



Guiding Light

March, 2023



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

		Kids' Sangha	11:00 AM	1:00 PM
		10:15 am		
		In Person	In Person & Zoom	In Person & Zoom
March 5, 2023	MONTHLY MEMORIAL SERVICE (SHOTSUKI)	ENGLISH	ENGLISH	JAPANESE
MARCH 12, 2023	REGULAR SERVICE	NONE	ENGLISH	NONE
MARCH 19, 2023	OHIGAN/ KEIROKAI	ENGLISH	ENGLISH	NONE
MARCH 26, 2023	REGULAR SERVICE	NONE	ENGLISH	NONE
APRIL 2, 2023	MONTHLY MEMORIAL SERVICE (SHOTSUK)	ENGLISH	ENGLISH	JAPANESE
APRIL 9, 2023	REGULAR SERVICE— HANAMATSURI	NONE	ENGLISH	NONE

HANAMATSURI, SUNDAY APRIL 9

Please join us for the Hanamatsuri service, Sunday April 9 to celebrate the birth of Siddhartha Gautama, the founder of Buddhism. Born into an aristocratic family in what is now Nepal, the legend goes that sweet tea rained on the day of his birth in Lumbini gardens. Thus, we pour sweet tea in homage over the baby Buddha. Hanamatsuri means flower festival in Japanese, a time of year which coincides with the Sakura season.

**KEIROKAI****MARCH 19**

Every year at the spring Ohigan service we celebrate members who have in 2023 have or will reach the ages of 77 (Kiju), 88 (Beiju), 99 (Hakuju), 100 plus (Kakuju). Keirokai is a ceremony of gratitude for our seniors who helped build and sustain our temple. Please fill and mail out the membership form on page or send it via email to tbc@on.ca by March 12th.



Nirvana Day “Giving and Receiving”

Nirvana Day was held at the Toronto Buddhist Church in February. Over 2500 years ago, Shakyamuni Buddha passed away in India. In Buddhism, we say this is when he entered Nirvana. Nirvana literally means Blowing Out in Sanskrit.

When we say Nirvana is “blowing out,” it represents the blowing out of the fire that represents our *Bonno*, blind passions or ignorance.

Even though we learn this life is impermanent thorough the teachings of the Buddha, our *Bonno* makes it hard to accept the truth from the bottom of our heart-mind, and this life becomes suffering. Because if we cannot control this impermanent life, we will feel sad, annoyed, and we sometimes get angry.

Death is uncontrollable. I don’t have any particular reasons, but I wish to live until 80 years old at least. If I have a child, that wish might be changed. I may wish to live as long as possible to stay with my child forever. But this is impossible, because we cannot control our death.

Therefore, I could say that the death of Shakyamuni Buddha underscores the teaching of impermanence, the idea that we and all other beings and things in this world are subject to constant change.

It was the Buddha’s intent that through his teachings we would understand the transitory nature of our existence and ultimately experience Truth.

When he was lying down between the twin sala trees, he gave his final Dharma talk to his disciples. He said *“After I leave this world, make the Dharma your place of refuge. Make of yourself a light. All things in this world are impermanent. Follow the Dharma diligently”*

I’m now going to talk about something seemingly different from Buddhism. But please remember the words which Shakyamuni Buddha said when he was entering Nirvana: *“After I leave this world, make the Dharma your place of refuge. Make of yourself a light. All things in this world are impermanent. Follow the Dharma diligently”*

Last Tuesday was Valentine’s Day. I went Downtown because of my day-off. When I went to a café to read a book, I saw some couples on a date and they exchanged gifts to show their love.

When we receive something from others, we feel happy. That is why many people like Christmas, Thanksgiving and Valentine’s Day, I think.

At the café, I was reading a book of “The Art of Loving” written by Erich Fromm who was a social psychologist and humanistic philosopher in 20th century.

In that Book, he wrote about LOVE. He said that many people see the issue of love as a matter of being loved, not a matter of loving. In other words, people these days think it’s more important to be loved, and to receive love than to give love.

