



Guiding Light

June, 2022



TORONTO BUDDHIST CHURCH *a Jodo Shinshu Temple*

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

MESSAGE FROM GOVERNOR GENERAL IWAGAMI CHIKO**Jodo Shinshu Hongwanji-Ha**

On the occasion of the Jodo Shinshu Buddhist Temples of Canada National Annual General Meeting, I humbly extend my appreciation to you, the ministers and sangha representatives who have gathered online from throughout Canada. I would also like to express my heartfelt gratitude to you all for your continuing efforts in propagating Jodo Shinshu and maintaining the temples within your respective districts.

Over two and a half years into the pandemic, I would first like to extend my condolences to those who lost their lives to COVID-19 and offer my sympathy to the people who are currently undergoing treatment for the disease.

In terms of the coronavirus, some countries have begun lifting or easing restrictions with the decision to **live with** the virus. However, regardless of policy responses, infections remain high in many nations. The influence of this disease goes far beyond the individual and health risks, and is leading to great social division as a result from the anxiety of being infected as well as the groundless rumors and disagreements on preventive measures. Being aware that these issues are caused by our own self-oriented mindset that every one of us possesses as a human being, I cannot help but renew my appreciation for the value of Buddhist life relying on the Dharma as the foundation.

Another global issue we are now experiencing is the Russian military invasion into Ukraine. Deploying its armed forces to make their counterparts succumb to such unilateral aggression should never be forgiven. In the frontline cities of Ukraine, many civilians including children have been victimized. This outrage has not only caused tremendous hardship to the directly involved nation but has also brought about a myriad of global problems.

In his Message on 'Gratitude for the Jodo Shinshu Teaching,' Monshu Ohtani Kojun provides us with the following words, "When we are touched by this warm compassion and learn of Amida Tathagata's wish for our life, we are empowered to live at ease, share joy and sadness with people, and a world of mutual respect and support opens up." Receiving and deeply reflecting on this message, let us recite in unison the 'Gratitude for the Jodo Shinshu Teaching' while endeavoring to share the teaching in effective ways that is in accord with the time and age.

As announced, the Joint Celebration of the 850th Anniversary of Shinran Shonin's Birth and the 800th Anniversary of the Establishment of the Jodo Shinshu Teaching will be observed at Hongwanji in 2023, and we are preparing for the occasion. It would be wonderful if we are able to celebrate this special event together with all of you in Kyoto.

In closing, it is my hope that the Jodo Shinshu Buddhist Temples of Canada will continue to prosper and that many fruitful results will arise from this annual meeting.

April 23, 2022

Governor General Iwagami Chiko
Jodo Shinshu Hongwanji-ha

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. Please register for either in-person or the Zoom services on the website tbc.on.ca or by emailing tbc@tbc.on.ca.

		Kids' Sangha 10:30 am	9:00/11:00 AM	1:00 PM
		Zoom & In Person	In Person & Zoom	In Person & Zoom
June 12, 2022	Regular Service	English	English	None
June 19, 2022	Regular Service - Bishop Aoki	English	English	None
June 26, 2022	Regular Service	English	English	None
July 3, 2022	Monthly Memorial Service	English	English	Japanese
July 10, 2022. 9:00am	Hatsubon Family Service	None	English/Japanese 9:00 am	None
July 10, 2022	Obon Service	None	English 11:00 am	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.



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		1:00 PM	PAULINE KNUDE
Pine Ridge Memorial Gardens		1:30 PM	PAULINE KNUDE
Elgin Mills Cemetery	Sec. 2/8	10:30 AM	DENNIS MADOKORO
Highland Memory Gardens	Mausoleum near parking lot	11:30 AM	DENNIS MAKOKORO
York Memorial Cemetery		9:30 AM	JOANNE YUASA SENSEI
Pine Hills Cemetery	Sec. 7	10: 45 AM	JOANNE YUASA SENSEI
Resthaven Memorial Gardens		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		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

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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	9:00 AM	SUSAN EBISUZAKI
Riverside Cemetery		9:30 AM	SUSAN EBISUZAKI
St Philips		10:15 AM	SUSAN EBISUZAKI
Glendale Cemetery		9:30 AM	JOHN NISHIKAWA
Glen Oaks		9:30 AM	JEFF WILSON SENSEI
Spring Creek		10:00 AM	JEFF WILSON SENSEI
Meadowvale Cemetery			JEFF WILSON SENSEI

Gassho

Last week, I had dinner with my friends. My friend's son taught me a good word. I would like to talk a little about it at the beginning of this Dharma article.

