



Guiding Light



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	
MAY 10, 2026	REGULAR SERVICE	ENGLISH	ENGLISH	NONE	
MAY 17, 2026	GOTANYE SERVICE	ENGLISH MEZZANINE	ENGLISH	NONE	KEIROKAI
MAY 24, 2026	REGULAR SERVICE	ENGLISH KIDS SANGHA CLASSROOM	ENGLISH	NONE	
MAY 31, 2026	REGULAR SERVICE	NONE	ENGLISH	NONE	
JUNE 7, 2026	MONTHLY MEMORIAL (SHOTSUKI)	ENGLISH	ENGLISH	JAPANESE	SHOTSUKI

GOTAN-E— MAY 17, 2026

Gotan-e celebrates the birthday of **Shinran Shonin** (the founder of Jodo Shinshu, True Pureland—which focuses on salvation through faith in Amida Buddha) on May 21st. Gotan-e Day honors the arrival of a teacher whose wisdom shaped the spiritual lives of millions

Shosanshiki: Welcoming Children to the Sangha



The Shosanshiki, or First Visitation

Ceremony to the Sangha, is a cherished Buddhist tradition that celebrates a child’s formal welcome into the community. Once held only for newborns, this meaningful ceremony is now open to children of all ages who wish to take their first step on the path to the truth of Amida Buddha.

This year’s Shosanshiki will take place on **June 21**. It is a joyful moment for families and the temple community alike, as each child is lovingly introduced to the Sangha and supported as they begin their spiritual journey.

Makuragyō (Pillow-side) Service

When families consider having a Pillow-side service (Makuragyō) 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.



WHEN THE SHOT DOESN'T GO AS PLANNED

As the days gradually grow warmer, we begin to feel the gentle arrival of spring. After a long winter, the changing of the seasons reminds us that everything moves forward little by little. This month, I will take a short break from the *Shoshinge* series and instead share a revised version of the Dharma message I shared at the April memorial service.

In early April, I had the opportunity to attend a Blue Jays game through a group ticket organized by the temple. Since the opposing team was the Dodgers, there were many Japanese fans in the stadium. What left a particularly strong impression on me was the walk-up song of Okamoto, a newly joined player on the Blue Jays. The song was by an artist from my hometown—someone my older brother was a big fan of—so it was music I had often heard since childhood. Hearing that familiar melody echoing across the ocean in a Major League stadium brought about a feeling that is difficult to put into words.

That same evening, I went on to watch a professional curling match. I was able to see players—some of whom have represented Japan—up close and even spoke with them briefly after the game. Japanese national team curlers often come to Canada for competitions, and whenever there is a tournament in Kelowna, British Columbia, someone always supports them. As it turns out, that person is a member of the Kelowna temple, and this connection led to a lively and meaningful conversation.

Having played in the Nisei curling league myself for the past two years since coming to Toronto, I have come to realize something very clearly: curling is a sport that does not go as we expect. Even when a shot feels perfect, the stone may travel too far, stop too soon, or curl more than anticipated. When I wonder why, I hear comments from teammates such as, “The ice is fast today,” “This line feels a bit heavy,” or “Maybe we didn’t sweep enough.” Even when we throw the same way, the result is never exactly the same. It reminds me that many conditions—beyond my own control—are always at play.

In Buddhism, this is expressed through the teaching of dependent origination. Everything arises through the coming together of various causes and conditions; nothing exists independently on its own. Even a single curling stone is influenced by the condition of the ice, the temperature of the arena, teammates sweeping of, and countless subtle factors we may not even notice. The outcome is never determined by “my shot” alone.

This teaching applies directly to our lives as well. We tend to think that results come solely from our own efforts, or that our lives are shaped entirely by our own choices. While effort is certainly important, things do not always unfold as expected.

Sometimes things go well; at other times, they do not, despite our best intentions. In this way, life is very much like curling.

This becomes even more evident when we encounter illness, aging, and the loss of someone dear to us. There are moments when we are suddenly diagnosed with an unexpected illness, or when we must part with someone who was with us just yesterday. No matter how deeply we care, we cannot stop the passage of time, nor can we avoid separation. At such times, we come face to face with a reality that is beyond our control. When we realize this, how are we to live? Are we left with no choice but to stand still in helplessness?