He wrote the reason why many people

misunderstand love is because in the Victorian era, love was not a personal experience, but something that came out of marriage and the home created by the couple. Therefore, it was believed that love could only come about after marriage.

However, since the 20th century, the concept of romantic love has spread. Most people are now looking for love as a personal experience that leads to marriage.

This makes them believe that it’s more important to raise their social status or improve their physical appearance so that they attract someone, rather than working on their own ability to love someone.

He wrote that it was more important to love than to be loved. I believe that he wanted to tell us that **it’s more important to give something to others than to receive something from others.**

When I talked about something similar to this topic to high school students who visited our temple on a fieldtrip, a student called me after the workshop and he said “I understand that giving is more important than receiving. But unfortunately, it’s difficult for me, because my family is poor and we don’t have anything to share with others.”

I felt sorry to hear this, but I was not worried about him because during my lecture, he raised his hand to ask many questions.

I remember him well because his questions were honest and interesting but not too serious – some of his questions made us laugh. There was humor in his questions.

Even though he didn’t have anything material to give me, I enjoyed talking with him, so I feel I received something from him.

We sometimes think that in order to give something, we must have something to give. And we mistakenly believe that having something to give is what makes us wealthy.

Buddhism does not call having material things wealth. A truly wealthy person is one who can give something to others, even if they don’t have anything. Erich Fromm may call this “LOVE.”

You may have heard “Dana” in the temple. Dana literally means “Giving” in Sanskrit. There are 7 teachings from Dana.

The first is *Wagense*, Treat people with a friendly face

The second is *Shinse*, Concern for others.

The third is *Gonjise*, Use words carefully and communicate with others.

The fourth is *Gense*, Giving a warm look

The fifth is *Shinse*, Serve and do good for others



Nirvana Day “Giving and Receiving”, continued

The sixth is *Shozase*, Passing-on a place, a seat, a position.

The seventh is *Boshase*, Give them a place to escape the wind and rain.

Therefore, even though we don't have any actual things to give someone, we can give our seat on the bus, we can give our smile and we can show/express concern for others always. These are included in Dana in Buddhism.

I should never forget that Shakyamuni Buddha didn't give us anything except his teachings. We cannot see or hold the teachings, because they are invisible things, but we know that the teachings give us great relief.

Therefore, Shakyamuni Buddha said when he entered the Nirvana “After I leave this world, make the Dharma your place of refuge. Make of yourself a light. All things in this world are impermanent. Follow the Dharma diligently”

In Gassho

Rev. Yoshimichi OUCHI

Nature and Reflecting

One of the things that remind us of the inter-connectedness of all life is Nature. Forest bathing is a national passion for the people of Japan. Immersing on self in the sounds, the sights, the smell and just the ambience of a forest opens one to the relationship of the trees, the bushes, the birds and the animals that live there. They all exist in a symbiotic relationship. We need to be reminded

of this on a regular basis.

My first vivid experience of the soothing and healing powers of Nature came when I was 25. I had just left the Canadian Navy on an honourable discharge. I had decided that Navy life was not to be my life.

Parting any career choice is not easy so I sought solace in Nature. I borrowed some camping equipment and went to find my new purpose in life in the National park on Long Beach on the west coast of Vancouver Island. This place, Long Beach, is a long stretch of beautiful sandy beaches that stretches perhaps several miles. Huge waves roll in from across the Pacific Ocean. It was a wonderful place to reflect on my new purpose in life. Remember that I was only 25 years of age. That was some 52 years ago. Long walks on that beautiful beach, camping alone in a secluded late September revitalized my soul. I think that experience of reflecting on my young life to that point restored me and made me whole again.

Speaking of reflecting, we often voice the phrase “Reflecting on my imperfect self” at the beginning of our Sunday services.

Reflecting upon my imperfect self and how I prepared for this Dharma talk was interesting. I wanted to say so much but I soon realized that mere words mean nothing unless they reflect my own experiences. I wanted to talk about Shoshinge and the wonderful and beautiful history that our founder Shinran Shonin created just to teach imperfect beings like ourselves. Shoshinge tells in beautiful verse how Dharmakaya under the guidance of Lokeshvaraja Buddha became Amida Buddha.

