



Guiding Light

June, 2026



TORONTO BUDDHIST CHURCH *a Jodo Shinshu Temple*

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

UPCOMING SERVICES

		KIDS SANGHA (10:30 AM)	11:00 AM	10:45 AM DHARMA TALK (JAPANESE)	
		In Person	In Person & Zoom	In Person, ONLY	
JUNE 14, 2026	REGULAR SERVICE	ENGLISH	ENGLISH	NONE	
JUNE 21, 2026	REGULAR SERVICE	ENGLISH	ENGLISH	NONE	SHO-SANSHIKI
JUNE 28, 2026	REGULAR SERVICE	NONE	ENGLISH	NONE	
JULY 5, 2026	MONTHLY MEMORIAL	NONE	ENGLISH	JAPANESE	SHOTSUKI
JULY 11, 2026	OHAKAMAIRI	SEE GUIDING	LIGHT FOR	SCHEDULE	PAGE 3
JULY 12, 2026	HATSUBON & OBON SERVICES	9:00 HATSUBON SERVICE	OBON ENGLISH	10:30 am OBON SERVICE (JAPANESE)	

OHAKAMAIRI
SATURDAY JULY 11, 2026

Ohakamairi, the Japanese tradition of visiting family graves, is a simple yet meaningful way to honor ancestors. Families clean the gravesite, offer flowers or incense, and take a moment to reflect or share updates with loved ones who have passed. Whether during Obon, Higan, or any time of year, ohakamairi invites us to pause, remember, and feel connected to the generations before us.

HATSUBON AND OBON
JULY 12, 2026

Hatsubon—9:00 am, Obon (Jpn) - 10:30 am
Obon (Eng) - 11:00 am

Obon is the annual Buddhist observance when families honor their ancestors through visits, offerings, and quiet reflection. **Hatsubon** refers to the first Obon after someone has passed away, a time when families may hold additional services or prepare special offerings. Both traditions provide structured moments to remember those who came before us and to acknowledge their place in the family’s

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 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 cooperation.

HAKAMAIRI**SCHEDULE FOR CEMETERY CENTRAL SERVICES**

CEMETERY	CENTRAL LOCATION	TIME	SERVICE LEADER
HIGHLAND MEMORIAL GARDENS	Mausoleum near parking lot	9:30 am	Dennis Madokoro
ELGIN MILLS CEMETERY	Section 2/8	11:30 am	Dennis Madokoro
SPRING CREEK CEMETERY	Clarkson road at back of cemetery, big tree	9:30 am	Jeff Wilson
GLEN OAKS CEMETERY	Last Supper Mausoleum	10:15 am	Jeff Wilson Sensei
MEADOWVALE CEMETERY	Parking lot near entrance	11:30 am	Jeff Wilson Sensei
GLENDALE CEMETERY	TBA	9:30 am	John Nishikawa
PINE HILLS CEMETERY	Section 7	9:30 am	Rev. Roland Ikuta
RESTHAVEN MEMORIAL GARDENS	Circle Garden	10:30 am	Rev. Roland Ikuta
SALEM U.C.	TBA	11:00 am	Pauline Knude
PINE RIDGE MEMORIAL	TBA	12:00 pm	Pauline Knude
YORK MEMORIAL CEMETERY	Cemetery pond west of Senlac	9:00 am	Rev. Sugiura
PROSPECT CEMETERY	Mausoleum of Last Supper near St. Clair Ave	10:15 am	Rev. Sugiura
PARK LAWN CEMETERY	Outside mausoleum	11:30 am	Rev. Sugiura
TORONTO NECROPOLIS	Memorial east side closest to DVP	9:00 am	Rev. Hashimoto
ST. JAMES CEMETERY	TBA	9:30 am	Rev. Hashimoto
MT. PLEASANT CEMETERY	Section 51 by sundial near Bayview Ave	10:30 am	Rev. Hashimoto
SANCTUARY NORTH & SOUTH	Meet at the parking lot on the south side	9:00 am	Rev. Usami

BON 2026

On Obon **Sunday, July 12**, the first service of the day at **9:00 AM** is for **Hatsubon Families**. We extend an invitation to all those who have lost a loved one during the past year to attend the

Hatsubon (First Obon) memorial service to honour and respect their loved one.

