



Guiding Light

January, 2024



TORONTO BUDDHIST CHURCH *a Jodo Shinshu Temple*

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

New Year's Greeting



Happy New Year, everyone! At the beginning of this New Year, I would like to extend my best regards to you all.

Over the last year, innumerable people worldwide have been affected by natural disasters, such as earthquakes, floods, and forest fires. I was particularly shocked by the wild fires that devastated the island of Maui in the state of Hawaii. This disaster completely destroyed the temple hall of Lahaina Hongwanji Mission and one temple member was reported to have lost his life. I would like to offer my deepest condolences to all who have perished in those calamities. I would also like to express my sympathies to those who are still coping with the dire situations. It is my sincere hope that all who have been affected will soon be able to return to a normal daily life.

The Russian invasion of Ukraine that began in February 2022 is still continuing. Not only that, the conflict between Israel and Palestine has once again flared up from October 2024, embroiling nations concerned with victimizing a large number of people many of whom are civilians. Looking at the appalling state of the world, the following words of Sakyamuni Buddha come to mind. "Everyone fears violence and is scared of death. In consideration of all life, do not kill and do not make others kill."

Every one of us who has received life as a human being, no matter the reason, must be ensured equally of human rights, and no one's life should be threatened. In reality, however, conflicts and terrorist attacks have occurred everywhere in the world and for many people, their right to live and exist has been threatened. As Buddhists who aspire for peace, we must keep Sakyamuni Buddha's words seriously in our hearts and pursue our endeavour of contributing toward world peace and security.

During the last year, we observed the Joint Celebration of the 850th Anniversary of Shinran Shonin's Birth and the 800th Anniversary of the Establishment of the Jodo Shinshu Teaching at Hongwanji, Kyoto for a total of 30 days, divided into 5 sessions during the period from March 29 to May 21. On this occasion, I would like to express my heartfelt gratitude to those who came to Japan to attend, as well as those who supported it in various ways. This celebratory event could be realized only because our predecessors have cherished the Jodo Shinshu teaching as their spiritual foundation for many years no matter when or where they were, and carefully transmitted it to us today.

Let us, too, continue listening to the teaching as the center of our lives while cherishing each day.

January 1, 2024

OHTANI Kojun

Monshu

Jodo Shinshu Hongwanji-ha

UPCOMING SERVICES

		Kids' Sangha	11:00 AM	1:00 PM
		In Person	In Person & Zoom	In Person & Zoom
JANUARY 14, 2024	REGULAR SERVICE DENNIS MADOKORO	10:45 DHARMA SCHOOL	ENGLISH	NONE
	LET'S TALK DHARMA	NONE	12:00	NONE
JANUARY 20, 2024	HO ONKO EVE SERVICE	NONE	4:00 ENGLISH	NONE
	POTLUCK VEGETARIAN DINNER	NONE	5:00	NONE
JANUARY 21, 2024	REGULAR SERVICE HO ONKO (SENSEI'S LAST SERVICE)	10:15 KIDS SANGHA	ENGLISH	NONE
JANUARY 28, 2024	REGULAR SERVICE— DENNIS MADOKORO	10:45 DHARMA SCHOOL	ENGLISH	NONE
FEBRUARY 4, 2024	MONTHLY MEMORIAL— SHOTSUKI JEFF WILSON SENSEI	10:15 KIDS SANGHA	ENGLISH	NONE
FEBRUARY 11, 2024	REGULAR SERVICE DENNIS MADOKORO	10:45 DHARMA SCHOOL	ENGLISH	NONE
	LET'S TALK DHARMA	NONE	12:00 ENGLISH	NONE
FEBRUARY 18, 2024	REGULAR SERVICE DR. JENNY BRIGHT	10:15 KIDS SANGHA	ENGLISH	NONE

UPCOMING EVENTS**JANUARY 20**-HOONKO EVE SERVICE

HOONKO POT LUCK(VEGETARIAN)

JANUARY 21

NEW YEAR'S SOCIAL

FEBRUARY 18

FAREWELL LUNCHEON FOR REV. YOSHI

FEBRUARY 25

TBC ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

**LETTERS OF IKKYU AND RENNYO**

Happy New Year! Some of us might have had a year that was not only fun but also painful and challenging. Nevertheless, I would like to live each day with Gassho, to know that I have been kept alive by various causes and conditions last year and this year.