Here, I would like to introduce a simple word: “omakase,” often translated as “I leave it up to you.” At a sushi restaurant, it means entrusting the chef to choose the best for you. However, even in that case, it is still “I” who decides to entrust. In Jodo Shinshu, “entrusting” is of a different nature. It is not about making a decision to entrust, but about awakening to the fact that we were never in control to begin with. More importantly, it is the realization that we are beings who have never been abandoned but have always been embraced and wished for.

This working of “not being abandoned” is the working of Amida Buddha. Amida embraces us just as we are—beings who cannot live entirely according to our own wishes—and continually calls out to us, “Please realize this working.” Even before we think to entrust, we are already living within this compassionate activity.

When we awaken to this, what naturally comes forth from our lips is the Nembutsu: “Namo Amida Butsu.” It is not a sign that we have accomplished something through our own efforts. Rather, it is the expression of awakening to the fact that this very self—just as it is—is embraced within boundless compassion.

In the face of the death of a loved one, Jodo Shinshu teaches us that those who have gone ahead to the Pure Land now live within this same working of the Nembutsu. As Buddhas, they continue to watch over us and guide us toward the same path. Even now, they are calling out to us: “Please encounter this same working of Amida Buddha.”

Looking back in this way, we can see that neither a single curling shot nor our entire life exists independently. Everything unfolds within a web of conditions. And within that, there is a great working that continually affirms us just as we are. Together with all of you, I hope to continue living a life of listening to the teaching, saying the Nembutsu—Namo Amida Butsu—with a heart of entrusting.

Namo Amida Butsu

Rev. Kensho Hashimoto

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.



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. Keiko Murotani</i>	<i>76 yrs</i>	<i>March 22, 2026</i>
<i>Mr. Dennis Hiroshi Yokota</i>	<i>79 yrs</i>	<i>March 23, 2026</i>
<i>Mrs. Nobuye Betty Tokawa</i>	<i>100 yrs</i>	<i>April 14, 2026</i>



NAIJIN FLORAL ARRANGERS NEEDED

We're looking for creative and willing volunteers to help make our altar flower arrangements. No experience is needed — just bring your imagination and enjoy the process.

This commitment is for **one month at a time**, arranging **every Friday**, about **2–3 times a year**.

If you're interested, please contact **Grace Taguchi** at darlene.rieger@tbc.on.ca

PERENNIAL DONATION WELCOME

Are you thinning your garden or have extra flowers you'd love to share? The Temple is always looking for perennials to help brighten and add colour to our outdoor gardens.

If you have plants you'd like to donate, please email **Grace Taguchi** at darlene.rieger@tbc.on.ca



WELCOME TO KIDS' SANGHA and DHARMA SCHOOL

WELCOME TO KID'S SANGHA and DHARMA SCHOOL

A glance back at April's Theme: Sakyamuni Buddha and Hanamatsuri

Q. What is Hanamatsuri?

A. Hanamatsuri is celebrated on April 8. It marks the birth of Sakyamuni Buddha (the historical founder of Buddhism).
Why do we pour sweet tea over the statue of the Buddha?

A. It is said that sweet tea rained down from the sky when Sakyamuni Buddha was born. We continue this ritual of pouring sweet tea over the statue to honour this day.

MAY'S THEME: SHINRAN SHONIN

Q. Who was Shinran Shonin?

Q. What special service will be held at the Temple on May 17? Here's a hint....starts with the letter "G".

MAY'S SCHEDULE FOR KID'S SANGHA SERVICE and DHARMA SCHOOL

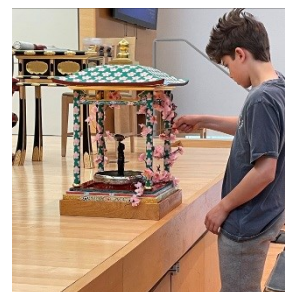
May 3 – Kid's Service – Hashimoto Sensei - mezzanine (2nd floor) at 10:30 a.m.
Dharma School with Jessica at 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

May 10 – Kid's Service – with ? – at 10:30 a.m. in the Hondo
Dharma School with Jessica at 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

May 17 – Kid's Service – with Sugiura Sensei – at 10:30 a.m. in the Hondo
(Gotan-e Service and Keirokai)
Dharma School – workshop with Naomi at 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. in the classroom
make your own onenju pouch

May 24 – Practice singing our gathas in the classroom at 10:30 a.m.
Join the Family Service at 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. (no Dharma School)

May 31 – no Kid's Service or Dharma School



Here's a riddle for you to solve.....Who am I?