Below are the names of individuals who will be remembered with a hanging Chochin (lantern) in the Hondo.

Please accept our apologies if we have omitted any names off our list of loved ones who have passed away during this period.

The presentation of the **Japanese Dharma Talk** will be given at **10:30 AM** followed by the English Service at 11:00 AM

Thank You

Toronto Buddhist Church - A Jodo Shinshu Temple

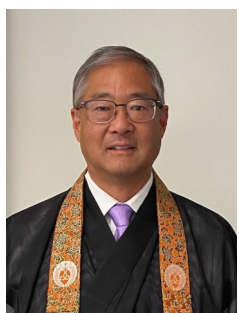
OBON WEEKEND

Saturday, July 11

and

Sunday, July 12 2026

Starting at 7:00 pm at the JCCC



Our Guest Speaker for Obon will be the Rev. Dr. Roland Ikuta of the Buddhist Temples of Alberta. Please join us in welcoming him.

On Saturday, July 11, the Obon Odori performers will entertain us with a programme of folk dancing favorites.

Make plans to come out and meet your family and friends to enjoy some great entertainment, great food and a whole lot of fun.

If you are able to stay behind after the performance to help tidy up the venue, we would greatly appreciate your help.

Hope to see you there !!!

HATSUBON

July 2025—July 2026

TEHARA, Michael Darrow

TAKANO, Masaru Mas

YANO, Kei

SAKAUYE, Yoshiko

SHINYA, Akio Gene

CRICHTON, Paul Richard Stuart

SHIOZAKI, George

BABA, Takako

ASA, Yukie

FUJIMOTO, Shizuko

KATAOKA, Tsuruko

MIYANISHI, Joseph Junzo

HAYASHI DULUDE, Chiyeko

TAKEDA, Miyo Augusta

TAKAHASHI, Akiye May

KUMABE, Sachiye Grace

MUROTANI, Keiko

YOKOTA, Dennis Hiroshi

NAKAO, Linda Harumi

MITSUKI, Shigeru

TOKAWA, Nobuye Betty

KUMAMOTO, Glen Yoshitaka

The meaning of a Dharma name (Hyomyo)



I hope this newsletter finds you well.

This April marked my second year serving at the Toronto Buddhist Church.

One big change in my second year, as many of you already know, is that my wife came to Toronto from Japan.

Looking back, we spent about one year living apart between

Japan and Toronto.

Living alone in a new country was not always easy. Because of that, I have come to appreciate once again how meaningful it is to share meals and everyday life with someone.

Before, I only bought groceries for one person. My refrigerator was usually very quiet. Recently, however, the inside of the refrigerator has suddenly become much livelier.

Vegetables and bread that I never used to see during my single life have appeared. And somehow, everything disappears much faster as well.

In any case, both of us have begun a new chapter of life in a new environment.

I hope we will be able to support each other and settle into life here together.

Even after two years in Canada, I still find speaking English difficult at times. Recently, when I go to restaurants or cafés, I am often asked for my name. I say “Hikaru,” but it does not always come across correctly. Sometimes I end up being called completely different names such as “Hija” or “Hall.”

So, I decided to give myself an English name. Recently, I have been using the name “Carl.” It comes from the “karu” sound in “Hikaru.” It may be a bit of a forced nickname, but at least people can pronounce it.

Names are not simply for convenience or easy pronunciation. When parents give a name to their child, they often put many wishes into it:

“I hope this child grows into a kind person.”

“I hope this child lives a happy life.”

In Jodo Shinshu Buddhism, we receive a name called a “Dharma Name.”

In Canada, a Dharma Name is often given after a person passes away. During the Dharma Name presentation, the name is introduced to family members and relatives.

Because of this, many people think that a Dharma Name is only a name for after death, or a name used in the Pure Land.

However, originally, a Dharma Name is not simply another nickname.