Two months ago, I talked with my older brother. When he talked about his son named “Yujun”, we wondered whether Yujun would take over our family temple as a Buddhist minister, or whether he would choose a different job and leave the temple. We enjoyed guessing so much about his future.

Of course, my father and my grandfather hope that Yujun will take over our family temple. But surprisingly, my brother said it’s okay with him if Yujun doesn’t become a Buddhist minister as long as he does Gassho by placing his palms together to Amida Buddha.

I totally agreed with him, but I did worry about who was going to take over our family temple in the future. However, thinking about my nephew who is still 5 years old, I remember an old story.

Around 500 years ago, there was a very famous and popular Buddhist minister in Kyoto city whose name was Ikkyu. One day, an old man knocked on his temple’s door and asked “Is Rev. Ikkyu there?”

Ikkyu went to the door and told him “Oh, I am here. What has happened that you have come here so early in the morning?”

When he saw the old man, the man was holding a baby. “Oh, Rev. Ikkyu. My son had a baby in early morning, and I finally became a Grandpa. I wanted to show you this baby as soon as possible.”

Then he asked Ikkyu to write some special Buddhist words for the baby and his family. He expected that those Buddhist writings by Ikkyu would have given him good luck.

Ikkyu said, “Count on me! I will give you special words!” and went back to his room and wrote some words. Then he gave the letter to the old man. The man was so happy and went back to his house.

However when he opened it in the house, there were only three sentences in the letter, and it said **[First; parent dies. Second; child dies. Third; grand child dies]**. The man was really upset. He went back to the temple and

Knock on the door so hard.

When Ikkyu showed up, the man yelled to him “I asked you to give me special words, but you just wrote three creepy sentences! Don’t jinx me!” He got mad at him so much. But Ikkyu didn’t bat an eye and instead just asked one question to him

“Okay, please think about it, how would you feel if the order was changed?” with that, the old man understood the meaning of his letter for the first time.

His son had a new baby and he was so happy, but if the baby passed away before them or if his son passed away before him, how much suffering would he feel? Ikkyu wanted the old man to know how precious it is to die in order from old age.

In my case, when I hold a Buddhist funeral service, sometimes I meet a family who has lost their child or grandchild. Every funeral service is sad, but when it is that of a young person, there are no words to describe that sadness.

Six years ago, I officiated a very sad cremation service of a young person who passed away and was only 21 years old. She came to Canada from Japan. She had only been in Canada for 2 months on a working holiday VISA.

I was sure she wanted to learn English to make Canadian friends and have a great time with them. However, instead she suddenly had a car accident.

When I visited a crematorium for the service, I met her parents. Her mother’s eyes were so red. She must have been crying all day. She said thank you for coming to do the service. She gave me her gentle smile, but it was also very a sad smile.

It’s impossible to understand how deep the suffering is of a family who has lost their child. Moreover, the parents came to Canada, not for sightseeing, but to collect their daughter’s ashes.

We sometimes open the casket during a Buddhist service, but the funeral director told them, they could not open the casket. Because there had been so much damage to her face and body. It was such a hard time for them, because that was to be their last moment to see or touch her face.

Her parents put their hands on the casket and said, “I am sorry. I am sorry. I will never forget your smile. I really appreciate that you were born in my family. Thank you for many treasured memories.”

Continued on page 5

LETTERS OF IKKYU AND RENNYO, continued

I usually try not to cry during a service because the family is standing in the saddest and most difficult situation. But I was not able to stop myself from weeping at that time.

I was so disappointed with myself because I could not find any words to offer the family as a Buddhist minister.