Shoshinge tells us about Shakyamuni Buddha and his teachings. Those teachings were carried on by Nagarjuna and Vasabandu of India, Tan-luan, Tao-ch'o and Shan=tao of China, Genshin and Genku of Japan. So, how does all

this tie in to my own life experiences?

I believe it ties in because of Shinran Shonin's wonderful and beautiful description on Shinjin that occurs throughout Shoshinge. Shinjin is central to my understanding and I believe your understanding of Jodo Shinshu Buddhism. It involves that action of “reflecting upon my imperfect self” and then letting go of that self. Letting go of my self power, my ego, and my need to feel in control. And those moments, while rare for me, allow me to bask in the boundless compassion of Amida Buddha that illumines me always. We just have to let go.

From verse 27 of Shoshinge:

“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.”

So, flash forward to today, 52 years later, I am now 77 years of age. What have I learned about the purpose of my life? For I am still a spiritual seeker. That is why I have found a home here in the Toronto Buddhist church, why I have found a home in Jodo Shinshu Buddhism.

I am aware of myself as a small piece in this wide world. I find comfort in the Buddha, the Dharma, the Sangha, which is all of you. We are all interconnected. You and I are one in spirit.

I will close with a little story. A while back a Dharma friend posted on social media Patsy Kline's “Tennessee Waltz”. That post instantly took me back to a memory of my mother Mary Miki, standing by the kitchen counter preparing our family's dinner and she is singing these words:

“I remember the night and the Tennessee waltz,

When an old friend I happen to see,

I introduced her to my loved one and while they were dancing,

My friend stole my sweetheart from me.”

Wow, we are all truly interconnected! Thank you J. for that memory.

Namo Amida Butsu, Namu Amida butsu, Namu Amida Butsu.

Dennis Madokoro

DONBURI DINE-IN

Fundraiser Dinner!

Come out and support the Temple!

SATURDAY APRIL 29, 2023

5:30PM AND 8:00PM SEATINGS
AVAILABLE

TICKETS

\$45 FOR 1 OR

\$250 FOR A TABLE OF 6

Your ticket includes a starter, choice of donburi (chicken, pork, or vegetarian), dessert, and door prize ticket!

Come out for a fun night of door prizes, a cash bar, and music!

**Please contact
fundraisertbc@gmail.com to
reserve your seat**

**We are looking for volunteers and door prize donations! If you can help out please contact
fundraisertbc@gmail.com**

Living A Life of Gratitude



Living a life of gratitude is said to be the heart of Jodo Shinshu Buddhism because gratitude can transform both our present moment and our overall attitude towards, and experience of life. Ultimately, we are grateful for being sustained in the boundless Love, Compassion, and Wisdom of Amida Buddha, who created for us the Pure

Land so that we may become Awake, and be reborn to help other sentient beings do the same. Yet, as Jodo Shinshu Buddhists, our spirituality is fostered in the mundane aspects of our lives, our daily activities from getting the kids to school, to buying groceries, and spending time with family and friends – and it is in these moments that we practice gratitude. Taking a moment to acknowledge and express our gratitude for what we have allows us to become aware of everything that we have received, and when this becomes a habit, throughout our day to express gratitude, we gain a new, fuller experience of life wherein we can fully appreciate the preciousness of our lives and indeed, how fundamentally good life really is. And one important thing we realize in the daily practice of gratitude is that most of the goodness in our lives comes from external sources, reminding us that we receive so much and are connected to something much greater than ourselves.

We do not need to limit our expression of gratitude to when we are happy, but also when we feel sad, angry, and afraid. Nothing changes our mindset more than reminding ourselves of the goodness in our lives. In moments of gratitude, we free ourselves from our ordinary ways of thinking and feeling (coloured by the three poisons of desire, hatred, and ignorance). Over time, our daily practice of gratitude transforms us spiritually, enabling us to let go of our attachments, our angry ruminations from the past and worries about the future, allowing us to live peacefully

in the moment.

How Do We Express Gratitude?