In Jodo Shinshu, Dharma Names always begin with the character “Shaku” (釋). This character comes from

Shakyamuni Buddha and expresses that we live our lives listening to the Buddha Dharma as disciples of the Buddha.

In other words, a Dharma Name expresses that we are living within our connection to the Buddha and walking the path of listening to the teachings.

There is also a similar term used in other Buddhist traditions called “Kaimyo” (戒名). Originally, a Kaimyo was a name given to people who received Buddhist precepts and devoted themselves to monastic training and discipline.

Jodo Shinshu, however, is not a teaching based on achieving enlightenment through our own efforts or practices. Rather, it is a teaching in which we are embraced by Amida Buddha’s Vow. For this reason, we use the term “Dharma Name” instead of “Kaimyo.”

Of course it is we ministers who carefully think about each Dharma Name. We listen to the person’s character, their family’s thoughts and wishes, and consider what name would be most appropriate.

Therefore, a Dharma Name is not a mysterious name suddenly given by some supernatural power. At the same time, it is also not merely a decorative nickname.

A Dharma Name expresses:

“I am a person walking through life while listening to the Buddha Dharma.”

“I am living within my connection to the Buddha.”

For this reason, a Dharma Name is not only something for after death. Rather, it may be a name directed toward the person I am living as right now.

Even as we live with worries, struggles, and uncertainty, Amida Buddha never abandons us and always remains with us. Perhaps receiving a Dharma Name allows us to hear once again that we are living within Amida Buddha’s Vow.

The name “Carl,” which I use at restaurants, is simply a convenient name that I chose for myself.

However, a Dharma Name is a name received within our connection to the Buddha.

Through that name, I am reminded once again that I am living my life while listening to the Buddha Dharma.

In Gassho

Rev. Hikaru Sugiura

Assistant Minister

Hello everyone!

The May Camp Lumbini fundraising bake sale was a huge success! Much appreciation and thanks to those who were able to donate baked goods, and their time to help run the table. Not only that but thank you to everyone who was able to help support the camp and picked up some beautifully baked goods!

Much appreciation to the following who donated bake sale items:

Naomi - Lemon Pies

Darlene - Carrot Loaf

Mizuki - Sugar Cookies

Mika and Mai - Chocolate Chip Cookies

Grace - Oatmeal Cookies and Other Chocolate Cookies

Rachel and Koji - Pizza

Aba - Japanese Cheesecake, Strawberry Shortcake, and Matcha Lemon Cakes

As always, the funds and proceeds from these Camp Lumbini events are put towards improving camp facilities and equipment, and general maintenance costs. Again, thank you to everyone for supporting the camp and we hope to see you at our next event!



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



Mr. Glen Yoshitaka Kumamoto 67 yrs April 27, 2026

T.B.C. Sangha's Spring into Summer Backyard Picnic 2026

Sunday June 21, 2026

Bring the family for an afternoon full of fun and food.

In the parking lot of the Toronto Buddhist church.

Free food: hamburgers, sausages, and Somen will be provided.

It's a potluck: bring your favorite picnic dish to add to our bounty.

Don't worry if you can't bring one.

Activities: there will be races, karaoke, suikawari, and door prizes.

The gate to the park will be opened so bring a lawn chair or a blanket.



Memorial (Shotsuki) Listing for the Month of July

Our monthly memorial services (shotsuki) are usually held on the first Sunday of each month to remember and honour those who have passed away in that month regardless of year.

Usually, mail reminders are sent out to the next of kin but due to changing circumstances we have not always been able to reach families and hope that by publishing the names of those who have passed, we can still reach and remind families and dear friends of the month of their loved ones honouring. Below is our listing of our members and supporters who have passed away during the month of **July**. All are invited and welcome to attend.

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

SHOSANSHIKI

JUNE 21, 2026

Shosanshiki or the First Visitation Ceremony to the Sangha has traditionally been for newborns, but now any child will be recognized. This ceremony is their formal welcome to the congregation and their path to the truth of Amida Buddha. Any young person who wishes to be presented will be included. Please fill out the attached form and send to the office by **June 17th**.