At the end of the service, I heard one voice from her father, he just said Nembutsu, "Namo Amida Butsu." Then I realized I didn't have to find any words for the family because they knew she was already in Buddha's compassion.

For others, her life was very short if they compare it to their lives. But we cannot or we shouldn't measure each life by time, but by the quality of the life lived. She had shared valuable time and special moments with her family. Remembering that I also just placed my palms together towards her casket and said "Namo Amida Butsu" with her parents.

When I remember that cremation service, it always reminds me of a few sentences from the Letter of

Rennyō. The letter said "Whether I go before others, or whether others go before me; whether it be today, or whether it be tomorrow? – Though in the morning we may have radiant health, in the evening we may be white ashes. – There is nothing more real than this truth of life."

This letter reminds us that when we understand the meaning of death, we shall come to fully appreciate the meaning of this life which is unrepeatable and thus to be treasured above all else.

The letter is closed by saying "To receive true Compassion by saying Namo Amida Butsu let us realize the unexcelled value of our human existence; and let us live with Nembutsu in our hearts".

As I wrote at the beginning of this Dharma talk, some of us might have had a year that was not only fun but also painful and challenging. Nevertheless, I would like to live each day with Gassho, to know that I have been kept alive by various causes and conditions last year and this year.

Gassho

Reverend Yoshimichi Ouchi

Happy New Year!

As the old year ends and a new one begins, let's take time to reflect. Take the time to remember the struggles you may have faced, and perhaps think

about loved ones you may have lost. As Shinran Shonin stated, "life is suffering". As human beings, we experience heartache from time to time and this past year is no different.

In January 2024, our Minister Reverend Ouchi will be leaving Toronto Buddhist Church. There are no words to express my own sadness and the degree to which he will be missed.

As he returns to Japan, we hope that he finds spiritual happiness and peace.

As for the Toronto Buddhist Church, we will carry on positively and reflect on the Buddhist teachings that Ouchi Sensei has taught us. I hope that we will listen to each other with compassion and offer support to those who need it. I also wish that we will be able to do what is needed with the wisdom to choose what is right and most fair.

Let's welcome 2024 with optimism and faith.

Michael Tamaki
Co-President

WITH GRATITUDE

We cannot express how grateful we are to Rev. Yoshimichi Ouchi for his dedicated service to the TBC. Shortly after his arrival in April 2016, he became the sole resident minister. Most of us will never understand the difficulties he has faced. With the steepest learning curve of any of our previous ministers, Yoshi Sensei managed to learn to speak and write English, adapt to a new weird Canadian culture and food, travel to Hamilton, Montreal and Ottawa on a regular schedule, become a counsellor for both congregants and

grieving families, help with temple chores, attending to middle of the night makuragyo, teaching ritual practices to Tokudo aspirants, giving heartfelt dharma talks and other innumerable duties, all with cheerfulness, tirelessness, humility and grace. Along the way, invaluable life lessons were learned by the congregation and Sensei. We hope that Rev. Yoshi will return often and look back on his time in Ontario with fondness.

