



Guiding Light

July/August, 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	
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)	
JULY 19, 2026	SUMMER SERVICE	NONE	ENGLISH	NONE	
JULY 26, 2026	SUMMER SERVICE	NONE	ENGLISH	NONE	
AUGUST 2, 2026	MONTHLY MEMORIAL	NONE	ENGLISH	10:30 am SERVICE (JAPANESE)	SHOTSUKI
AUGUST 9, 2026	SUMMER SERVICE	NONE	ENGLISH	NONE	
AUGUST 16, 2026	SUMMER SERVICE	NONE	ENGLISH	NONE	
AUGUST 23, 2026	SUMMER SERVICE	NONE	ENGLISH	NONE	
AUGUST 30, 2026	SUMMER SERVICE	NONE	ENGLISH	NONE	
SEPTEMBER 6, 2026	SUMMER SERVICE	NONE	ENGLISH	NONE	
SEPTEMBER 13, 2026	MONTHLY MEMORIAL	NONE	ENGLISH	JAPANESE	SHOTSUKI RALLY SUNDAY

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 history.

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.



This Month's *Shoshinge* – The Twelve Lights that Embrace Us

*Fu hō mu ryō mu hen kō
Mu ge mu tai kō en nō
Shō jō kan gi chi e kō
Fu dan nan ji mu shō kō
Chō nichi gak-kō shō jin setsu
Is-sai gun jō mu kō shō*

【English Translation】

**Everywhere he casts light
immeasurable, boundless,
Unhindered, unequalled, light-lord of all brilliance,
Pure light, joyful light, the light of wisdom,
Light constant, inconceivable, light beyond speaking,
Light excelling sun and moon he sends forth,
illuminating countless worlds;
The multitudes of beings all receive the radiance.**

Toronto is becoming more and more excited for FIFA, and now that July has arrived, we have also entered the season of Obon. This year, the Bon Odori held at the Japanese Canadian Cultural Centre has officially been renamed the Toronto Buddhist Church Bon Odori to more clearly indicate it is a traditional Bon Odori organized by our temple.

Of course, for those who have participated in Bon Odori

since before it was held at the JCCC, it has always been known as the Buddhist Church's Bon Odori. However, especially for those who have come to Toronto within the past twenty years, many people may have thought of it simply as a JCCC event. Through this change, I hope that people who may not yet know about our temple will come to recognize Toronto Buddhist Church as a place where we gather to hear the Buddha-Dharma together...

For this month's article, I would like to return to my series of *Shoshinge*. In the April article, I wrote about Dharmakara Bodhisattva, who established the Primal Vow with the wish to bring all suffering beings to Buddhahood. This Vow did not remain merely as a hope or ideal. It was fulfilled and became the working of Amida Buddha. Now, it reaches us as the Name, Namo Amida Butsu.

This time, I would like to reflect on the six lines of the *Shoshinge* that praise the twelve kinds of light taught in the Larger Sutra. These twelve lights express the virtues of Amida Buddha's working. Of course, Amida Buddha's light is not limited to only twelve qualities. Rather, these twelve names allow us to appreciate that light from twelve different aspects.

The first and second lights are Immeasurable Light and Boundless Light. Immeasurable Light means that Amida Buddha's working is not limited by time. Boundless Light means that it is not limited by space. Put simply, Amida Buddha's working reaches us "always and everywhere." Boundless also means that there is no edge or boundary to this light. In that sense, there is no single

This Month's Shoshinge – The Twelve Lights that Embrace Us, continued

centre, or we might even say that every place is embraced as the centre of Amida's compassionate working.

The third light is Unhindered Light. This is light that is not obstructed by anything. Shinran Shonin placed special importance on this Unhindered Light when he wrote about the twelve lights. Generally speaking, the greatest obstruction to becoming a Buddha is considered to be our blind passions. However, Amida Buddha's light is not obstructed by our blind passions. No matter how deep our greed, anger, or ignorance may be, Amida's light continues to shine upon us. It is the light that embraces ordinary beings filled with blind passions and brings them to the path of Buddhahood.

The fourth light, Unequaled Light, and the lights that follow may be understood as further explanations of the working of Unhindered Light. Unequaled Light is the light of wisdom that has no comparison. We live bound by conditions from the past that we cannot control, and we are often caught in many forms of suffering. Yet Amida Buddha's light of wisdom shines upon us and does not leave us trapped within that suffering.

The fifth light is Light-Lord of All Brilliance. This is a bright and powerful light, like a great flame. It illuminates and breaks through the delusions and confused thoughts that arise in our hearts. It also shines upon the kind of life that could lead us toward the three painful paths of hell, hungry spirits, and animals, and opens for us the path of the Buddha.