As Jodo Shinshu Buddhists, we say the Nembutsu to express our gratitude, recognizing that we are held in the Love and Compassion of Amida Buddha. Aside from saying the Nembutsu, there are other ways for us to be mindful of and express gratitude, from saying thank-you to a spouse for doing the dishes, to sending a thank-you note to a friend or colleague. Some people find it useful to keep a gratitude journal. Simply thinking about what you are grateful for, making a mental/emotional note of someone who smiled at you or helped you out today, is an excellent way to live a life of gratitude. In our meditation and mindfulness practices, we can direct our gratitude to the present moment, to the countless causes and conditions, and the many people, that allow us this good life that we have.

What becomes possible for us when we are noticing and expressing our gratitude throughout the day?

Expressing gratitude is good not just for our spiritual health, but also our physical and psychological health. Expressing gratitude strengthens and deepens our relationships with others and makes new ones possible. Living with gratitude tends to cause us to exercise more, socialize more, and sleep better at night. Gratitude enhances our empathy, and reduces our aggression and ill-feelings towards others. Living a life of gratitude leads to greater overall happiness, improved emotional states and better health.

May we keep saying the Nembutsu!

May we live a life of gratitude!

May we all find peace!

In Gassho

Dr. Jenny Bright



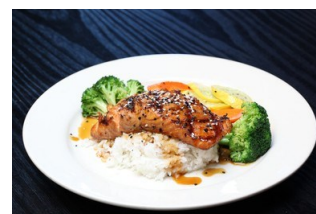
Save the Date

Hanamatsuri Family Banquet

Sunday April 16, 2023

After service in the Social Hall

Roast beef, Salmon, Vegan



Memorial (Shotsuki) Listing for the Month of April

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 **April**. All are invited and welcome to attend.

ABE , Takeo Tom	HAYASHI , Toshiko	KONDO , Masao Mike	OGAKI , Sakae
AIHOSHI , Yone	HIGUCHI , Naoichi	KOTANI , Akie	OHARA , Yoshiko Vicki
AKADA , Saki	HIGUCHI , Takashi	KOYANAGI , Koto	OHASHI , Matsujiro
AMEMORI , Isaburo	HIRAMORI , Yukio	KOYATA , Shoji	OIKAWA , Yoshiye
AOKI , Hiroshi	HIROTA , Naoyuki	KOZAI , Shinkuro	OKU , Takeji
AOKI , Mary	HISAKI , Yoneko	KUBOTA , Miyoko	OMOTO , Mitsuye
ATAGI , Yoshio	HORIBE , George	KUSANO , Henry Koichi	OMOTO , Chiyo
AYUKAWA , Etsuko Marjorie	IKUTA , Rev. Kyojo S.	MAKIMOTO , Tomisaburo	ONO , Fumiye
BABA , Kinu	INABA , Makoto	MASUDA , Haru	OTSU , Mataharu
BANDO , Tomizo	INAMOTO , Hanako	MATSUOKA , Tsunehichi	SAITO , Takako
DOI , Shizue	ITO , Jukichi	MATSUYAMA , Heishiro Harry	SAKAMOTO , Asakichi
EBATA , Kazuo James	ITO , Fumiko	MIYAMOTO , Masako	SEKO , Hatsu
EBATA , Lillian Shizue	ITO , Tsugio	MIYAMA , Irene Chikayo	SEKO , Mitsuyo
EBATA , Tada Harumi	IWASA , Hisa	MIZUTANI , Tomie Mary	SHIBATA , Sumi
EBISUZAKI , Tsunetaro	IWASAKI , Sosaku	KONDO , Masao	SHIGEISHI , Kimiko
EDAMURA , Masao	IZUKAWA , Kane	MORI , Masu	SHINDE , Susumu
FUJII , Yayeko	KADOHAMA , Kumiko	MORI , Sukeshiro	SHIKATANI , John Kikuo
FUJIMOTO , Kiju	KAMADA , Denjiro	MORIKAWA , Tokio	SHIKATANI , Tsuji
FUJIOKA , Seiichi	KANDA , Masano	MOTOMURA , Yutaka	SHIOMI , Michiyo
FUJIOKA , Teruichi	KASAI , Tsutomu	NAGANO , Kiyoko	SHIOZAKI , Christina Chizu-yo
FUJITA , Haruko	KAWAGUCHI , Sachiko	NAKAGAWA , Ai	SHIOZAKI , Tsunejiro Tony
FUKUNAGA , Sukeo	KAWANO , Katsuyo Ray	NAKAGAWA , Kotaro Harold	SPRATLEY , George William Harvey
HAKKAKU , Joe	KAWANO , Sueo	NAKAMURA , Masanobu	SUGA , Chiyoko Margaret
HAMADE , Yoneichi	KAWASAKI , Ginny Tatsuyeye	NAKANISHI , Yoshie	SUENAGA , Tomi
HAMANISHI , Ikuko	KIKUTA , Noboru	NAKAO , Masaru Mas	SUYAMA , Hisakichi
HAMAZAKI , Harvey Hiroyuki	KINOSHITA , Hatsue	NAKATSU , Hatsu	TAHARA , Tsune
HARA , Fusae	KISHIMOTO , Haruko	NIKAIDO , Barbara Hiroye	TAKAHASHI , Hideo
HARADA , Kumaichi	KISHIMOTO , Tomoko	NISHI , Yasu	TAKAHASHI , Takejiro
HAYASHI , Genji	KITAMURA , Mina	NISHIKAWA , Hidekazu Nick	TAKATA , Kase
HAYASHI , James Sumio	KITAMURA , Mitsuye	NISHIKAWA , Shizue	
HAYASHI , Kaneo	KIYONAGA , Shoji	NODA , Tameo	
HAYASHI , Noritsugu	KOJIMA , Masao	NODA , Yasuichiro	
	KOMORI , Hiromu Ken		
	KONDO , Mitsuharusa		