In Gassho,
Susan Ebisuzaki
Co-President

Memorial (Shotsuki) Listing for the Month of February

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

AMANO, Tojiro	IWASAKI, Kiyoshi Henry	MURAKAMI, Yukimi	SUMIYA, Chikayoshi
AMANO-O'SHEA, Karen Akemi	IWASHITA, Shaly	MURANAKA, James Kinsuke	SUYAMA, Tei
ARIZA, Riku	KAMADA, Denroku	NAGAO, Moyo	TABATA, Fumie
ARIZA, Takeru	KAMINO, Atsumu	NAKAMURA, Genroku	TAKAOKA, Hideo Donald
DOI, Terrie Teruya	KASHINO, Wai	NAKAMURA, Sumi	TAKATA, Kazuko
DRYGAS, Ronald Walter	KATO, Saju	NAKASHIMA, Haruko	TAKEDA, Yumiko Mickey
EBATA, Nami	KAWABATA, Sayono	NAKATA, Kimi	TAMAKI, Mitsuko
EDAMURA, Kane	KAWABATA, Tobei	NAKATSU, Kimiko	TANAKA, Itsuo
FUJITA, Kano	KAWAGUCHI, Hanaye	NISHI, Hanae	TATEBE, Saemon
FUJITA, Shigeo	KAWAGUCHI, Kanetaro	NISHI, Mamoru	TANIISHI, Joyce Miyoko
FUJIMOTO, Tamae	KAWANO, Chizuko	NISHIKAWA, Shoji	TEHARA, Chiyo
FUJIWARA, Douglas Tetsumori	KINOSHITA, Raisuke	NISHIMURA, Harry Kanshiro	TEHARA, Genya
FUKUSHIMA, Hanae	KISHIBE, Aki	NISHIMURA, Rieko Frances	TEHARA, Suye
FURUKAWA, George Goro	KOBO, Takayo	NISHIMURA, Seitaro	TERAKITA, Mitsuo
FURUYA, Isamu	KOMATSU, Sakaye	NISHIMURA, Barry Jon Yoshio	TOKI, Emiko
GEKKO, Kimiko	KONDO, Tohachiro	NISHIZAKI, Barry Jon Yoshio	TSUCHIDA, Suejiro
HAMA, Hirokichi	KONDO, Tomekichi	OGATA, Sakae	TSUJI, Donald Akira
HAMA, Hugo	KONDO, Zenshiro	OHASHI, Irene Setsuko	TSUJI, Edward Sadamu
HAMAMOTO, Tomoe	KONO, Itoyo	OHASHI, Mitsuo William	TSUJI, Etsuko
HAO, Yoshitada	KOZAI, Sute	OHASHI, Tamio Tom	TSUJI, Toshiro Roy
HAYASHI, Fumikazu Frank	KUBOTA, Hide	OMORI, Isamu	TSUKAMOTO, Masato
HAYASHI, Genichiro George	KUSANO, Tsurukichi	OMOTO, Tatsuya	TSURUDA, Misae
HAYASHI, Yoshie	MAEMURA, Ritsu	ONISHI, Kazuo Jack	TSURUOKA, Mas Masaaki
HAYASHI, Yoshio	MASUDA, Yasuo	RYUJIN, Isamu	TSUKAMOTO, Masato
HIDAKA, Kathy Ling Fai	MATSUDA, Yoshimi	SAITO, Harry Hiromitsu	URA, Tsutomu
HIDAKA, Tsuyoshi Tom	MATSUSHITA, Tatsumi	SAKAGUCHI, Shizue	UYEDA, Toshihiro
HIKIDA, Toyoko	MENDE, Masuno	SARUYAMA, Lucy Masako	WATANABE, Haruno
HIROSE, Masayuki	MINEMOTO, Hisako	SASAKI, Tokubei	WATANABE, Sumiye
HONKAWA, Kise	MIYAGAWA, Yoshiko	SEKIYA, Matsue	YAHIRO, Kin
HORI, Mrs.	MIYANISHI, Toyozo	SHIMIZU, Asato	YAMAMOTO, Yasue
HOSAKI, Takeko Eileen	MIYASAKI, Harry Juichi	SHIMODA, Clara Shizue	YAMASHITA, Yoshiko
HYUGA, Hisatoshi	MIYAUCHI, Yahei	SHIOZAKI, Akira	YASUI, Toshie
IGARASHI, Shigeru	MIYAUCHI, Kumakichi	SHISHIDO, George Tetsuo	YOSHIDA, Baby
INATA, Ei	MIZUNO, Fumiyo	SHOJI, Gin	YOSHIDA, Chika
ISHII, Kiichi Ken	MIZUTANI, Harold Tsuneichi	SUGA, Kiyoshi	YOSHIDA, Kanjiro
IWAMOTO, Yuri	MIZUYABU, Yonekichi	SUGIMOTO, Itsuno	YOSHIDA, Natsu
	MORI, Sumi		