I lived a long time ago
I taught a path that's simple to plan
Not by power or things you own,
But by saying a name, you're not alone.

I followed the teachings of Buddhism, who am I?

Answer...Shinran Shonin



HOPE TO SEE YOU AT TEMPLE....EVERYONE IS WELCOME.

With gratitude,

Kid's Sangha / Dharma School



Memorial (Shotsuki) Listing for the Month of June

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

AIHOSHI , Hisaji John	KAWAI , Sachiko	NAKATA , Takejiro	TAKAOKA , Joe Masao
AKADA , Sadajiro	KAWASAKI , Yoso	NARUSE , Tokiko	TAKASAKI , Miyuki
AKIYAMA , Namiko	KIKUTA , Mitsuye	NEKODA , Nick Shunso	TAKENAKA ,
AMANO , Kikuye Kay	KISHIMOTO , Lidia	NISHIDA , Harry Eiji	Nancy Ayako
AOKI , Toichiro	KITAGAWA , Yae	NISHIHAMA , Yaeko	TAKENAKA , Nick Niichi
BANDO , Haruko	KITAMURA , George Ayao	NISHIHATA , Jesse Hideo	TAKENAKA , Haru
EBATA , Izo	KITAMURA , Misako	NISHIJIMA , Aya Dorothy	TAKEUCHI , Yuriko
EBATA , Yoshiye	KITAZAKI , Chiyo	NISHIKAWA , Seitaro	TAMAKI , Albert Wataru
FUDEMOTO , Toshie	KIYNOGANA , Shokichi	NISHIMURA , Yaeko Denise	TANAKA , Nami Dorothy
FUJII , Toji	KIYONAGA , Hikaru	NISHIMURA , Sannosuke	TANAKA , Jitaro Charlie
FUKAKUSA , Lynn Joseph Joe	KOBAYASHI , Betty Kumiko	NISHIYAMA , Sumiko	TANAKA , Kitty Kinue
FURUYA , Tomegoro	KOJIMA , Fumio	NOSE , Sato	TANAKA , Pauline Toyoko
HAKODA , Kenneth Yukio	KONO , Hayato	NOZUYE , Hideharu	TANAKA , Shozaburo
HAMADE , Hisae	KOYAMA , Kiri	NOZUYE , Noboru	TANAKA , Tatsuya
HAMASAKI , Sengame	KOZAI , Kiyoshi John	OHARA , Jack Masaru	TANAKA , Tsuruye
HANABUSA , Hanako	KUMAGAI , Hideko Helen	OHASHI , Fusae	TATEISHI , Seizo
HASHIZUME , Masujiro	KUMAGAI , Shizu	OHASHI , Mitsuru Rick	TEHARA , Jack Gentaro
HAYASHI , Genji	KURAHASHI , Kenetaro	OHASHI , Sumi	TERAMURA , Masa
HIZAKA , Fujie	KUWAHARA , Tomeko Tomi	OIKAWA , Yoemon	TOHANA , Toshiko
IBUKI , Sumiko	MAEDA , Kimie	OKAZAKI , Masatoshi	TSUJI , Kitaro
IDENOUE , Kimiko	MAKIMOTO , Takaharu	OIKAWA , Yoemon	TSUJI , Mabel Fusaye
IIDA , Yoneichi	MARUBASHI , Hanshichi	OMOTO , Fumi	UCHIDA , Satoko Mary
INAMOTO , Toshiko	MATSUI , Shinzo	ONISHI , Otokichi	UEDA , George Takeshi
INAMOTO , James Tsugio	MATSUMURA , Kazuo	OTANI , Kikuko	UJIHARA , Miko Mike
INAMOTO , Kazuo	MATSUSHITA , Jinmatsu	RUEHLE , Giulia	UYEDA , Kitaro Kiyo
ISHIMURA , Akiko	MINAKATA , Kiyoko	SAITO , Lily Yuriko	UYENO , Suyeki
ITO , Heizo	MITSUBATA , Yasuno	SAKAMOTO , Shigeru	WAKABAYASHI , Yokichi
ITO , Yoshimi	MIYAGAWA , George Kiichiro	SATO , Hifumi Evelyn	WATADA , Hideki Dick
IWASHITA , Yasuro	MIYAGAWA , Yoshiko	SHIGA , Mitsuzo	WAKIDA , Frank Tadashi
IZUKAWA , Teruo Ted	MORI , Dick Yoshio	SHIMIZU , Jack Tsugio	WATANABE , Hatsue
KADOHAMA , Torayo	MORI , Hachizo	SHIMIZU , Shizuko	YAMAMOTO , Fukusaburo
KAIBARA , Imao	MORI , Matsuye	SHIRAIISHI , Shizue	YAMAMOTO , Harumi
KANAYA , Phyllis Miyoko	MORI , Sho	SHIRAKAWA , Sakiye	YANO , Kei
KATO , Shigeko	MORIYAMA , Sachiko	SHITAMI , Bella Rumi	YONEKURA , Harry Hiroshi
KATSURA , Hannah	MURAKAMI , Itsushi	SHITAMI , Entaro	YOSHIDA , Gordon Hiromu
KAWAGUCHI , Satoko Sherry	NAGAMATSU , Katsue	SUGIMAN , Betty Kiyoye	YOSHIDA , Kazuo Jake
KAWAGUCHI , Shigeo	NAGATA , Kaneo	TABUCHI , Aya	YOSHIDA , Naoe Nellie
KAWAGUCHI , Tsugino	NAKAMURA , Toichi	TAKAHASHI ,	YOSHIDA , Sam Susumu
KAWAGUCHI , Shizaburo	NAKAMURA , Genmatsu	George Genshichi	
KAWAHARA , Noboru		TAKANO , Masaru	

