



Guiding Light

January, 2025



TORONTO BUDDHIST CHURCH *a Jodo Shinshu Temple*

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

New Year's Greeting



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

As in previous years, many people throughout the world have been affected by natural disasters, including earthquakes, floods, and forest fires. 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 normalcy.

In addition to the continuing Russian invasion of Ukraine that began in February 2022, armed conflict in the Middle East since October 2023 has intensified, putting a toll on civilians. As Buddhists, let us embrace the words of Sakyamuni Buddha that “Everyone fears violence and is scared of death. In consideration of all life, do not kill and do not make others kill.”

We, as human beings who have received life in this world, shall have our human rights equally guaranteed regardless of reason, and must never have our lives threatened. However in reality, 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 as well as Nembutsu followers who aspire to achieve peace, we must keep seriously in our hearts the words of Sakyamuni Buddha as well as Shinran Shonin who aspired for a peaceful world in pursuing our endeavor of contributing toward world peace and security.

Through the Jodo Shinshu teaching, we are guided to appreciate Amida Buddha’s working that enables us to become aware of our true self. Being caught up in our self-centered thinking and desires, we are unable to accept the Universal Truth of dependent origination and impermanence, and that is why we constantly suffer from our human desires.

Unable to leave us in such a state, Amida Buddha continuously works to lead us to the Dharma. By regarding each individual as a fellow traveler following the same path being guided and embraced by Amida Buddha, we are enabled to respect and help each other while courageously coping with difficult social issues. Let us continue listening and appreciating Amida Buddha’s working as Buddhist followers while cherishing each and every day.

January 1, 2025

OHTANI Kojun

Monshu

Jodo Shinshu Hongwanji-ha



UPCOMING SERVICES

		Kids' Sangha 10:30 AM	11:00 AM	1:00 PM	
		In Person	In Person & Zoom	In Person & Zoom	
JANUARY 12, 2025	REGULAR SERVICE	ENGLISH	ENGLISH	NONE	
JANUARY 18, 2025 (SAT.,)	HO ONKO EVE SERVICE		6:30 pm ENGLISH	NONE	5:00 pm Vegetarian Potluck
JANUARY 19, 2025	REGULAR SERVICE	ENGLISH	ENGLISH/ JAPANESE	NONE	HO ONKO
JANUARY 26, 2025	REGULAR SERVICE	ENGLISH	ENGLISH	NONE	
FEBRUARY 2, 2025	SHOTSUKI	ENGLISH	ENGLISH	JAPANESE	MONTHLY MEMORIAL
FEBRUARY 9, 2025	REGULAR SERVICE	ENGLISH	ENGLISH	NONE	

HO ONKO**JANUARY 19, 2025**

Ho onko is the most important service in the Jodo Shinshu calendar. In Japan it is the week long memorial for Shinran Shonin. The TBC will be holding an Ho onko Eve service on Sat., Jan. 18th at 6:30 pm, followed by a vegetarian potluck. The main memorial service will be held on Sun., Jan. 19th at 11am.

Please join us.

**Makuragyo (Pillow-side) Service**

When families consider having a Pillow-side service (Makuragyo) they are encouraged to notify the Temple with advance notice. This offers the Temple members time to adjust their schedule accordingly. Depending on the wishes of the family, the Temple member is quite prepared to conduct the service immediately following the passing away of the loved one. The family may prefer to have the service at an earlier time so that more family members can attend the service.

Providing information, before a passing away, is important for the Temple member too, not only to adjust their schedule but to prepare for the service. The early contact with the Temple member also provides an opportunity for them to offer information and answer questions the family may have. Please call the Temple at 416-534-4302 and leave a message. Your call will be returned as soon as someone is available. Thank you for your understanding and co-operation.

Board of Directors



Happy New Year 2025!

As we welcome the New Year, I would like to take a moment to reflect on 2024. It was a year of great change and growth for me. Completing my master's degree in March and starting my journey at TBC as an intern in April felt exciting and overwhelming. I must

admit, I initially thought it was absurd for someone so new to work alone at Canada's largest Jodo Shinshu temple. However, thanks to the guidance and support of so many, I could navigate this challenge. For this, I am deeply grateful.