We had home-cooked sushi for dinner. He asked me to pass the soy sauce. When I handed it to him, he looked at me and said, "Thank you so much." When I was a child, my parents always told me that I should be able to say "thank you" and "sorry" to others. So I said to him, "You are very good at saying thank you." Then he told me, "It's natural to say thank you when someone treats me well."

When I heard that, it made me wonder if I was saying thank you when people were kind to me, especially when I was busy, or if I was overlooking the kindness of others. We adults may think we are teaching children many things, but I believe we are learning a lot of things from them. Moreover, when I said, "thank you" to him for passing the wasabi, he said, "Thank you for saying thank you." We were having a good time in this way.

When we enjoyed eating sushi, he asked me one question. He asked, why I did *Gassho* placing my palms together before and after meals?"

So today, I would like to write about Gassho and tell you why we do Gassho to Amida Buddha.

Gassho and bowing are very important rituals for us to express our respect and gratitude to the Buddha. Gassho and bowing are not a way to ask for happiness from Amida Buddha. There are several origins of Gassho. One is to show that there is no hostility. You cannot act violently with Gassho, can you? Another origin is that in India, since ancient times, the right hand has been considered pure and the left hand impure. Therefore, it is said that the appearance of those two palms together is to represent equality that transcends any distinction or discrimination. A Jodo Shinshu minister translated this into English as Oneness, because he thought the right hand was Buddha who has pure mind and the left hand a was human beings who has Bonno, blind passion.

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GASSHO, cont'd

The Sutra on Immeasurable Life says "When Amida Buddha was a bodhisattva named Dharmakara, the bodhisattva turned three times to the right around the master Sejizai-O-Buddha, and the bodhisattva got down on both knees on the ground and did Gassho in praise of Sejizai-O-Buddha's virtues." Amida Buddha praised the master Sejizai-O, and inspired the wish to save and accept all sentient beings into the Pure Land. From this sutra, I might be able to say that we bow in Gassho in adoration for Amida's actions to express our respect and gratitude.

When I studied Jodo Shinshu rituals at Nishi-Hongwanji Temple. My senseis taught me how to do gassho and bow many times because it's an important ritual for us.

Some of you might have heard how to do it, but I would like to share it again.

The first step is to place your palms together in front of your chest. The hands are placed at a 45-degree angle to the chest. The 45-degree angle can be achieved by placing the second and third joint of the thumb on the chest. And the bow is also 45 degrees. If you bow your head, it is hard to tell how much 45 degrees is. One trick is to keep the Gassho hands level with the ground. This means that you have fallen to 45 degrees, and you have made a beautiful bow. This is the manner of Gassho and bowing. I have given you a detailed lecture with numbers, but the important thing is to show respect and gratitude to the Buddha.

I have seen an unforgettable Gassho here in Canada. It was when I performed makuragyo, last rites service, in an emergency room of a hospital for a temple member who had

suffered a stroke. When I started sutra chanting next to him, he moved his left arm to his chest and did Gassho. I was surprised when I saw him, because I had heard from the doctor that his left side body was no longer movable due to a stroke. He was slowly moving his mouth and chanting Shoshinge and recited the Nembutsu. I felt that his appearance was more beautiful than the manner I had learned at Nishi Hongwanji Temple. It was exactly the way he was doing Gassho with Amida from the bottom of his heart. Last month, I visited a senior home to see his wife. When she did gassho to Amida Buddha, it was not 45 degrees, but it was so beautiful and meaningful for me.

In concluding today's Dharma Talk, it's important to say thank you. I think some people think it's easy to say it, but I'm sure that will be good practice for us to know everyone lives by supporting each other and your life is not your own property. In other words, our lives are supported and kept alive by various other lives. When we understand the nature of life, we can say "Thank you" with Gassho in our hearts. And when we pass away, we would like to end our lives with Gassho in gratitude to Amida Buddha, just as the other Jodo Shinshu members did.

