiyoji	MILLARD, Mayuko	SATO, Sadamu	UYENAKA, Masayoshi
HARA, Kimie	MITSUMI, Yukio	SHIGA, Teruji Terry	WAKISAKA, Minoru Lefty
HIDAKA, Kathy Ling Fai Ling	MIYAGAWA, George Kiichiro	SHIKATANI, Hisaya	WATANABE, Tsuneharu
HIGUCHI, Hisakichi	MIYANISHI, Yoshie Minnie	SHIKATANI, Ino	WATARI, Gentaro
HIKIDA, Kikue	MIYAUCHI, Shozo Bob	SHIKATANI, Yohei	YAMAMOTO, Etsu
HORI, Yoshio	MIZUYABU, Reiko	SHIMONO, Shiroemon	YOKOTA, Kenji
HOSAKI, George Kazuki	MORI, Misako	SHIN, Yeda	YONEMURA, Kaoru
IKEBATA, Masao	MORI, Shozo	SHINMOTO, Hisayo	YOSHIKAWA, Hatsue
IMAI, Jiro	MOTOTSUNE, Marie Satsuko	SHIOZAKI, Douglas Masato	YOSHIKAWA, Toshiko
INOUE, Bruce Keigo	MUKAI, Takeno	SHIRAISHI, Isamu	
ITO, Akitaro	MURAI, Ben Tsutomu		

HATSUBON LISTING JULY 2021-2022

On Obon Sunday, July 10, the first service of the day at 9:00 am is for Hatsubon families. All those who have lost a family member in the past year, attend Hatsubon (First Obon) memorial service to honour and respect their loved one. Please find below the listing of names of individuals who will be remembered with a hanging Chochin (lantern) in the Hondo. If we have missed any names off our list of loved ones who have passed away during this time period, please accept our apologies.

AOKI, Mary	KAWAI, Masako	NISHIMURA, Albert Masatoshi	TAKEDA, Augusta
CHONG, Banson	KAWASAKI, Sanjiro & Kiki	OGAKI, Sakae	TANAKA, Takako
EBATA, Chuta Roy	KITAZAKI, Dianne Shizumi	OHASHI, Keiko Kay	TERAKITA, Tomiko Ginger
EBATA, Kazuko James	KITAURA, Masa	OKIMURA, Yasue Josie	TOKI, Emiko Amy
GOTO, Toshiko	KOMORI, Teruyo Terrie	PADLEY, Grant	UYEDA, Shigeo
HAMA, Fusako	KUMAGAWA, Fumiko	SEKO, Shigeo	UYENAKA, Masayuki
HAYASHI, Noritsugu	MATSUMOTO, Hideo	TAKAHASHI, Toshio	YANASE, Fukue
HAYASHI, Virginia	MATSUMURA, Toshiko	TAKATA, Kazuko	YONEKURA, Hideko Hedy
ISHII, Kiichi Ken	NAGAO, Kazuko Betty	TAKATA, Saburo	
IWAGASE, Brian Kenji	NISHIHAMA, Toshiharu		

OBON

Obon is a day to remember with gratitude for those who have gone before us. Bon Odori (outdoor folk dancing) also known as Kangi-e is performed in grateful memory of the deceased.

After a 2 year absence the TBC is holding in person Obon observances on Saturday, July 9th and Sunday, July 10th. Please join us for Hakamairi cemetery visitations on Saturday (schedule on pages 3 and 4), Bon Odori at The JCCC and Hatsubon, Obon and Japanese services on Sunday, July 10th (times on page 2).

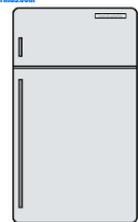


ARE YOU MOVING? OR RENOVATING?

Do you have a working refrigerator that you don't know what to do with? Camp Lumbini is in need of a refrigerator! One of the cabin's fridges is no longer working so one is needed for the renters or the Kids Sangha when they are using the cabins.

If you have a refrigerator that you cannot use please call the Temple at 416 534 4302 and we will gladly pick it up.

www.DrafterKids.com



Bishop Aoki's Visit

TBC members and community members warmly greeted Aoki Socho, the overseas regional superintendent (commonly referred to as “bishop” in North America).

On the morning of Saturday, June 18, many sangha members joined the bishop in-person at the temple at the event we called “Ask the Bishop”. The bishop shared his thoughts on a number of questions he’d received from members such as, *“Has anyone gone to the Pure land and come back?”* *“What kinds of things do you do as a Bishop?”* *“When someone asks you to pray for them, what can we say as Buddhists?”* and *“How can one stay connected with loved ones who have passed away?”* The bishop shared his views on these and many other questions, reinforcing the important role Buddhism can play in peoples’ day-to-day lives. Ultimately, Aoki Socho emphasized that no matter how many questions about Buddhism we ask the senseis, how it is meaningful and how valuable Buddhism is depends entirely on the seeker - the one asking the questions.