I am committed to creating an environment where we can come together to listen to and praise the teachings of Amida Buddha.

One of the most common questions I was asked this past year was, "How can Jodo Shinshu have a positive impact on my daily life?" Perhaps this question has crossed your mind as well.

In our everyday lives, society often teaches us that happiness comes from external achievements: attending a prestigious school, securing a high-paying job, or maintaining good health. While these pursuits are important, they are also fleeting and cannot guarantee lasting peace of mind.

Jodo Shinshu offers a different perspective. Amida Buddha's help does not change the circumstances of our lives—it changes how we see them. This transformation of perspective allows us to live with a deep sense of gratitude, humility, and connection to others.

Bishop Marvin Harada Sensei of the Buddhist Churches of America expresses this beautifully:

"In Shin Buddhism, we are reminded that everything in life is a gift. When we view life from the perspective of the

recipient, we see that what we know, what we own, and what we have achieved are all gifts, because nothing can be accomplished on one's own. This realization leads us to live a life of unending gratitude. The more we are grateful, the more we become humble. The more we are humble, the less we need in life. And the less we need in life, the more we truly have."

For example, let's consider someone you dislike. Before encountering Jodo Shinshu, it's natural to feel only anger or frustration toward that person. But through the teachings, we begin to ask ourselves, "Why do I feel this way?" We realize that such feelings stem from our own ego—our self-centred nature that judges others based on how they affect us.

Recognizing this, we also come to see that Amida Buddha's compassion embraces us, even with all our flaws and blind passions. This compassion reaches us as the call of "Namo Amida Butsu," inviting us to entrust ourselves to the boundless vow. Through this perspective, the person we once disliked becomes someone who provides us with an opportunity to reflect on our ego and encounter Amida Buddha's compassionate working.

Through the Nembutsu—the act of calling Amida Buddha's Name—we awaken to the reality that we are always embraced and guided by this infinite compassion. This way of life is not confined to the temple; it is a path we can walk anywhere, every day.

As we step into 2025, may we continue to feel Amida Buddha's compassionate presence in our daily lives and live each moment with gratitude. Let us walk the path of the Nembutsu together, supporting one another and deepening our understanding of this wonderful teaching.

Namo Amida Butsu

Kensho Hashimoto

SHOTSUKI

DECEMBER 1, 2024



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



The past few years have been a challenge for the whole world. The Toronto Buddhist Church has weathered the shutdown during Covid 19 thanks to the dedication of our former resident minister Rev. Ouchi and the volunteers and the BODs led by Dawn Anzai and Les Tanaka. Yet it is now a changed society which did not develop at a more organic pace but was drastically altered by forced isolation and fear. For many the resulting effects of the high cost of living and mental stresses are overwhelming. In the coming year we hope that the TBC will reach outwardly into the greater community as well as our own.. Programs such as the Project Dana, Pride and pairing up with Momiji, the JSS and Sharing Sacred Spaces will be a start and hopefully expand to other areas involving the youth and Kids' Sangha.

We welcomed Rev. Kensho Hashimoto in April 2024.. Not only is his English fluent, his enthusiasm and dedication is so appreciated by all our members. Not yet an ordained Kaikyoshi minister he was thrown immediately into a hectic schedule which involved funerals, weddings, memorials, services in Hamilton and Montreal. In October, Rev. Hashimoto was sent for a 2 month training course to obtain his overseas minister's certificate. Without the generous help of Dr. Jeff Wilson and Dennis Madokoro we would not have been able to hold services at both the TBC and the Hamilton Buddhist Temple. Thank you Jeff Sensei and Dennis.

With the arrival of Rev. Sugiura in April of this year, Rev. Hashimoto hopes to at last be able to hold classes on both both Buddhism and Jodo Shinshu.

Finally, our gratitude to Bishop Aoki is immeasurable for his help in securing our ministers and also to the ministers of the JSBTC for helping during Rev. Hashimoto's absence.

In Gassho,
Susan Ebisuzaki
Co President

New Year Message from the Co-President of the Toronto Buddhist Church (2025)



Dear Sangha Members and Friends,

As we begin the year 2025, I offer my warmest greetings and best wishes to each of you. The turning of the calendar is a moment of reflection—a time to pause, take stock, and consider how we can move forward with greater awareness, compassion, and wisdom.