Just as Amida Buddha, who was once the Bodhisattva of the Dharmakara, showed respect and gratitude to the master Sejizaio, it is an important ritual for us to do Gassho and bow to the Buddha.

Gassho

Rev. Yoshimichi Ouchi

Another Kind of Birthday

The great masters who spread the teachings of the Pure Land sutras
Have liberated countless beings in this world of defilement and evil.

All people of the present Age - whether minister or lay - should with great mindfulness
Place their trust in the teachings of our venerable masters.

(Shinran Shonin, "*Shoshin-ge*" verse 30, Shin Buddhist Service Book, Buddhist Education Center, pp 87)

This is the last verse of the "*Shoshin-ge*" ("Hymn of True Shinjin and the Nembutsu"), which regular readers of the Guiding Light or attendees of Sunday services will know I mention a lot. It is a poem written by Shinran Shonin, summarizing his appreciation of the Pure Land teachings and Amida Buddha, through his examination of the writings of



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Another Kind of Birthday

the 7 Pure Land masters and the Pure Land sutras. The interesting thing about “*Shoshin-ge*” is that although he wrote it about his own appreciation, he does not use the term “I.” * Instead, he writes “we,” “us,” “our,” or as in the verse above, “all people.” He knows he personally benefits from the compassion and wisdom of Amida Buddha and the Nembutsu practice, saying *Namo Amida Butsu*, and that it was a path for him to attain Buddhahood. But he also includes the rest of us; we all benefit. Indeed, these teachings are not hidden and are fully accessible. These words are chanted in Jodo Shinshu temples every morning 365 days a year and anyone who wishes is allowed to join the morning services, listen, and chant these words.

I am writing this just before *Go-tan-e*, our commemoration of the birth of Shinran Shonin, on May 21, 1173; 849 years ago. There is another point or time in his life that I consider another kind of birthday, a transition from one life to another. After giving up being a Tendai monastic, he encountered Honen Shonin and became a disciple of his Nembutsu teaching. The Nembutsu teaching was shared in the general public and grew to such popularity that the existing Buddhist establishment got authorities to impose a ban on it. Shinran Shonin and Honen Shonin were exiled and stripped of their monastic status. Some might consider it a *relegation* to the life of a lay person and think of this time of exile as an unfortunate episode in his life.

I think this transition is notable because it’s a clear line between his life as a monastic and that of a “not-monastic.” In fact, he describes himself in writings as “neither monk nor lay” and he took a new name, *Gutoku*, which means “foolish, stubby-headed one.” It draws the image of a monk who had had their head shaved but in their “foolishness,” allowed it to grow back. His life in exile must have been completely different than his life as a monk. He was exiled to Echigo, in the northern part of the main island of Japan, famous for its harsh winters. His life in exile was meant to be difficult, a sort of punishment, but he became a part of this new community and was able to survive. Not only does he survive, but it could also be argued he thrived. Indeed, he *marries* a daughter of a local lord! Eshin-ni is a well-off woman - educated, and wealthy enough that she supported the family financially and materially. How does he go from ostensibly being a criminal to marrying into a local landowning family?

I like to think he exuded the joy of being in the compassion of Amida Buddha and this made him attractive to those around him. I like to think he was not bitter about being de-robed, or even being exiled. I imagine him with his neighbours, working hard, bent over, muddy, sweaty,

planting rice and saying the Nembutsu because he recognizes that this activity and all its parts - the soil, the seeds, the water, the sun, his neighbours, everything in that moment was sustaining his life in exile and it is *all* the compassion of Amida Buddha. I think he was able to recognise that even so far away from any monastery, without formal practice and study, without his direct teacher, he could still be sustained in the compassion of Amida Buddha and living a life towards enlightenment. And I think he rejoiced in this realization. I think this enthusiasm, his gratitude, his appreciation of Amida Buddha spilled out of him and others were drawn to him because of it.

To me, this transition, this “birth” from monk to exiled “non-monk” is just as important as his physical birth. I think the conditions of his life in exile were such that he was able to truly experience the immeasurable wisdom and compassion of Amida Buddha. He became “one of us” and truly understood that anyone could be in the wisdom and compassion of Amida Buddha, no matter what the circumstance of life.