Continued on page 8

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

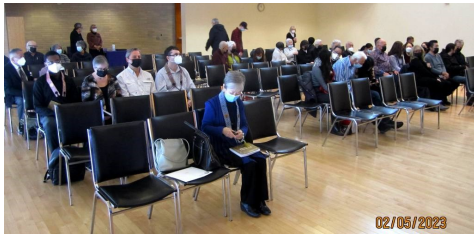
TAKAYAMA,
 Harold Shoichi
TAKEDA, Tsuneyo
TAKENO, Heisaburo
TANAKA, Kazuo
TANAKA, Koryo

TANAKA, Marion Miyo
TANAKA, Takako
TANIISHI, Gonshiro
TERAKITA, Yoshio
TESHIMA,
 Rosa Setsuko
TOWATA, Takiyo
TOWATA, Toichiro
TSUBOUCHI,

Lynne Reiko
TSUCHIDA, Fusa
TSUKADA, Iso
TSUTSUI, Iwanosuke
TSUYUKI, Kakuzo Ken
URA, Ikukichi
URAGAMI, Misao
UYEDE, Shoji
UYENO, Natsue

YAMAMOTO,
 Frank Shunzo
YAMAMOTO, Yaeko
YAMAMOTO,
 Yohko Joan
YAMASHITA, Toyono
YOSHIDA, Kikumi
YOSHIDA, Tozo
YOSHIZAKI, Taketoshi

SHOTSUKI, FEBRUARY 5, 2023



NIRVANA DAY & SANGHA DAY
FEBRUARY 19, 2023



New Sangha Members



Sangha Day Luncheon

CALLING ALL SANGHA KIDS

March's Theme: Balance

March 5th – Taking the middle path

March 19th – Balancing our emotions

April's Theme: Sakyamuni Buddha

Hanamatsuri

Buddha's Birth – Kanbutsu-e

Everyone is welcome to join Kids Sangha.

Kids service begins at 10:15 a.m. Please be on time.

The service is followed by classroom activities and talk from 10:45 – 12:00 p.m.

With gratitude,

The Kids Sangha Team



Toronto Buddhist Church
Online Speakers Series

"BUDDHISM AND..."



HOPE YOU ARE ABLE TO ATTEND
THE TWO 'MAID' WORKSHOPS.