On the following morning, Aoki Socho joined TBC resident minister Rev. Ouchi, and TBC tokudo ministers Jeff Wilson Sensei and Joanne Yuasa Sensei for Sunday Service. It was the first time in a number of years that the TBC *naijin* (inner altar) was full of the voices of ministers. In his Dharma Talk, Aoki Socho expressed his joy and gratitude for finally being able to visit Toronto after almost 3 years of being unable to visit because of the COVID-19 restrictions. He shared his appreciation of the TBC by reminding us of the preciousness of the Toronto Shin Buddhist sangha, built by the hard work of Nembutsu followers in the 1950s. We were reminded that the Japanese Canadians were forcibly removed from their homes on the West Coast during the Second World War, allowed only to take very few personal items. In the very little space they had, some people took items such as Buddhist service/chanting books. It signified how much people treasured the Buddha Dharma and the compassion of Amida Buddha in their lives, and it is because of these Nembutsu followers that we too are able to be in Amida Buddha’s wisdom and compassion today.

Many TBC members expressed their gratitude for his visit, and we hope to welcome him back soon.



OBITUARIES

The Toronto Buddhist Church wishes to extend its deepest condolences to the families, relatives and friends of the following individual who have passed away.

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

Thank You In Gassho Toronto Buddhist Church

Mr. Toshiharu Nishihama	74 yrs	May 22, 2022
Mrs. Yaeko Nishihama	100 yrs	June 7, 2022



Mindful Meditation Live on Zoom

Join us every Thursday evening for Mindful Meditation from 7pm—8:15pm

Please join us on Thursday's at 7pm for an hour of peace and serenity. This is an opportunity for you to leave behind the stress accumulated throughout the week and focus on the moment.

This one hour session includes:

- Guided Sitting Meditation
- Dharma Sharing
- Sangha Sharing

If you are interested in joining our meditation session please email Ray Nakano or Denise Crofton at:

mindfulnesspracticesangha@hotmail.com

NOTE: WE BREAK DURING THE SUMMER MONTHS (JULY & AUGUST), OUR LAST LIVE ZOOM SESSION WILL BE ON JUNE 30TH, 2022.



FOREIGN COINS and USED STAMP COLLECTION

Attention Temple Members

Now that the Temple is open again, the JSBTC Women's Federation would appreciate members collecting and donating any used stamps and foreign coins they may receive or have.

Please bring in any foreign coins/bills from your travels or stamps from correspondence. The Women's Federation collects for Air Canada charity. Any collection of stamps and coins/bills will be sent to Save The Children. The stamps will be taken to the Women's Federation Annual Meeting at the end of April (when in person meetings begin again). If you have any stamps or coins/bills, a box is provided in the lobby of the Temple.

Thank you for your help and support

JSBTC Women's Federation



READY FOR A CHANGE OF SCENERY?

Lumbini Cabin Rentals are now available for summer 2022!

Please contact the office for rates and available dates.

Note: Renter(s) of the cabin(s) must be a member of Toronto Buddhist Church.

Office: 416-534-4302

E-mail: tbc@tbc.on.ca





SHOTSUKI SERVICE

JUNE 5, 2022

Military Chaplains Visit TBC

On May 19th, TBC was host to another group of military chaplains at the request of the Canadian Forces Chaplains School and Centre. In March, we'd hosted Canadian Chaplain students, but this time, the group were military chaplains from around the world - Belize, Ghana, Thailand, Korea, Bangladesh, and Nepal, representing Christian, Buddhist, and Hindu traditions. They were operational chaplains of various officer ranks who were gathered for a two week information-sharing session at the CFCSC in Borden. Following a presentation about Buddhism and Buddhist chaplaincy in Canada, the visiting chaplains had many questions.

The Buddhist Chaplains in particular - one from Korea and two from Thailand - were curious about how Buddhism will be looked on in the Canadian Armed Forces (CAF), given its history and status as a religion that is "not native" to and often misunderstood by mainstream and majority Canadian society. Buddhism is deeply rooted in Korean and Thai culture, so their experience is very different from mine in Canada, where there has never been an official Buddhist representation in the history of the CAF chaplaincy.