I am sure exile was difficult, but I cannot help but consider it as essentially pivotal in his appreciation of the Nembutsu and it is the part of his life that I feel I can relate to the most. I do not know what it is like to live in a monastery like he did in his childhood and early adulthood. I do not know what it is like to be a revered Buddhist teacher as he was in his later life. I do know, however, what it feels for my life to be drastically changed by powers outside of my control. I know what it feels like to be the new one in a community. I know feelings of being lost, helpless, and completely vulnerable, as he might have felt at the beginning of his exile. I look up to him as a great writer about the Nembutsu practice, and as a great Buddhist scholar and thinker. But to me, I am most inspired by this period in which he lived in exile because it makes him seem most human, and I resonate with the appreciation he must have had for the compassion of Amida Buddha and the Nembutsu.

Next year marks the 850th year since the birth of Shinran Shonin and there will be major events, in our North American districts as well as at our head temple, Nishi Hongwan-ji in Kyoto, Japan. Let us all take the next year to focus on learning more about the man whose teachings of Amida Buddha live with us today.

Namo Amida Butsu Joanne M. Yuasa

*some translations use “I take refuge in the Tathagata of Immeasurable life, I entrust myself to the Buddha of Inconceivable light” as the opening lines.

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:

Grace Taugchi for arranging the naijin (altar) flowers

Debbie Katsumi for the o-buppan (rice offering) for the Sunday services

Michael Tamaki, Ken Shigeishi, and Jun Cura-Bongolan for general maintenance around the temple property

Joanne and Cary Kataoka for Tech during services

Gayle Hayashi for maintaining the "Find your Treasure" table



After two years of pandemic restrictions, the *socho* ("bishop") of the JSBTC, Tatsuya Aoki Socho, will be visiting TBC in June.

Saturday, June 18 (10 -11 AM) "Ask the Bishop".

Please send your questions for the bishop to Joanne Sensei

(yuasa.makoto@gmail.com). We will select a few for him to address during this gathering.

Sunday, June 19 (11 AM) - Sunday Service. Aoki Socho will be the guest Dharma Talk speaker

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:

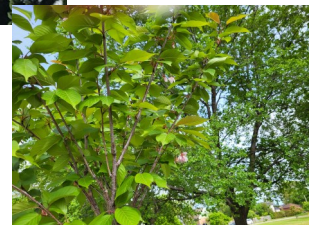
www.tbc.on.ca.

Your donations are always greatly appreciated.

SAKURA PROJECT

An update on the Sakura trees planted last year. They SURVIVED!!

There was only a few buds but they are healthy and green. Thank you to everyone who donated towards the trees. Hopefully next year we'll see more flowers.



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

<i>Mrs. Toshiko Tosh Goto</i>	<i>98 yrs</i>	<i>December 15, 2021</i>
<i>Mr. Banson Chong</i>	<i>69 yrs</i>	<i>November 5, 2021</i>
<i>Mrs. Takako Tanaka</i>	<i>100 yrs</i>	<i>April 24, 2022</i>
<i>Mrs. Teruyo Terrie Komori</i>	<i>100 yrs</i>	<i>April 24, 2022</i>
<i>Mrs. Fukue Yanase</i>	<i>89 yrs</i>	<i>April 25, 2022</i>
<i>Mrs. Fusako Mary Hama</i>	<i>89 yrs</i>	<i>May 12, 2022</i>
<i>Mrs. Keiko Kay Ohashi</i>	<i>94 yrs</i>	<i>May 11, 2022</i>
<i>Mrs. Dianne Kitazaki</i>	<i>92 yrs</i>	<i>May 16, 2022</i>



WELCOME

WE ARE ONE!

The Dana would like to extend a welcome to all Shin Fujinkai members who would like to join our group. Together we can become a stronger and better group to help the Temple with activities and outreach to the community. "We are One!" We hope to see some, if not all of you when things get back to "normal".

Please leave your name and email address with the Temple (tbc@tbc.on.ca) so we can contact you when the Dana get together again.

Dana Executive

CALGARY BUDDHIST TEMPLE SANGHA ENGAGEMENT

Thank you for your ongoing support of Sangha Engagement – it's been a pleasure to engage with such a fantastic community! There will be no online presentations or workshops for the months of July and August but please plan to join us again in September!