PLEASE REGISTER WITH THE QR
CODE. **DO NOT REGISTER ON THE
TBC WEBSITE.**



Rev. Dr. Roland Ikuta

BSc, MD, FRCP(C) ret.
Former MAID Assessor
Kyoshi minister,
Buddhist Temples of
Southern Alberta (JSBTC)

Medical Assistance In Dying

3 Apr., 2023 (Pt.1)
and
1 May, 2023 (Pt.2)

8:00 PM - 9:00 PM EST

Registration is FREE
via this QR code or clicking
on the underlined

Toronto Buddhist Church
1011 Sheppard Avenue W., M3H 2T7
tbc@tbc.on.ca
416-534-4302

Click to
Register



*A Farewell
and
A Thank You to Joanne Yuasa Sensei*
You are invited to:
High Tea



Saturday March 18, 2023 at 2:00pm
RSVP by March 10, 2023

Registration Required: On line: tbc.on.ca

Email: darlene.rieger@tbc.on.ca>

or call 416-534-4302

High Tea Menu

Tea Assortment: Earl Grey, English breakfast and Orange Pekoe

Currant Scones with Devonshire cream and raspberry jam

Sandwiches: Egg salad, salmon salad and cucumber with herb cream cheese

Desserts: Lemon tarts, chocolate strawberries, shortbread cookies, chocolate truffles, raspberry cheese-cake, butter tarts and Nanaimo bars.

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

Mrs. Sachiko Shaly Iwashita	February 9, 2023
Mrs. Kimiko Gekko	February 16, 2023
Mrs. Tamae Fujimoto	February 20, 2023



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, 2023 (or 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

Bon Odori 2023

It has been a relatively mild winter and we are awaiting the arrival of spring. Celebrate spring's arrival by learning Bon odori, Japanese folk dances, at the Toronto Buddhist Church. Obon is a Buddhist custom to honour one's ancestors.

Everyone is welcome and step-by-step instructions are given. No experience is necessary but it's best to attend from the beginning as new dances are introduced throughout the course of the practices.

Practices are held every Tuesday and Friday night starting Tuesday, April 18, 2023, from 8:00 – 9:30pm at the Toronto Buddhist Church and will continue until the Bon Festival. It will be held on Saturday, July 8, 2023, 7:00pm at the Japanese Canadian Cultural Centre.

Please note that masks will be required in the TBC.

For more information, please contact the Toronto Buddhist Church.

Toronto Buddhist Church
1011 Sheppard Avenue West
416-534-4302
tbc@tbc.on.ca



Keirokai 2023

After the Keirokai service on Sunday, March 19, 2023, we will be celebrating our "Young at Heart" by having a bento luncheon. Bentos will be available **for sale for \$15** to take-out or eat-in.

If you are a TBC member 77 years or older, you will receive a complimentary bento. *(Please make sure you have a current signed membership form on file with the office before March 5th.)*

Extra bento lunches **must be ordered by the**

deadline of March 11, 2023. Orders will not be accepted after this date! If you do not pre-order, there will be no extra bentos available.

Orders can be placed on-line at <https://forms.gle/zkRXHjRkUWu5UqeK8>

or by calling the TBC office at (416) 534-4302.

See you there!



KEIROKAI



敬老会

Celebrating our young at heart!

Sunday, March 19, 2023
we will be honouring Temple members
who are celebrating their
77th (kiju), 88th (beiju) or 99th (hakuju) year

Honorary TBC members (77+) will receive a complimentary bento.
*(Please make sure you have
a current signed membership form on file with the office.)*

Everyone else will be able to order a bento for \$15.

**The deadline for ordering ALL bentos is March 11, 2023.
No bento order can be taken after the deadline.
Please see the Guiding Light for details.**

An entertainment programme will follow the luncheon

KEIROKAI 2023

We are looking forward to celebrating all the honourees in 2023 both in person and on line. For all honorees and those attending in person 77 and over, there will be a complimentary bento and we will be holding a short entertainment program after service.