The sixth, seventh, and eighth lights are Pure Light, Joyful Light, and the Light of Wisdom. These are often explained in relation to the three poisons of greed, anger, and ignorance.

Greed is the mind that always wants more and wants everything to go according to its own wishes. Pure Light shines upon this grasping heart and guides us in a pure direction. Anger is the heart that becomes upset, resentful, or hateful when things do not go the way we want. Joyful Light softens that heart and turns it toward true joy. Ignorance is the mind that cannot see things as they truly are and remains lost in self-centred views. The Light of Wisdom illuminates this darkness and awakens us to the truth.

The ninth light is Constant Light. This is the light that never ceases to shine upon us. Even when we forget the Buddha-Dharma, Amida Buddha's light never stops working.

The tenth light is Inconceivable Light. This is the light that cannot be fully understood by our limited thoughts and ideas. Amida Buddha's wisdom and compassion work beyond the small boundaries of our understanding.

In the same way, the eleventh light is Light Beyond Speaking. It is the light that cannot be fully expressed in words. The working that brings us to birth in the Pure Land and to the attainment of Buddhahood is so deep and

vast that no explanation can ever exhaust its meaning.

Finally, the twelfth light is Light Excelling Sun and Moon. This is the most excellent light, surpassing even the light of the sun and the moon. The sun shines during the day, and the moon shines at night. But Amida Buddha's light shines regardless of day or night, regardless of place or condition. It continually illuminates our hearts of confusion.

This summer, Toronto is filled with excitement around FIFA. Sports have a wonderful power to bring people together beyond differences of nation, generation, and language. Bon Odori also brings people together, but it is not simply a fun summer event. It has been passed down as a Buddhist gathering within the season of Obon, an opportunity to remember those who have gone before us and to reflect on the connections that sustain our lives.

When we dance in a circle, experienced dancers and first-time participants, long-time temple members and those who are attending for the first time are all naturally included within the same circle.

This sense of being included and embraced is also important when we reflect on the light of Amida Buddha. Amida's light does not shine only upon those who are worthy or accomplished. It does not shine only upon those who already understand the Buddha's teaching well. It also shines upon those who have not yet encountered the Dharma and those who have not yet received *Shinjin*. It gently guides all beings toward the Primal Vow.

And those who hear and receive the truth of the Primal Vow are gathered into Amida Buddha's light and never abandoned. Amida Buddha's light is the working that illuminates us in the midst of our confusion, guides us, embraces us just as we are, and never lets us go.

In the liveliness of this summer season, some people may come to know our temple for the first time through Bon Odori. For those of us who have long been connected with the temple, it may also become a meaningful opportunity to remember again that this is a place where we gather to hear the teaching of Amida Buddha.

Amida Buddha's light is still working upon us now. It guides those who have not yet realized it, nurtures those who are living in confusion, and embraces those who have heard and received the Primal Vow, never abandoning them. This working reaches us here and now as Namo Amida Butsu.

Namo Amida Butsu

Rev. Kensho Hashimoto

Resident Minister

HAKAMAIRI— SATURDAY, JULY 11, 2026
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 519-954-0659
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

Memorial (Shotsuki) Listing for the Month of August

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 August. All are invited and welcome to attend.