TBC "Find Your Treasure"

Fundraising table

After two years of having to cancel the temple bazaar, we are starting a "Japan Wares corner" in the TBC lobby as an ongoing fundraiser for the temple. We will have a couple of tables of antique and vintage housewares and decorative objects made in Japan; many unused and in their original packaging. If you're looking for authentic Japanese dolls, ceramics, lacquerware, glassware and other items, please come take a look next time you're at temple for a service! We will always have a different collection of items on sale.

Please note:

- All sales will take place *after services* at the temple
- All sales will be by cash or cheque
- Sales will not come with receipts for income tax purposes (as it is a sale of items)
- All sales will be final



Memorial (Shotsuki) Listing for the Month of July

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 July. All are invited and welcome to attend.

ALLEN , Thomas	KATSURA , Tome	NEKODA , Mineto	TATEISHI , Ai
AMANO , Noriharu Ness	KAYAMA , Toyo	NISHI , Kura	TERAKAWA , Tadaji
AMEMORI , Kikue	KISHIMOTO , Masao	NISHIMURA , Michio	TSUCHIDA , Taichi
AYUKAWA , Shizuo	KISHIMOTO , Sachiko	NISHINO , Kimi	TSUJI Tojiro
BESSHO , Etsuko	KISHIMOTO , Walter	OGINO , George Ryuzo	TSUYUKI , Nobuko
EBATA , Chuta Roy	KISHITA , Shizuko	OHARA , Thomas Minoru	UI , Hideo
EBIHARA , Kesajiro	KITAMURA , Shigeru	OHASHI , Takiko	UYEDA , Senjiro
FUJII , Hideko Hedy	KITAMURA , George Mitsuji	OHASHI , Fusako Elsie	UYENO , Kuye
FUJINAMI , Haya	KITAZAKI , Kiyohiro	OHASHI , Hanae Hannah	UYENO , Tashichi George
FUJIOKA , Sueno	KIYONAGA , Toshiko Kathleen	OKIMURA , Yasue Josie	UYESUGI , Sueko
FUKUMOTO , Fujio	KOBAYASHI , Fumie	OMORI , Sawa	WAKABAYASHI , Hatsue
GOTO , Miyoshi	KODAMA , Tsuyoshi	OMOTO , Yosoya	WAKABAYASHI , Barron Chuzo
HAKKAKU , Vernon Tsutomu	KOSHIDA , Koto	OMOTO , Yutaro	WAKAYAMA , Sam Masami
HAKODA , Yuki	KOYANAGI , Namiye	ONO , Eizo William	WANI , Tsuyo
HAMADE , Michiyo	KOYATA , Hikoza Hik	SAITO , Mary Yasue	WATANABE , Hideyoshi Harry
HAMAMOTO , Fusako	KUBOTA , Yahachiro	SARUYAMA , Natsu	YAMADA , Mitsuo Mike
HASHIMOTO , Thomas Hajime	KUMAGAI , Matsu	SARUYAMA , Dan Kono	YAMAMOTO , Bob Maso
HASHIMOTO , Yoshikazu Frank	KUMAHARA , Tetsuo	SASAKI , Tadao	YAMASHITA , Kumiko
HAYASHI , Hachijiro	KURAHASHI , Sumi	SHIMIZU , Suzu	YASUDA , Fumiko Eileen
HAYASHI , Kinu	MATSUMOTO , Masanori Moza	SHIMIZU , Shizue Suzie	YASUI , Suelo
HIROTA , Yoshiko Pat	MATSUSHIGE , Toshie	SOGO , Chiyoko	YONEKURA , Hedy Hideko
HUANG , Huan Tang	MINAMIDE , Bunkichi	SUGIMAN , Toshihiko	
IBUKI , Norman Takeshi	MINAMIDE , Tomiko	SUGIMAN , Ross Tatsuro	
IKEDA , Hatsue	MISUMI , Toyoko	SUMIYA , Odai	
IMAI , Usakichi	MITSUBATA , Chutaro	SUZUKI , Kiyomi	
INOUE , Iwao	MITSUKI , Kazuko Kay	TAGUCHI , Takemi	
IRIZAWA , Sawaichi	MIYANISHI , Shozo	TAKAHASHI , Sada	
JIEMURA , Shizu	MIZUYABU , Yuriko	TAKAHASHI , Toshio	
KADOHAMA , Toranosuke	MIZUYABU , Kenneth Mitsuo	TAKAHASHI , Tokiemon	
KAMADA , Shinjiro	MORI , Denya	TAKASAKI , Susan	
KAMINO , Toshiye	MORIKAWA , Suna	TAKEMURA , Chiyoko	
KAMIYAMA , Hajime	MURATA , Kazuo	TAKENAKA , Maisie Alice	
KARATSU , Sen	NAGANO , Yaye	TAKENO , Haruo	
KASHINO , Mary	NAKAGAWA , Miki	TAKENO , Ryu	
KASHINO , Junn	NAKANISHI , Tsuneharu	TAMOTO , Harumi	
KASHINO , Kenichi Robert	NAKATSU , Kunijiro	TANAKA , Shoko	
KASUBUKA , Hiroko		TANAKA , Kazuko Kay	
		TANI , Hatsue Jane	