Child's Full Name: _____

Date of Birth: (dd/mm/yyyy) _____ **M** _____ **F** _____

Mother's Name: _____

Father's Name: _____

Address: _____

City/Prov: _____ **Postal Code:** _____

Telephone: _____ **Email:** _____



Is Buddhism a Missionary Religion?



Normally, we tend not to think of Buddhism as a missionary religion. After all, we've all met missionaries for other religions, and they can be far pushier than Buddhists. Plus, Buddhism in Canada hasn't put strong emphasis on outreach. This is partly

out of trying to be a good neighbour, and partly because Buddhists and Asian immigrants encountered serious prejudice in the past. So it's understandable that we haven't always been as outgoing toward the general public as we could have been.

That said, as a historian, I must note that Buddhism has indeed been a missionary religion. After all, how do you think Buddhism spread so far from northern India: how did it get south to Sri Lanka, east to Persia, north to Siberia, and west to Japan? They didn't even have the internet and bullet trains back then! It was through the dedicated efforts of countless generations of monks, nuns, and laypeople that Buddhism spread across Asia (and now, around the world).

The problem arises when we conceptualize missionary activities as being about pushing our religion on others and trying to replace their beloved beliefs and practices. That's what some Christians and other missionaries have tried to do to us. But that's not the model that Buddhist missionaries use. We need to conduct missionary activities, not in order to prove how great our religion is, but because it's the fulfillment of Buddhism itself.

What do I mean when I say that missionary activities are the fulfillment of Buddhism? The spirit of Buddhism is about helping others. That is the bodhisattva path, the way of spirituality through service to others and trying to help reduce the suffering of the world. Dharmakara Bodhisattva practiced on behalf of others for five eons, that's how he was able to become Amida Buddha. Now, none of us is able to work that hard (I certainly can't!), but we can take the example of the numerous bodhisattvas of the past and apply it today. The reason we should be sharing Buddhism with other people is that Buddhism may be helpful to them. After all, I hope you who are reading this newsletter have found Buddhism helpful to you. If you have, then it would be appropriate to repay that debt by offering Buddhism to others who may need it as well.

I can recall a time in my life before I became involved in Buddhism. I was a young university student with many

questions and confusion about life. If no one had offered Buddhism to me, I'm not sure what my life would be like now. What I do know is that because Buddhism was made available to me, it helped me to settle my spiritual life and become a person oriented toward gratitude and insight. It would be hard to list all the ways I've benefitted from my encounter with the Dharma. I wasn't missionized in the sense that someone pressured me or brainwashed me into joining Buddhism. Rather, kind people caringly made it available to me as a gift which I examined, considered, and chose to accept. I'm deeply thankful that they took the time and effort and risked rejection or disappointment, in order to give me this gift.

Many people are working hard to offer the gift of Buddhism to those who may benefit from it. I hope that even more of us will get involved in such activities, for the sake of suffering people in our society. And if others decide that Buddhism itself won't be helpful to them at this time (perhaps they already have a perfectly good form of spirituality that nourishes them), then we can look for other ways that we can be helpful and express the bodhisattva spirit. Because it's always offered in the spirit of generosity—not divisiveness—we don't need to fear the effects of missionary activities on Buddhism. There is no need to convert the world to Buddhism. But many people could benefit from exposure to Buddhism—either a little taste or full immersion—and they'll never have the opportunity unless we are brave enough to assist them.

June is Pride month in Toronto, and the Toronto Buddhist Church is once again engaging in activities at Pride. This is the sort of positive missionary work that I mean. Because we're at Pride, thousands of people encounter Buddhism and can decide whether it could be meaningful and useful for them. They have a chance to meet our sangha members and learn a bit about what it's like to participate in our community. It's up to them to assess whether they want to pursue a further relationship, or keep doing what's working for them. There's no pressure, and no expectations.