THANK YOU TO NELSON ARTHUR HYLAND AND SALDEN FOUNDATIONS

Just before Christmas the TBC received a very sizeable bursary in memory of Mitsuyoshi Ito. We would like to thank the Nelson Arthur Hyland Foundation and the Salden Foundation who yet again have generously supported the temple. One of the bursaries is to assist our search for a permanent resident minister. The larger bursary is targeted to assist new Japanese immigrants in their lives in the GTA. Mits Ito was forever grateful to the TBC for the help to establish his family after he arrived in Toronto and mirrored this help to others throughout his life. This will be a non-denominational program to be developed with the assistance of the Japanese Social Service and the Japanese Canadian Community Centre.

TBC Board of Directors



NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

FEBRUARY 25, 2024

Special business will be presented to the Members for discussion and approval at the TBC in-person Annual Meeting on Sunday, Feb. 25, 2024 at 1:00 pm. There will be no Zoom. A more detailed Notice of Annual Meeting will be published in the February edition of the Guiding Light and pertinent information will be given before the meeting or e-mailed to all Members in early February 2024. A light lunch will be provided after the service and before the meeting. The meeting will allow all Members the opportunity to learn about the past year's activities and results of operations of the Temple and vote on important matters affecting the Temple. Your attendance is encouraged and will be appreciated.

TBC Board of Directors



Makuragyo (Pillow-side) Service

When families consider having a Pillow-side service (Makuragyo), they are encouraged to notify the minister with advance notice. This offers the minister time to adjust his schedule accordingly. Depending on the wishes of the family, the minister is quite prepared to conduct the service immediately following the passing away, wherever the location or whenever the hour. In fact, the family may prefer to have the service at an earlier time so that more family members can attend the service. Providing information, prior to a passing away, is important for the minister too, not only to adjust his schedule, but to prepare for the service. The early contact with the minister also provides an opportunity for him to offer information and answer questions the family may have.

Thank you for your understanding and co-operation,

Board of Directors

IT'S BACK, YBICSE 2024!

(Youth Buddhists International Cultural Study Exchange)

The exchange program is back for 2024! It will be from July 4 to July 9, 2024. If you are between 15 and 25 and are interested in the exchange program please let the office know. Canada is allowed 5 participants, so if you are interested please let the office know as soon as possible to ensure a spot in the exchange program.

We will keep you updated with details as they become available. Currently, we are seeing who in Canada would like to be part of the exchange. There will be subsidies available.

CALLING ALL SANGHA KIDS

HAPPY NEW YEAR FROM KIDS SANGHA!



December was an awesome month at Dharma School as we explored the theme of Bodhi Day....enlightenment and compassion.

The kitchen was bustling with kids making chocolate chip cookies for the congregation that gathered in the social hall after the service. The cookies were made from scratch and involved everyone's help measuring and mixing. The baked cookies looked and smelled wonderful. They were all different shapes and sizes. The kids walked around the table with trays of cookies, offering them to everyone who came down for fellowship. Who could resist a homemade cookie being offered to them by the kids.

This kind of act of sharing and giving was a successful lesson on compassion.

JANUARY'S THEME: Ho-onko (Shinran Shonin)

Who was Shinran Shonin?

What is special about Shin teachings?

January 14 – Dharma School 10:45 – 12:00 p.m.

January 21 – Kids Service 10:15 a.m.

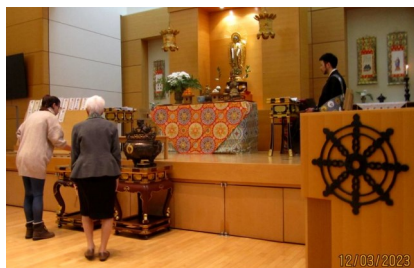
Dharma School 10:45 – 12:00 p.m.

January 28 – Dharma School 10:45 – 12:00 p.m.