Looking back at 2024, we have all experienced moments of joy, challenge, and change. While we cannot escape the inevitability of life's ups and downs, we are reminded by the Buddha's teachings that each experience is an opportunity for growth. The path of Dharma is not about avoiding difficulties but learning how to meet them with clarity, patience, and kindness.

In the coming year, let us reflect on the Buddhist practice of Shoshin—beginner's mind. No matter how long we have walked the path, there is always more to learn, and each day is a fresh opportunity to open our hearts and minds. The New Year is a perfect moment to renew our commitment to deepening our understanding of the Buddha's teachings and to cultivating a compassionate heart for ourselves and for others.

The world continues to change in ways both known and unknown, but one thing remains constant: the wisdom of the Dharma is always available to us. As we face the challenges and opportunities of 2025, let us carry the teachings of the Buddha with us, embodying the values of mindfulness, loving-kindness, and compassion. Let us be sources of light in our communities, extending a hand to those in need and sharing the peace that comes from a heart rooted in Dharma.

I am deeply grateful for each of you—our cherished Sangha members—and for your dedication to the path of awakening. May this new year bring you health, peace, and an abundance of wisdom. Let us walk this journey together with faith in the transformative power of the Buddha's teachings.

On behalf of the Toronto Buddhist Church, I extend my heartfelt thanks for your continued support. May you and your loved ones be blessed with peace, happiness, and the light of wisdom in 2025.

Gassho,
Michael Tamaki
Co-President

CALLING ALL SANGHA KIDS



JANUARY'S THEME:

SHINRAN SHONIN'S MEMORIAL DAY – "HO-ONKO"

This special observance marked the death of Shinran Shonin, the founder of Jodo Shinshu Buddhism.

LOOKING AHEAD TO FEBRUARY.....

FEBRUARY'S THEME:

PEACE....NIRVANA DAY.....BUDDHA'S PARINIRVANA

Sakyamuni awakened to Truth and became a Buddha at the age of 35. After sharing the Dharma for the next forty five years, he attained perfect enlightenment or "parinirvana", with his death at 80.

Nirvana day is one of the three observance's commemorating Sakyamuni, the other two being his birthday on April 8 and his awakening on December 8.

REFLECTION....THINK ABOUT THIS.

How do you create peace in your family or classroom of friends?

Do you think that creating peace is to think about others?

What happens when each of us only thinks about ourselves and what concerns us?

Do people get left out and feel hurt? Is this peace?

HAVE YOU EVER WONDERED WHAT WE DO AT DHARMA SCHOOL?

COME AND FIND OUT. EVERYONE IS WELCOME TO JOIN.

OUR SUNDAY MORNINGS BEGINS LIKE THIS.....

10:30 a.m. – Kids service in the Hondo

Please arrive early so that you can get settled in before the service begins

11:00 a.m.- We go downstairs with the teacher(s) to the classroom where we participate in an interactive program focusing on the monthly theme.

A nutritious snack is served before ending at 12:00 p.m.

QUESTION.....WHAT IS MISSING IN THE WORD.....S _NDAY?

ANSWER.....YOU!

Hope to see you at Temple.

With gratitude,

The Kids Sangha team



Dharma Talks At Camp Lumbini

At Camp Lumbini we hold morning service every day with the kids. The counselors take turns on who leads the service, and who does the dharma talk. This year our Buddhist theme was openmind redness. I'd like to share one of the dharma talks that Mai and Nina gave during the week.

"Beginner's Mind" (初心, Shoshin)

"Beginner's Mind" (初心, Shoshin) refers to an attitude of openness, eagerness, and a lack of preconceptions. People often form habits or become accustomed to doing things a certain way and don't consider or acknowledge new ideas or approaches.

First, let's talk about atoms. Remember the atom game we played yesterday? Nowadays, it's common knowledge that everything is made from atoms. But this wasn't always the case. A long time ago, people didn't believe in atoms. In fact, the first person who suggested that everything is composed of these tiny particles was ridiculed. His groundbreaking idea wasn't proven until after his death, so he never saw how his discovery went on to change modern physics.