CALLING ALL SANGHA KIDS



JUNE'S THEME: "End of the year celebration.

June 12, 2022 - to be announced

HAVE A WONDERFUL SAFE SUMMER!



With gratitude
Jessica and Yumi

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.

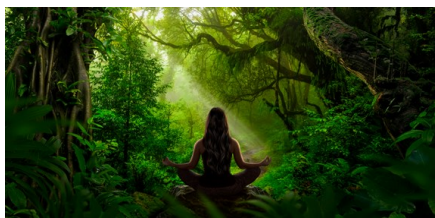
This one hour session includes:

- 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



Bon Odori 2022

Bon Odori practices are underway at the TBC!

Obon is a Buddhist custom to honour one's ancestors. After 2 years of isolation, lockdown and perhaps limited exercise, come out to learn Japanese folk dances. Everyone is welcome and step-by-step instructions are given. No experience is necessary.

Practices are every Tuesday and Friday night, from 8:00 – 9:30pm at the Toronto Buddhist Church. **Please note that masks will be required.**

The last practices will be Tuesday July 5th and **Thursday** July 7th.

For more information, please contact the Toronto Buddhist Church or tbcminyo@gmail.com.

The Bon Odori Festival will be Saturday, July 9, 2022,

starting at 7:00 pm. Come out to watch the dancers in their colourful yukatas and happi coats. The audience will also be encouraged to join in with some dances.

The Bon Odori Festival will be held at the Japanese Canadian Cultural Centre at 6 Garamond Ct.



Butsudan Adoption program



Behind the TBC naijin (altar) in the hondo (main hall), there are unused butsudan (Buddhist home altars) that have come to TBC for a variety of reasons. Some butsudan are homemade here in Canada, because they were difficult to come by in the past. Others were brought very carefully from Japan. Despite the great care people have given to these very important items, some butsudan come to us showing signs of long and good “use”.

When the unused butsudan came to the attention of Gerry Tsuji, he offered to use his skills as a woodwork hobbyist to restore them. Gerry replaced hinges and doors, re-papered screens, and painted the butsudan. Thanks to Gerry's skills and efforts, the butsudan are back to a condition where they can proudly be placed in the centre of a home; where people can place their palms together in gassho and turn their attention to the wisdom and compassion of Amida Buddha.

Gerry has generously offered to restore butsudan in a variety of sizes which we will be selling as a fundraiser. We will continue to share details of butsudan that Gerry has restored, and we hope that you will find one that fits your home and budget.

The butsudan pictured below are currently available; please contact the TBC office for details.



Butsudan 1 Dimensions:

- W 33cm x D 33cm x H 55cm
- 64 cm wide with doors open
- Black exterior with gold interior
- One drawer



Butsudan 2 Dimensions:

- 48cm x 38cm x 72cm.
- 86 cm wide with doors open
- Black exterior with gold and red interior
- Two drawers

MAY 1, 2022 SHOTSUKI

In person services have started again, we hope that you will fill the Hondo again

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 4 and 5), Bon Odori at The JCCC and Hatsubon, Obon and Japanese services on Sunday, July 10th (times on page 3).

**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		



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, if any, by May 31, 2022. 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.