Hanamatsuri Family Banquet – A TBC Tradition

Traditionally, the TBC Sangha volunteer group hosts the Family Banquet every year after the Hanamatsuri service. Traditions are important and events are important as they give us an opportunity to pause and reflect on the origins of a tradition, how they affected our older generations and how it may continue to affect us today. In effect, traditions reflect a community's shared history.



When the Hanamatsuri family banquet was first held, it was at a time when persons of different backgrounds were not embraced in all social settings. As a result, the Family Banquet was an event that could be attended by members of the Temple community in a relaxed familiar environment where the entire family could enjoy a fancy roast beef dinner. In consideration of this we continue the tradition of a roast beef dinner, with the option of salmon and vegan meals.

Over time, the Hanamatsuri family banquet evolved into an event where multiple generations of families could gather. During the time when Dennis Madakoro ran the event our emphasis was to bring together Issei (first generation), Nissei (second generation), Sansei (third generation) and Yonsei (fourth generation) family members together. Today, I am happy to welcome all members not only with Japanese backgrounds but of all backgrounds.

An event such as this is only possible with help and support of a team of volunteers and I thank each and everyone of you for generously donating your time and energy – with your help we were able to host over 120 members of our Temple community. I would like to give special thanks to the following people:

Mitch Bates – Chef at Ojisechi for preparing the Roast Beef. Elaine Takahashi – Chef at Fisherman's Place for preparing the Salmon. Joanne Kataoka – organizing the event and running the kitchen. Ross Yoshida – organizing the set up and clean up.



While enjoying your meal, I hope you will take a moment to think about the tradition of the event – and perhaps you will take the opportunity to discuss with your own family members their memories of past Family Banquets.

Cay Kataoka (Cary@Kataoka.ca)

President, TBC Sangha Volunteer Group



Sunday, May 17, 2026

we will be honouring Temple members
who are celebrating their
77th (kiju), 88th (beiju) or 99th (hakuju) year
An entertainment programme will follow the luncheon

SAVE THE DATE AND PLAN TO JOIN US AND OUR KEIROKAI HONOREES

MAY 17, 2026, 11:00 AM

Keirokai is a celebration to show our gratitude and honour those temple members who turn 77 years (Kiju), 88 years (Beiju), 99 years (Hakuju) 100 years (Kakuju) and over 100. Please join us for the service at 11am followed by entertainment.

We will be featuring our honourees on **May 17 2026 at 11:00 am** in person and via Zoom. Please fill out the form below or send the information via email with the subject line “Keirokai” by May 11, 2026. Please include a picture of yourself that we can show during the service.