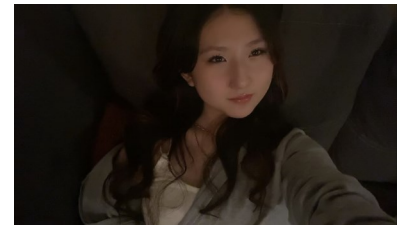
Another example is planets outside of our solar system. We all know that we are on Earth, orbiting the sun, and that there are many other planets also orbiting the sun. However, years ago, this idea seemed crazy, and the two scientists who wanted to look for more solar systems were threatened when they wanted to search for more planets. Despite this, they pursued their research, and now, we know there are thousands of planets outside our solar system.

These examples demonstrate a very important lesson, don't be too quick to judge or dismiss other people's ideas. History shows that many revolutionary discoveries were initially met with skepticism and even hostility. By maintaining a "Beginner's Mind," we allow ourselves to remain open to new ideas and possibilities. At the end of the day, don't be too quick to judge or dismiss other people's ideas, because who knows? They could be the next Einstein. Let's embrace curiosity and openness in our thinking because today's wild idea could very well be tomorrow's groundbreaking discovery.

Thank you for listening!



Thank you Mai and Nina for a wonderful dharma talk. Next month we will post another dharma talk from Camp Lumbini!



OBITUARIES

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

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

*In Gassho
Toronto Buddhist Church*

<i>Mrs. Fumiko Brooks</i>	<i>93 yrs</i>	<i>November 30, 2024</i>
<i>Mrs. Shirley Shizue Murakami</i>	<i>93 yrs</i>	<i>December 1, 2024</i>
<i>Mrs. Yuki Kondo</i>	<i>101 yrs</i>	<i>December 4, 2024</i>
<i>Mr. George Tsushima</i>	<i>99 yrs</i>	<i>December 10, 2024</i>
<i>Mrs. Teruko (Terry) Shin</i>	<i>95 yrs</i>	<i>December 14, 2024</i>
<i>Mrs. Kiyomi Hashimoto</i>	<i>94 yrs</i>	<i>January 1, 2025</i>

ATTENTION TEMPLE MEMBERS

Covid-19 is now behind us but there is still a lasting affect. In-person services attendance is down; fundraisers are just beginning to get back to 'normal'; donations and memberships again fell short in 2024. We were also faced with replacing Reverend Yoshi. We are pleased that we were able to acquire Reverend Hashimoto as our resident minister but there have been many extra costs to do this. Also, we have hired an assistant minister, Reverend Sugiura which also presents added expenses. Despite these issues, the Temple still has 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 (**\$160.00**) and subscription fees (**\$60.00**) for 2025. We hope that you understand and will continue to support the Temple so we can continue to spread the Dharma. Thank you for your understanding and continued support.

Please complete the application on the following page and return it to the Temple office with your membership fee if applicable. **Honorary members 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 direct deposit), send to darlene.rieger@tbc.on.ca or Paypal (credit card, please check website under 'donation')

Board of Directors, Toronto Buddhist Church



2025 MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

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

Applicant	Renewal (<input type="checkbox"/>)	New (<input type="checkbox"/>)	Mr. (<input type="checkbox"/>) Mrs. (<input type="checkbox"/>) Ms. (<input type="checkbox"/>)
Last Name: _____		Birthdate: dd/mm/yy: _____	
First Name: _____		Email: _____	
Address: _____		Phone: _____	
City: _____		Signature: _____	
Prov: _____		Postal Code: _____	
<p>I promise to pay \$_____ as my Membership Fee for 2025 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, 2025. By signing this Membership Application, I hereby adopt the vows below.</p>			
Signature _____		Date _____	
<p>I would like a Guiding Light mailed to me - English Only _____ English/Japanese _____</p>			

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, 2025 to December 31, 2025**. The Individual Membership Fee for 2025 is a minimum of \$160. 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.