Their visit to TBC and the discussion we had was a special opportunity to showcase Shin Buddhism and its presence in Canadian history, particularly identifying the injustices suffered and survived by the Shin Buddhists in the Second World War because of their Japanese roots.

The visiting international chaplains were joined by the chaplains posted to Denison Armoury located just on the other side of Allen Road. They expressed gratitude for the opportunity to visit because, for many years, they'd noticed the armoury and the temple were practically neighbours. We shared the mutual wish to build neighbourly relations in the future.

All who visited that day commented on how beautiful TBC is and expressed gratitude for the opportunity to visit and learn.



Memorial (Shotsuki) Listing for the Month of September

Our monthly memorial services (shotsuki) are usually held on the first Sunday of each month 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 September. All are invited and welcome to attend.

AMEMORI , Rinzo Jon	IGARASHI , Toyono	KUMABE , Masayuki	NISHI , Yukari Lolly
ASADA , Mitsuru	IKEBATA , Natsue	KURAHASHI , Satoru Sam	NISHIJIMA , William Shigetada
AYUKAWA , Robert Noboru	INAMOTO , Akira Bill	KUROYAMA , Iwao	NISHIKAWA , Taro
AZUMA , Ikichi	INAMOTO , Allan Yukio	KUSHIDA , Imaji	NISHIKAWA , Tomijiro
BABA , Hisaye	INAMOTO , Kishi	KUSHIDA , Shirley Sachiko	NISHIMURA , Alyce Asano
BABA , Tatsuo	INAMOTO , William Akira	LEBA , Thanh	NISHIMURA , Yutaka Glenn
EBATA , Genei	INAMOTO , Yoshi	MA , Junko	NISHINO , Richard Susumu
EBATA , Shio	ISHIDA , Yoshiro	MAEHARA , Jiro	NISHIYAMA , Catherine Hisako
EDAMURA , John Hideo	ITO , Dick Hideki	MAEHARA , Mutsuko	NISHIZAKI , Marion Kiku
EJIMA , Hatsujiro	ITO , Suga	MAEKAWA , Iwajiro	NOMURA , Lucy Toshiko
FUJII , Rinnosuke	IWASAKI , Suye	MASUDA , Suyekichi	NOZOE , James Akira
FUJII , Jean Misako	IWASHITA , Motaro	MATSUBA , Kenneth Brian Yukio	OHARA , Kinosuke
FUJINO , Iwajiro	KAIURA , Hideo	MATSUOKA , Haruno	OHASHI , Shizuko
FUJINO , Shizue	KAMADA , Masu	MATSUMURA , Toshiko	OHASHI , Uta
FUJIOKA , Yonesaku	KATO , Katsujiro	MITSUKI , Shige	OMOTO , Paul
FUKAKUSA , Mariko	KAWAMOTO , Chujiro	MIYASAKI , Nobu	ONO , Isao
FUKUMA , Hirotsuke	KIKUCHI , Kamematsu	MIYASAKI , Mitsue	OTAGURO , Sumiye
FUKUSHIMA , Shizue Sue	KIKUTA , Tatsuo	MORI , Kinu	PULS , Ron
GIGA , Fujiko	KISHIMOTO , Seikichi	MORIMOTO , Ikunosuke	SAITO , Sally Shizue
HALLISCHUK , Joanne Yoshiko	KISHIMOTO , Yo	MORIMOTO , Takeo	SAKAUYE , Kazuo
HARADA , Chiyono	KIYONAGA , Chiyoko May	MORISHITA , Harold Hiroshi	SAWAYAMA , Aya
HARRIS , Morgan	KIYONAGA , Don Kitaji	MORISHITA , Kamekichi	SEKIMOTO , Yasuko
HATANAKA , Sueko	KIYONAGA , Kiheiji	MURAKAMI , Itoku	SEKO , Shigeo
HAYASHI , Gibson	KOBAYASHI , Kenichiro	MURANAKA , Kenneth Kenichi	SHIBATA , Yoshikazu
HAYASHI , Doreen Akemi	KOBAYASHI , Kiyoshi	MURATA , Matsutaro	SHIMONO , Sakino
HIGA , Matsu	KODAMA , Isamu	NAKAGAWA , Katsujiro	SHIN , Zentaro
HIKIDA , Tsunekichi	KOKURA , Mitsu	NAKAGAWA , Margaret Fumiko	SHINYA , Shinsuke
HONKAWA , Kyuhachi	KONDO , Tadao Ted	NAKAHARA , Genichiro	SHIRAISHI , Robert Bob Shigeo
HUANG , Chan Nuan Po	KONDO , Yuki	NAKATSU , Kichinosuke	SHOJI , Yoshiko Mary
ICHII , Miyo	KONISHI , Helen Haruye	NAKATSU , Tsunekichi	Continued on page 15
ICHII , Seinojo	KOSHIDA , Thomas Yoichi	NAKAUCHI , Seki	
ICHII , Tokumatsu	KOYAMA , Katsuko		