And in the process, we who go to Pride get to meet many lovely and interesting people, share in their joy at being free to be themselves, and express our Buddhist values of inclusivity and compassion. Thus, missionary work of this sort is actually two-sided. It isn't simply that we're bringing something to others who might need it—we ourselves are receiving something valuable from the encounter, and we too are affected positively by the exchange. I'm certainly grateful for all the people who have visited our booth at Pride in previous years and cheered for us as we marched.

Continued on page 8

Is Buddhism a Missionary Religion?, cont'd

Our temple will have a booth at the Pride street fair June 16-28, and will march in the Pride parade on June 28. Please come and join us at Pride if you're available: it really is a great time. And please keep thinking of ways that you can offer Buddhism appropriately to others in this society that

has so much suffering. Let's keep sharing the beauty of the Dharma with everyone who is interested.

In Gassho

Jeff Wilson Sensei

**Toronto Buddhist Church &
Hamilton Buddhist Temple**
2026 schedule

- June 7 (Sun) Shotsuki Memorial Service
13(Sat) Hamilton Monthly Service
14(Sun) Regular Service
21(Sun) Shosanshiki Service, Backyard BBQ
28(Sun) Regular Service (Pride Parade)
- July
5 (Sun) Shotsuki Memorial Service
11(Sat) Ohakamairi & Bon Odori
12(Sun)Toronto Bon Service (Urabon-e)
18(Sat) Hamilton Ohakamairi & Bon Service (Urabon-e)
19(Sun)Summer Service
26(Sun)Summer Service
- August
2 (Sun) Shotsuki Memorial Service
9 (Sun) Summer Service
15 (Sat) Annual Picnic (Wasaga)
16(Sun) Summer Service
23(Sun) Summer Service
30(Sun) Summer Service
- September
6 (Sun) Summer Service
12 (Sat) Hamilton Monthly Service
13 (Sun) Shotsuki Memorial Service (Rally Sunday)
16 (Wed)-19 (Sat) JSBTC MA Meeting at Winnipeg
20 (Sun) Autumn Equinox Service (Higan-e)
27 (Sun) Regular Service
- October
4 (Sun) Shotsuki Memorial Service
10 (Sat) Hamilton Monthly Service
11 (Sun) Regular Service
18 (Sun) JSBTC Day Service (OVSA Presentation)
25 (Sun) Regular Service
- November
1 (Sun) Shotsuki Memorial Service
8 (Sun) Regular Service
14 (Sat) TBC Annual Bazaar
15 (Sun) Eitaikyo Service
21 (Sat) Hamilton Monthly Service
22 (Sun) Regular Service
29 (Sun) Regular Service
- December
6 (Sun) Shotsuki Memorial Service
12 (Sat) Hamilton Monthly Service
13 (Sun) Regular Service
20 (Sun) Bodhi Day Service (Jodo-e)
27 (Sun) Regular Service
30 (Wed) Mochitsuki
31 (Thu) New Year's Eve Ringing Bell (Joya no Kane)

WELCOME TO KID’S SANGHA / DHARMA SCHOOL

A glance back at May.....

May’s theme was Shinran Shonin. We honoured and learned about our founder of Jodo Shinshu Buddhism. On May 17, Gotan-e day, we celebrated the birthday of Shinran Shonin.

June’s Theme: “Reflection”

Let’s take a look at our Nembutsu journey, focusing on things that we have learned this past year, friends that we have made and things to look forward to in the fall when Kid’s Sangha / Dharma School resumes.

June’s Kid’s Service / Dharma School Schedule

June 14 – Kid’s Service – with ?

Dharma School with Naomi

June 21 – Kid’s Service – with Hashimoto Sensei

Dharma School with Jessica

SPECIAL NOTES:

- * Sunday June 21 – Last day of Kid’s Sangha Services and Dharma School
 - TBC Backyard BBQeveryone is welcome to join
 - there will be kid’s games and prizes

On Friday July 31, 2026.....Kids Sangha Kids under 8 years old (and their parents) are invited to Camp Lumbini for the day. There is no fee to attend. Please register with the office so that meals and activities can be accounted for.