ANDREONE , Jo Anne Yasuko	KONDO , Harry Shota	NISHIMURA , Albert Masatoshi	TAKEHISA , Michiko
ARIZA , Darrell Patrick	KONDO , Kimiko	NISHIMURA , Eitaro	TANAKA , Mitsuo
ASA , Mitsuko	KONDO , Shigeo	OHASHI , Giichi	TANAKA , Nobby Nobuyoshi
AZUMA , Sano	KONISHI , Fujiko	OHASHI , Ross Shozo	TANAKA , Jinya
BABA , Takako	KOSHIBA , Hiroshi	OKAZAKI , Robert	TANAKA , Mine
BABA , Teruko	KUROYAMA , Sannosuke	OMOTO , Sada	TANAKA , Tatsuya
BABA , Tejiro	KUSHIDA , Takashi	OTAGURO , Sumiye	TANAKA , Yoshiko
BANDO , Mark	MATSUDA , Shizuka	SAITO , Fred Ichiro	TATEBE , Kazuo
BANDO , Sada	MATSUMOTO , Shizuko	SAKAI , Nobuko Jean	TERASHITA , Allen Akitoshi
CHIJIWA , Yoko	MATSUYAMA , Hikohei	SAKURA , Hikotaro	TOKUYAMA , Fumie
CRICHTON , Paul Richard Stuart	MILLARD , Mayuko	SATO , Akira Mooney	TOYAMA , Akiko
EBATA , Matsuko Betty	MITSUMI , Yukio	SATO , Keiko	TSUJI , Gerry Kazuo
EBATA , Joe Ryota	MIYAGAWA , George Kiichiro	SATO , Sadamu	TSURUDA , Kikuye
EBISUZAKI , Hide	MIYANISHI , Yoshie Minnie	SHIGA , Teruji Terry	TSUSHIMA , Ayako
EGUCHI , Shizu	MIYAUCHI , Shozo Bob	SHIKATANI , Hisaya	URA , Taneshiro
FUJITA , George Sadaji	MIZUYABU , Reiko	SHIKATANI , Ino	UYENAKA , Masayuki
FUJITA , Hikosaku	MORI , Misako	SHIKATANI , Yohei	WAKISAKA , Minoru
FUJITA , Kii	MORI , Shozo	SHIMONO , Shiroemon	WATANABE , Tsuneharu
FUKUMORI , Hatsuno	MOTOTSUNE , Marie Satsuko	SHIN , Yeda	WATARI , Gentaro
FUKUMOTO , Umechiyo	MUKAI , Takeno	SHINYA , Shinji Jack	YAMAMOTO , Etsu
FURUKAWA , Gentaro	MURAI , Ben Tsutomu	SHINMOTO , Hisayo	YOKOTA , Kenji Bernie
FURUYA , Minoru	MURATA , Hanae	SHIOZAKI , Douglas Masato	YONEMURA , Kaoru
GYOTOKU , Unta	NABETA , Matsuichi	SHIRAISHI , Isamu	YOSHIDA , Howard Kaoru
HAKKAKU , Kiyo	NAGAO , Kazuko Betty	SHOJI , Tsunehiro Tony	YOSHIKAWA , Hatsue
HAMAMOTO , Yoshio	NAKABAYASHI , Hiroshi	SHOJI , Genji Gene	
HARA , Kiyoji	NAKAGAWA , Miyoko	SUEFUJI , Sachio	
HARA , Kimie	NAKAMURA , Ginpachi	SUMIDA , Yoshinari	
KISHIBE , Tokichi	NAKANISHI , Kenichiro	SUMIYA , Mits	
KITAMURA , Masaru	NAKATSU , Yoshiharu	SUYAMA , Larry Kenji	
KOBAYASHI , Mikiko	NARUSE , Kimi	TAKANO , Denji	
KOBAYASHI , Shigeno	NASU , Kaoru	TAKASAKI , Matsue	
KOBAYASHI , Teruya	NATSUHARA , Kichi	TAKEDA , Augusta	
KOBAYASHI , Tokujiro	NISHIMOTO , Harumi	TAKEDA , Kumasaburo	
KOBAYASHI , Yoko			