GUIDING LIGHT

September Shotsuki, cont'd

TAGUCHI, Mary
 TAHARA, Mamoru Mum
 TAHARA, Noboru
 TAJIMA, Takakazu
 TAKAHASHI, George Yoshikazu
 TAKAHASHI, Torao Tote
 TAKANO, Shizue
 TAKATA, Ichiro
 TAKATA, Morikichi

TAKEMURA, Soichiro James
 TAKISHITA, Isami
 TANAKA, Chiyo
 TANAKA, Kisa
 TANAKA, Saburo
 TANAKA, Shosaku Jim
 TATEBE, Kazutaro
 TATEISHI, Tsugeko
 TEHARA, Joe Heijiro
 TEHARA, Kazuko

TERAKAWA, Sadako
 TOHANA, Shigeo
 TOJI, Toku
 TOKUYAMA, Akira
 TSUJI, Allan Takeru
 TSUJI, Shinichi Fred
 TSUJI, Tsuru
 TSUKADA, Masao
 TSUKAMOTO, Hana
 TSURUDA, Shuzo
 UCHIDA, Minoru

URA, Tomoye
 WAKISAKA, Takashi
 WAKISAKA, Yasuo
 WATADA, Chisato
 YAKO, Tokuzo
 YAMASHITA, Suwa
 YONEKURA, Sumiye
 YOSHIDA, Hideo
 YU, Song Shing and Hsieh Wei

CALLING ALL SANGHA KIDS

ARE YOU GOING TO CAMP LUMBINI THIS SUMMER?

Come join us at Camp Lumbini, July 24-30, 2022, in sunny Wasaga Beach.

If you have any questions about camp, please contact Abigail at abigail-kataoka@hotmail.com

Jessica at Kids.sanghatbc@gmail.com

Pre-registration is required.

With gratitude,
 Jessica and Yumi



Many hands and many hours go into keeping the temple a place for encountering the Dharma. As well as the board of directors and members of the management committees, we are fortunate to have volunteers answer the call for help often in ways that are unseen. We would like to acknowledge the help received in the past month.

A great big Thank You to:

- Naomi Tamaki for arranging the naijin (altar) flowers
- Donna Nakano, Emi Nakano for the o-buppan (rice offering) for the Sunday services
- Michael Tamaki and Steve Howard for installing security cameras
- Michael Tamaki, Jun Cura-Bongolan, and Ken Shigeishi for general maintenance and help around the temple property
- Joanne and Cary Kataoka for Tech during services
- Gayle Hayashi for maintaining the fundraising sales table





TORONTO BUDDHIST CHURCH

A Jodo Shinshu Temple

2022 MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

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

Applicant Renewal () New () Mr. () Mrs. () Ms. ()

Last Name: _____ Birthdate: dd/mm/yy: _____

First Name: _____ Email: _____

Address: _____ Phone: _____

City: _____ Signature: _____

Prov: _____ Postal Code: _____

I promise to pay \$_____ as my Membership Fee for 2022 and am enclosing the amount of \$_____ on account of such fee.
I will pay the balance of my Membership Fee, with my application. By signing this Membership Application I hereby adopt the vow below.

Signature _____ Date _____

I would like a Guiding Light mailed to me - English Only _____ English/Japanese _____

I authorize Toronto Buddhist Church and Jodo Shinshu Buddhist Temples of Canada (JSBTC) to send future mailings and e-mails. I understand I am able to opt out at any time by notifying the Temple. YES _____ NO _____

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.

トロント仏教会の護持会員として、次の通り誓約いたします。

- 1、お寺を浄土真宗のみ教えに従う人々が集うところとします。
- 2、報恩感謝の生活を送り、自他ともに心豊かに生きることのできる社会の実現に貢献します。
- 3、会則を厳守します。

Please note that this application is for membership from January 1, 2022 to December 31, 2022. The Individual Membership Fee for 2022 is a minimum of \$140. 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 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.

A SEPARATE MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION MUST BE FILLED OUT FOR EACH INDIVIDUAL APPLYING. PLEASE SUBMIT A SEPARATE PAYMENT FOR 'MEMBERSHIP ONLY'. PLEASE DO NOT COMBINE WITH DONATIONS.