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

2026 KEIROKAI HONOUREE

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



Last Name in Kanji (if known): _____

Address: _____

City: _____ Postal Code: _____ Phone: _____

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

Will you be attending the Service in person ? Yes No

Will you be attending our Zoom Service on May 17th? Yes No

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

Email to send Zoom invitation _____

TORONTO BUDDHIST CHURCH RETURNS TO PRIDE

JUNE 26—28, 2026

On the weekend of June 26 to 28, 2026, TBC will again participate in Pride Toronto with a booth at the street fair on Church Street and by marching in the parade on Sunday, June 28th. This is an opportunity to raise awareness about TBC and Shin Buddhism. In addition to reaching out to the 2SLGBTQ+ community, a community that has historically faced discrimination, this is also an opportunity to work together and to have a good time doing so. Most, if not all volunteers from the previous two years have commented that they had a great time at Pride and stated that they look forward to helping again. To volunteer at the booth, please contact Jun Cura-Bongolan, our booth volunteer coordinator, at juncurabongolan@gmail.com. To march in the parade, you just need to show up. Details on walking in the parade will be provided closer to the date.



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.

Toronto Buddhist Church & Hamilton Buddhist Temple 2026 schedule

- May

- 3 (Sun) Shotsuki Memorial Service
- 9 (Sat) Hamilton Monthly Service
- 10(Sun)Regular Service
- 17(Sun)Gotan-e Service, Keirokai
- 24(Sun) Regular Service
- 31(Sun) Regular Service

- 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 Festival)

- July

- 5 (Sun) Shotsuki Memorial Service
- 11(Sat) Ohakamairi & Bon Odori
- 12(Sun)Bon Service
- 18(Sat) Hamilton Ohakamairi & Bon Service
- 19(Sun)Summer Service
- 26(Sun)Summer Service

- August

- 2 (Sun) Shotsuki Memorial Service
- 9 (Sun) Summer Service
- 16(Sun) Summer Service

SHOSANSHIKI

First Visitation Ceremony

Sunday, June 21, 2026

Shosanshiki of 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 complete the information below and email to the Temple tbc@tbc.on.ca

Thank You

Please join us for the Kid's Sangha Service at 10:30 am

- Child's Full Name
- Date of Birth (dd mm yyyy)
- M F
- Mother's Name
- Father's Name
- Address
- City/Prov
- Postal Code
- Email
- Phone





Let's Ondo Again!



**Be part of the Japanese-Canadian tradition
Obon Odori - minyo (Japanese folk dance)**

All ages, newcomers welcome

Only 50 cents per practice
Starts Tuesday, April 21, 2026
**Every Tuesday and Friday
prior to Obon (July 11, 2026)**

**8:00 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.
(Subject to cancellation)**

Step by step instructions given

**Toronto Buddhist Church
Social Hall (basement)**
1011 Sheppard Ave W
North York, ON, M3H 2T7
(416) 534-4302
tbc@tbc.on.ca

Next to Sheppard West subway station
Parking available



18th WORLD BUDDHIST WOMEN'S CONVENTION

HONOLULU · HAWAII
September 11-12, 2027
Hilton Hawaiian Village
Waikiki Beach Resort



Rev. Dr. Masumi Kikuchi



Dr. Miki Tomita Okamoto

Please join us in Honolulu, Hawaii for the 18th World Buddhist Women's Convention!

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

Rev. Dr. Masumi Kikuchi, Japan
Dr. Miki Tomita Okamoto, Hawaii

For more information please visit www.hawaiiibwa.org or scan the QR code.



Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii Federation of Buddhist Women's Associations

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

APRIL 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
- ◆ Donna Nakano for preparing the Obuppan for the naijin
- ◆ Myra Takasaki 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 at the funerals
- ◆ To all those who donated items and those who purchased bentos etc. at the Buyo Bento sale thank you so much for your support and generosity

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.

LET'S GO BLUE JAYS!



We have reserved another 50 tickets for the June 23rd game against the Houston Astros.

These tickets are in sections 519, rows 7 to 10

The cost is **\$23.00** per ticket, and a maximum of five (5) tickets per purchase. (TBC will subsidize the price again)

Please note that the seats are **not** handicap accessible.

We expect tickets to go fast so if you want to attend then book your ticket(s) by contacting Dave at: TBC.Events@tbc.on.ca. Please include your cell number and an email address.

Payment is due at time of reservation by e-transfer send to darlene.rieger@tbc.on.ca, cheque made out to Toronto Buddhist Church or credit card. Please indicate what your payment is for in comments.

The tickets are electronic and will be delivered to you by email or text to your phone.

You must have a cell phone with you at time of entry into Rogers Centre with your E-ticket available on your phone.

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.

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

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.