With gratitude,

The Kids Sangha Team



DECEMBER SHOTSUKI SERVICE AND SANGHA'S PANCAKE DAY

DECEMBER 3, 2024



ALL THE BEST TO ALL IN
2024

GUIDING LIGHT



WISHING EVERYONE A
HEALTHY AND HAPPY NEW
YEAR

A HEALTHY, HAPPY
NEW YEAR TO ALL

GEORGE & AMY
NAKANO



shutterstock

MAY YOU ALL FIND
COMFORT IN THE
NEMBUTSU IN
2024

TOIVO & PAULINE
KNUDE

THANK YOU FOR ALL YOUR
SUPPORT AND KINDNESS
DURING MY TIME AT TBC.
WISHING EVERYONE A HAPPY
AND HEALTHY 2024

REV. YOSHIMICHI OUCHI



BEST WISHES FOR 2024!

DAWN, TOSHI & CRYSTAL ANZAI

WISHING ALL MY FAMILY AND FRIENDS A
VERY HAPPY & HEALTHY 2024!

DARLENE RIEGER

SAVE THE DATE

FEBRUARY 18, 2024

REV. YOSHI'S FAREWELL LUNCHEON

Save the date to enjoy a farewell luncheon with Rev. Yoshi. It will be a Japanese food potluck, so bring your favorite dish.

We hope you will be able to attend to wish Sensei best of luck on his new journey.

Call Darlene in the office 416-534-4302 or email darlene.rieger@tbc.on.ca if attending and what you will bringing.

Looking forward to seeing many of you there.

Are You Interested in Being a Board Member?

The current board is looking for members who are interested in the welfare of our Temple. We are looking for those interested in being part of a board who is promoting the growth and prosperity of the Temple and who can bring new ideas to the table.

If you are interested please contact Michael Tamaki michael.m.tamaki@gmail.com or Susan Ebisuzaki susanhebisuzaki@gmail.com.

DECEMBER THANK YOU'S

- ◆ Emily Onizuka for arranging the naijin (altar) flowers
- ◆ Ken Shigeishi & Michael Tamaki for installing the 2nd TV in the Hondo
- ◆ Les Tanaka for cleaning our kitchen vent and stoves
- ◆ Bev Kato for helping with December Shotsuki tea
- ◆ All the volunteers who made this year's Mochi Tsuki a success
- ◆ Emi Nakano for making the manju o-sonae (altar offerings).
- ◆ Debbie Katsumi for Obuppan.
- ◆ Donna Nakano for helping Susan with refreshments and playing the organ during service

- ◆ Susan Ebisuzaki for tirelessly being the refreshment toban every Sunday.
- ◆ Cary Kataoka and Ken Shigeishi for making sure we have a zoom service.
- ◆ To all the volunteers who are always at the Temple to help out every day, week or month.
- ◆ To all those who have been volunteering at the many funerals and memorials that have occurred.

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.

We hope that you will join our new format toban group. Call the office or email Naomi Tsuji Tamaki at ilovelucy3d@yahoo.com with your questions or to join the group.

BRING JUST ONE THING

Everyone is aware of the rising prices of all foodstuffs. In lieu of a food drive, we encourage everyone who comes to the temple for either services or classes, to bring one non perishable item from their cupboard; once or every time you attend Temple or whenever you think of it. This will be a year long project. Hopefully this is less burdensome than donating a bag of food occasionally. Of course we will also welcome bags of food if that is better for you. There will be a box in the lobby for donations. Food banks and

neighborhood pantries will benefit from your donations year round.

Please do not include food that is close to or past its 'best before date'.