HAVE A SAFE AND WONDERFUL SUMMER

SEE YOU ON RALLY SUNDAY

SEPTEMBER 13, 2026

With gratitude.....Kid’s Sangha / Dharma School



KEIROKAI HONOREES MAY 17, 2026



Left to right

Mr. Tsutomu Stony Nakano (105)

Mr. Toshiaki Tosh Shigeishi (100)

Mr. George Nakano (100)

Mrs. Yasuko P. Kusano (100)

Mrs. Yasuko Kawahara (88)

Mrs. Ruby Kusano (77)

Mrs. Midori Fujita (77)

Back

Rev. Kensho Hashimoto

Rev. Hikaru Sugiura

Camp Lumbini 2026

Calling All Youth Ages 8-15!

Join us this summer, Sunday, July 26th - Saturday, August 1st, for an overnight Buddhist camp!



- A fun, youth bonding experience!
- Buddhist themes implemented through the activities during the week.
- Buddhist camp held in the Temple cottages in Wasaga Beach.

Youth Ages 16+ are counselors and can receive volunteer hours.

Children under the age of 8 may join us on Friday, July 31st for a one day camp experience.

For more information please contact Abigail Kataoka abigail-kataoka@hotmail.com

Important Notice for Families

The Temple is seeking to contact family members regarding administrative matters.

If you are a family member of any of the individuals listed below, or know someone who may be, we would appreciate hearing from you.

- Takino Iwashita (passed away in 1935)
- Koto Nishimura (passed away in 1936)
- Sukeiku Mori (passed away in 1937)
- Yoshiko Iwashita (passed away in 1940)
- Yoshio Iwashita (passed away in 1941)

- Kumazaburo Miyamura (passed away in 1945)
- Keita Kimura (passed away in 1948)
- Zenpachi Eto (passed away in 1962)
- Suekichi Nishimura (passed away in 1968)
- Jinshiro Inamoto (passed away in 1979)
- Fukutaro Seiriki (passed away in 1987)
- Yone Inamoto (passed away in 1990)
- Kazuko Tanaka (passed away in 1990)
- John Shigeru Nishimura (passed away in 1998)

Deadline to notify the Temple is June 30, 2026.

KEIROKAI HONOREES UNABLE TO ATTEND THE CELEBRATION

KIJU—77 YEARS

Mrs. Patty Dobson
Mr. Hideo Fukuda
Ms. Yoko Hanabusa
Ms. Gayle Hayashi

BEIJU—88 YEARS

Mr. Fred Kotani
Mrs. Jane Koyata
Mr. Yuko Kudo

Mrs. Yasuo Morita
Mrs. Murata
Mr. George Tanaka
Mrs. Kathy Wani

HAKUJU—99 YEARS

Mrs. Hisaye Allen
Mrs. Emi Nakano
Mrs. Dave Azuma
Mr. Tokugi Suyama

OVER 100

Mrs. Misao Tehara 105 years
Mrs. Teruko Otani 106 years



Bon Odori 2026

After a long, cold, snowy winter, it's time for a spring fling. Come out to the Toronto Buddhist Church to learn Bon Odori, Japanese folk dances.

Obon is an important Buddhist observance to honour our ancestors and dancing is part of the festival. Traditional Japanese folk dances (odori) are made up of short sequences of steps that are repeated throughout the song. Dances have also been created for modern songs. The Bon Odori festival will be held on Saturday, July 11, 2026 at the Japanese Canadian Cultural Centre, following Natsu Matsuri.

In preparation, bon odori practices will be held on Tuesday and Friday evenings, 8:00 – 9:30 pm, at the Toronto Buddhist Church. Men, women and children are all welcome and no experience is necessary. Step-by-step instructions will be given and it is best to come from the beginning as new dances are introduced as the practices progress. It is not necessary to attend both the Tuesday and Friday sessions.

The dances may require the use of a sensu (folding fan),

uchiwa (round fan), tenugui (towel), and kachi kachi or naruko (Japanese castanets). Participants will be required to provide their own, and these will be available for purchase.

The first practices will be held on Tuesday, April 21, 2026 and Friday, April 24, 2026.