We are recognizing members who have reached or who will reach the age of 77(Kiju), 88 (Beiju), 99 (Hakuju) years, and 100 (Kakaju) years and older in 2023. We will be featuring our honourees during our Ohigan Service on **March 19, 2023 at 11:00 am** in person and via Zoom. Please fill out the form below or send the information via email to tbc@tbc.on.ca with the subject line "Keirokai" by March 12, 2023. Please include a picture of yourself that we can show during the service.

You can send your application via email to darlene.rieger@tbc.on.ca, mail or call into the office at 416-534-4302.

If your family wishes to purchase bentos please fill out the on line order form on the next page. Extra bentos are \$15.00 each.

Remember to fill out your honorary membership form and send it to the office by March 12, 2023!

2023 KEIROKAI HONOREE

Name (English): Mr./Mrs/Miss.

Last Name in Kanji (if known): _____

Address: _____

City: _____ Postal Code: _____

Date of Birth: _____ ***Please circle: 77 88 99 100+***

Will you be attending our Zoom Service on March 19th? Yes No

Would you attend the service in-person if that is an option? Yes No

Did you include a picture of yourself (honoree). Yes No

Email to send Zoom invitation _____



HAVE YOU APPLIED FOR YOUR 2023 TBC MEMBERSHIP?

SOME MAY SAY, "WELL, WHAT'S IN IT FOR ME?"

One could remind us of the following entitlements. You can:

1. Attend special Temple activities free of charge or at rates not available to non-members;
2. Take advantage of free notarial services offered by one of our Temple members; and,
3. Have a real say on important matters affecting the direction of the Temple, including the election of the President and the Directors, and the approval of budgets.

TBC WILL BE THERE FOR YOU BUT NEEDS ASSISTANCE

Supporting the Temple provides you with something that you can't tangibly quantify and put a price on. It's actually something you do for yourself and for our community. That is, your support is your affirmation of the Jodo Shinshu way of life and to support and spread the Dharma. This is what it's really about.

Please make that commitment for 2023. The Temple needs your support to continue to thrive, and it will with your support.

REGULAR MEMBERSHIP (valid Jan 1 - Dec 31)

- To be recognized as a Temple member, please complete the application form as early as possible at the start of each year
- Membership card will be sent once your signed application and membership fee or your promise to pay the total fee have been received
- Please note membership this year is a minimum of \$145.00

HONOURARY MEMBERSHIP

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

Can't make it to the Temple? You can submit your application and membership fee online at **tbc.on.ca**



TORONTO BUDDHIST CHURCH

A Jodo Shinshu Temple

2023 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 2023 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, 2023. 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, 2023 to December 31, 2023. The Individual Membership Fee for 2023 is a minimum of \$145. 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.

JSBTC WOMEN'S FEDERATION CARD FUNDRAISER

The JSBTC Women's Federation has produced blank cards for sale with images chosen from the many temple members across Canada who submitted designs to feature on the cards. The final artwork chosen for the cards are: Cherry Blossoms by Laurie Takeda of Calgary Buddhist Temple, Castle Two Trees by Y. Izumi of Buddhist Temples of Southern Calgary and Calla Lilies by Ted Ikuna of Steveston Buddhist Temple. The cards can be used for any occasion.

This Fund Raising Project will help offset the costs of supporting travel for 4 representatives to attend the 2023 World Women's Conference in Kyoto.

A pack of 6 blank cards (4.25" x 5.5") are \$10 a pack. Each pack has 2 cards of each of the three designs.

Please inquire in the office to purchase the cards.



FEBRUARY THANK YOU'S

A great big Thank You to:

- ◆ Naomi Tsuji-Tamaki for arranging the naijin (altar) flowers
- ◆ Emi Nakano for making the manju o-sonae (altar offerings)
- ◆ Joanne Yuasa sensei for o-buppan (rice) offerings
- ◆ To all the volunteers who are always at the Temple to help out every day, week or month.

We are always in need of volunteers. Please let the office know if you are available to volunteer or fill out the volunteer application on our website, tbc@tbc.on.ca. Let's have some new people to thank.

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.

Gassho



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