Thank you for your generosity and thinking of the less fortunate. **TBC**

**2024 TBC New Year's Social**

After a hiatus of 4 years, the 2024 New Year's Social will be held on

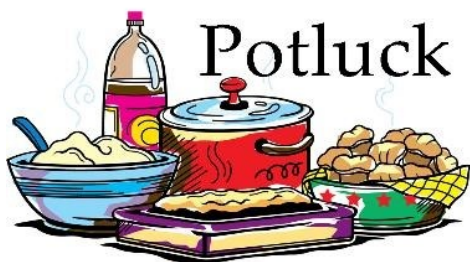
Sunday, January 21, 2024

following the morning service

Bring your favourite dish to share at the Potluck Luncheon

followed by bingo and door prize draws.

Donations for door prizes appreciated.



Potluck



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 (is now auto deposit):** 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

Note: Please use only blue or black ink when writing a cheque. The bank's cheque reader cannot read coloured ink.

Thank you for your co-operation



ATTENTION TEMPLE MEMBERS

Covid-19 has and is still affecting everyone in many ways and that includes the Temple. In-person services attendance is way down; fundraisers are just beginning to get back to 'normal'; donations and memberships again fell short in 2024, our funds are becoming strained. Unfortunately, despite these issues, the Temple still have bills to pay. We find it necessary to raise the Membership and Guiding Light subscription fees for the coming year. With the costs of everything increasing, the Temple feels it cannot forego the increases to the membership (\$155.00) and subscription fees (\$55.00) for 2024. We hope that you understand and will continue to support the Temple so we can continue to spread the Dharma during these difficult times. Thank you for your understanding and continued support.

Please complete the application on page 12 and return it to the Temple office with your membership fee if applicable. Honorary member **must** also fill out the application for CRA purposes. There is no fee for Honorary member but donations are always appreciated.

Mail: 1011 Sheppard Ave. W., Toronto, M3H 2T7

Email: darlene.rieger@tbc.on.ca

Membership fees can be made by cheque made out to Toronto Buddhist Church; e-transfer (now auto deposit), send to darlene.rieger@tbc.on.ca or Paypal (credit card, please check website under 'donation')

Board of Directors

Toronto Buddhist Church





TORONTO BUDDHIST CHURCH

*A Jodo Shinshu Temple***2024 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 2024 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, 2024**. 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, 2024 to December 31, 2024. The Individual Membership Fee for 2024 is a minimum of \$155. 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.

NEW MEMBER PLEASE SUBMIT WITH YOUR APPLICATION SOME INFORMATION ABOUT YOURSELF.

THANK YOU

PLEASE CONSIDER JOINING!

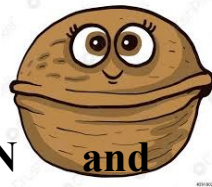
WE ARE STILL IN NEED OF MEMBERS FOR OUR 'NEW' GROUP

(We hope that you will consider joining)



WHAT'S IT ALL ABOUT YOU ASK?

In a nutshell.....it will be



TOBAN and MORE!!

Q: *What will this new group be doing?*

A: *As the name 'Toban' implies, there will be times when you may be asked to help out at the Temple for such things as funeral or memorial services or other special events held the Temple. **BUT.....***

It's not all work — we will also be having some fun and interesting events. There's something for everyone. Our plans include the following social events. Some will be fundraisers, some there will be a charge to cover costs.

- | | |
|--------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| ♦ Family Game Night | Quilting Bee |
| ♦ Craft workshops | Cooking workshops |
| ♦ Fundraising activities | Family Movie Night |
| ♦ Family Mini golf | Picasso (painting) and beverage night |

These are just a few of the ideas we have planned. If you have any suggestions or interests, please let us know.

Q: *Where will the events take place?*

A: *At the Temple in most cases, with the exception of events like Family Mini Golf*

Q: *Do you need to register to join?*

A: *Yes. Please send your contact information to ilovelucy3d@yahoo.com*

Q: *What is the first planned event coming up?*

A: *Ministers' Appreciation Lunch—October 22, 2024 (details to following in the GL and via email)*

We are excited about this new group and we hope that you are too! Hopefully I've answered your questions, but if I haven't, please don't hesitate to contact me or the Temple for more information.

With sincere gratitude

Naomi Tsuji-Tamaki

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