For more information, please contact the Toronto Buddhist Church.

Toronto Buddhist Church
1011 Sheppard Ave. West
North York, ON
416-534-4302
tbc@tbc.on.ca



Recycle Your Chopsticks!



What do you do with your take-out chopsticks after you're done with them? Throw them away? Wash and keep them at home, even though you probably have nicer chopsticks to use daily?

Why not recycle your chopsticks? The temple has enrolled in a

recycling program through Chop Value. This company brings new life to disposable chopsticks. We are given a bin to fill with chopsticks, and once it is full, the team comes to pick it up. To find out the different things they do, please check out their website! <https://chopvalue.com/en-ca>

If you have disposable chopsticks (waribashi) at home that you want to get rid of, please feel free to bring them to the temple for recycling! The bin can be found in the Social Hall by the other garbage bins!

In gassho,
Abigail Kataoka

MAY THANK YOU'S

- ◆ Donna Nakano and Sandra Izukawa for playing the organ at this month's service
- ◆ Naomi Knude, Myra Takasaki, Joanne Kataoka and Bev Kato for helping Susan with tea toban after service
- ◆ Grace Taguchi for the flower arrangements for the naijin
- ◆ Ross Yoshida, Brian Huynh, and Bryan Day 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 volunteered and helped make Keirokai a success and a great day for our honorees
- ◆ To all those who volunteered at the funeral for Mr. Glen Kumomoto

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.

Save the Date for the TBC Annual Picnic at Lumbini Saturday, August 15th • Noon-4 PM

Mark your calendars for an afternoon of community and celebration. We welcome everyone to bring a dish to contribute to our shared table. Hamburgers and hotdogs will be provided.

There will be games and plenty of outdoor fun. Don't forget your outdoor chairs, swimsuits, and sunscreen so you can relax and enjoy the day comfortably.



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

Toronto Buddhist Church Women's Federation Group

The Toronto Buddhist Church Women's Federation Group is being reorganized. All are welcome to join. If you are interested in joining the new Leadership Committee, please contact Joanne Miyazaki at tbc.wf@tbc.on.ca. Membership is \$15. A combined membership of \$20 is available (WF \$15 and Sangha \$5).

We appreciate your support and welcome input as we plan future activities.

ATTENTION TEMPLE MEMBERS

Membership Appeal

As we look ahead to 2026, we want to share a few important updates with our Sangha. Attendance and fundraising are slowly recovering, but donations and memberships fell short again this past year. At the same time, we've taken on the joyful but significant responsibility of welcoming both Reverend Hashimoto and our new assistant minister, Reverend Hikaru Sugiura. Their guidance is a true blessing, though it has added to our expenses.

The JSBTC has also increased its annual assessment fee more than usual this year, reflecting the rising costs they face as well.

Because of these combined pressures, we find it necessary to adjust our fees for 2026: Membership will be \$180.00, and the Guiding Light subscription will be \$75.00. We make this change with care, and with deep gratitude for your continued support. Your generosity keeps the Temple running and allows us to continue sharing the Dharma with our community.

Please complete the application on the next page and return it to the Temple office. Honorary Members are also asked to submit an application each year so we can keep our records current. While no fee is required for Honorary Members, donations—if you are able—are always appreciated.

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

(please mark “Membership”)

Email: darlene.rieger@tbc.on.ca

Payments may be made by cheque, e-transfer (direct deposit), or PayPal/credit card through our website.

With gratitude,

Board of Directors, Toronto Buddhist Church

2026 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 2026 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, 2026**. 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 _____

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, 2026 to December 31, 2026. The Individual Membership Fee for 2026 is a minimum of \$180. 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*.

We also ask that all Honorary Members complete a membership application each year so that we can keep our records current. While no membership fee is required for Honorary Members, donations—if you are able—are always appreciated and help support the ongoing work of the Temple.

PLEASE SUBMIT A SEPARATE PAYMENT FOR 'MEMBERSHIP ONLY'. PLEASE DO NOT COMBINE WITH DONATIONS.

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