2025 NEW YEAR'S GREETINGS

WISHING YOU HEALTH & BEST
WISHES FOR 2025
DAWN, TOSHI, CRYSTAL & CHIBI ANZAI



WISHING EVERYONE A
HAPPY, HEALTHY AND PROPEROUS 2025
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

WISHING YOU ALL A
HAPPY & HEALTHY NEW YEAR
GEORGE & AMY NAKANO

WISHING ALL MY FAMILY AND
FRIENDS A HAPPY & HEALTHY 2025
DARLENE

SHINNEN AKEMASHITE OMEDETOU
GOZAIMASU 2025
TOIVO & NAOMI KNUDE



THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT
AND KINDNESS WHILE I'VE BEEN AT TBC
REV. KENSHO HASHIMOTO



DECEMBER THANK YOU'S

- ◆ Debbie Katsumi for helping with Obuppan
- ◆ Grace Taguchi for doing the flower arranging for the Naijin
- ◆ Naomi Knude and Chris Yamada for helping with refreshment toban in November—sorry for the omission
- ◆ Jane Byrnes for helping with the refreshment toban every Sunday and for those who volunteered to help her
- ◆ Ross Yoshida and Brian Huynh for making sure we have a Zoom service.
- ◆ Michael Tamaki and Bryan Day for setting up the Karaoke Club's new equipment
- ◆ Les Tanaka for his tireless help in writing up and submitting the grants which have allowed us to improve the Temple
- ◆ 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 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.

How to donate to the Toronto Buddhist Church

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 to the temple and continue to provide Zoom to those who cannot attend in person.

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
Toronto Buddhist Church



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

Project Dana TBC

Connecting with our Seniors

**Paramitas – Dana To give of our time and love to all. To share.
To be helpful in every way.**

To provide a variety of support services

Telephone visits, Friendly Home visits

Family Caregiver's support, Bento boxes

We are requesting referrals from Family and Friends of the TBC to submit names of seniors who need social friendly calls from trained volunteers to cope with Social isolation and delivering of bentos to vulnerable seniors.

No compensation is needed, we will be raising funds to support this effort through donations and fundraising.

Please email *Myra Takasaki* at takasaki@rogers.com for answers or referrals to this project or volunteer opportunities to support this effort.

ATTENTION HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

Do you still have volunteer hours you need to use up? Toronto Buddhist Church may be able to help you to finish your quota.

Call the Temple and leave your name and a contact information and someone will be in touch with you.



ATTENTION TEMPLE MEMBERS

We would like to extend our deepest apologies to our members and all those who misunderstood our call for volunteers for Mochitsuki. Everyone is and will always be welcome to any of our events. We were just trying to indicate that Mochitsuki is a very physical event; there is a lot of standing and long hours which some people are not able to do. It was not meant to indicate that those over 70 years old were not welcome or capable of helping. We cherish all the knowledge and expertise that they offer to our congregation. Again, we extend our apologies and we will be more mindful.

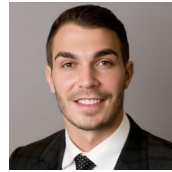


ESTATE AND LEGACY PLANNING**FEBRUARY 9, 2025, 1:00 pm**

Join us for an informative presentation on Estate and Legacy planning hosted by Marco Marin and Wayne Bryson of TD Waterhouse Canada Inc. and Pryanka Chugh of Sunlife Insurance.

They will answer your questions about estate and legacy planning that you may have or wondered about.

Light refreshments will be served.

**ATTENTION TBC MEMBERS!**

IF YOU HAVE ANY FURNITURE OR KITCHEN ACCESSORIES FOR HIS APARTMENT IT WILL BE GREATLY APPRECIATED. WHO WILL BE ARRIVING IN APRIL

CONTACT THE OFFICE IF YOU HAVE ANYTHING AND IF YOU NEED THE ITEMS TO BE PICKED UP.

IN GASSHO

TBC, BOARD OF DIRECTORS

BRING JUST ONE THING

It's a new year and the rising prices of all foodstuffs continues to escalate and make family decisions difficult as to where their funds should be spent. 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

**NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING****JANUARY 26, 2025****CANCELLED****DATE TO BE ADVISED**

TBC Board of Directors





TBC NEW YEAR'S SOCIAL RETURNS!

SUNDAY, JANUARY 19, 2025

following the morning service

SHARE & DISCOVER NEW FLAVOURS!

Bring your favourite dish for the potluck luncheon.

FEELING LUCKY? There will be door prizes & bingo.

DONATIONS ARE **APPRECIATED!**