Memorial (Shotsuki) Listing for the Month of September

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

AMEMORI , Rinzo Jon	ICHII , Miyo	KOSHIDA , Thomas Yoichi	NAKATSU , Kichinosuke
ASA , Yukie	ICHII , Seinojo	KOYAMA , Katsuko	NAKATSU , Tsunekichi
ASADA , Mitsuru	ICHII , Tokumatsu	KUMABE , Masayuki	NAKAUCHI , Seki
AYUKAWA , Robert Noboru	IGARASHI , Toyono	KURAHASHI , Satoru Sam	NASU , Naoya Mike
AZUMA , Ikichi	IKEBATA , Natsue	KUROYAMA , Iwao	NISHI , Yukari Lolly
BABA , Hisaye	INAMOTO , Kishi	KUSHIDA , Imaji	NISHIJIMA , William Shigetada
BABA , Tatsuo	INAMOTO , Yoshi	KUSHIDA , Shirley Sachiko	NISHIKAWA , Takako Molly
EBATA , Genei	INAMOTO , Allan Yukio	LEBA , Thanh	NISHIKAWA , Taro
EBATA , Matsuko Betty	INAMOTO , William Akira	MA , Junko	NISHIKAWA , Tomijiro
EBATA , Shio	ISHIDA , Yoshiro	MAEHARA , Jiro	NISHIMURA , Alyce Asano
EDAMURA , John Hideo	ITO , Dick Hideki	MAEHARA , Mutsuko	NISHIMURA , Yutaka Glenn
EJIMA , Hatsujiro	ITO , Mitsuyoshi	MAEKAWA , Iwajiro	NISHINO , Richard Susumu
FUKUDA , Hisako	ITO , Suga	MASUDA , Suyekichi	NISHIYAMA , Catherine Hisako
FUJII , Rinnosuke	IWASAKI , Suye	MATSUBA , Kenneth Brian Yukio	NISHIZAWA , Elizabeth Matsue
FUJII , Jean Misako	IWASHITA , Motaro	MATSUOKA , Haruno	NISHIZAKI , Marion Kiku
FUJINO , Iwajiro	KAIURA , Hideo	MITSUKE , Shige	NISHIZEKI , Hisako
FUJINO , Shizue	KAMADA , Masu	MIYASAKI , Nobu	NOMURA , Lucy Toshiko
FUJIOKA , Yonesaku	KATO , Katsujiro	MIYAZAKI , Mitsue	NOZOE , James Akira
FUKAKUSA , Mariko	KAWAMOTO , Chujiro	MORI , Kinu	OHARA , Kinosuke
FUKUMA , Hirosuke	KIKUCHI , Kamematsu	MORIMOTO , Ikunosuke	OHASHI , Shizuko
FUKUSHIMA , Shizue Sue	KIKUTA , Tatsuo	MORIMOTO , Takeo	OHASHI , Uta
GIGA , Fujiko	KISHIMOTO , Seikichi	MORISHITA , Harold Hiroshi	OMOTO , Paul
HALLISCHUK , Joanne Yoshiko	KISHIMOTO , Yo	MORISHITA , Kamekichi	ONAMI , Paul Seiji
HARADA , Chiyono	KITAURA , Yoshifumi	MORIYAMA , Raymond Junichi	ONO , Isao
HARRIS , Morgan Thomas	KIYONAGA , Chiyoko May	MURAKAMI , Itoku	OTAGURO , Sumiye
HATANAKA , Sueko	KIYONAGA , Don Kitaji	MURANAKA , Kenneth Kenichi	PULS , Ron
HAYASHI , Gibson	KIYONAGA , Kiheiji	MURATA , Matsutaro	RUMBLE , Mary Yoshie
HAYASHI , Doreen Akemi	KOBAYASHI , Kenichiro	NAKAGAWA , Katsujiro	SAITO , Sally Shizue
HIGA , Matsu	KOBAYASHI , Kiyoshi	NAKAGAWA , Margaret Fumiko	SAKAUYE , Kazuo
HIKIDA , Tsunekichi	KODAMA , Isamu	NAKAHARA , Genichiro	SAWAYAMA , Aya
HONKAWA , Kyuhachi	KOKURA , Mitsu		
HORII , Yoshiko	KONDO , Tadao Ted		
HUANG , Chan Nuan Po	KONDO , Yuki		
	KONISHI , Helen Haruye		

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

SEKIMOTO, Yasuko	TAKAHASHI, Torao Tote	TOHANA, Shigeo	YAKO, Tokuzo
SEKO, Shigeo	TAKANO, Shizue	TOJI, Toku	YAMASHITA, Suwa
SHIBATA, Yoshikazu	TAKATA, Ichiro	TOKUYAMA, Akira	YONEKURA, Sumiye
SHIMONO, Sakino	TAKATA, Morikichi	TSUJI, Allan Takeru	YOSHIDA, Hideo
SHIN, Zentaro	TAKEMURA, Soichiro	TSUJI, Shinichi Fred	YU, Song Shing
SHINYA, Shinsuke	James	TSUJI, Tsuru	YU, Hsieh Wei
SHIOMI, Masayoshi	TAKISHITA, Isami	TSUCHIYA, John K.	
SHIRAISHI, Robert Bob	TANAKA, Chiyo	TSUKADA, Masao	
Shigeo	TANAKA, Kisa	TSUKAMOTO, Hana	
SHOJI, Yoshiko Mary	TANAKA, Saburo	TSURUDA, Shuzo	
TAGUCHI, Mary	TATEBE, Kazutaro	UCHIDA, Minoru	
TAHARA, Mamoru Mum	TATEISHI, Tsugeko	URA, Tomoye	
TAHARA, Noboru	TEHARA, Joe Heijiro	WAKISAKA, Takashi	
TAJIMA, Takakazu	TEHARA, Kazuko	WAKISAKA, Yasuo	
TAKAHASHI, George	TERAKAWA, Sadako	WATADA, Chisato	
Yoshikazu			

**2026 TBC Dana Scholarship**

On June 7, 2026, the TBC recognized and celebrated the 2026 TBC Dana Scholarship recipient, Miss Miya de Grandpré, during the service, followed by a luncheon. Miss de Grandpré's stellar academic achievement was accompanied by strong extracurricular activities. Miss de Grandpré will be going to Dalhousie University in the fall.



Congratulations!!! We wish you well on your academic journey and future endeavors.

The TBC Dana Scholarship Committee would like to thank the "TBC Toban Group" for the wonderful luncheon.



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

• 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 in Winnipeg (Ministers away)
- 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 Presentations)
- 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)





YOU ARE INVITED TO

RALLY SUNDAY

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2026

DOWNSTAIRS IN THE SOCIAL HALL
AFTER SERVICE

We miss you!

Join in celebrating with friends, displays, photos, and refreshments.

Everyone is welcome!

KIDS SANGHA AND DHARMA SCHOOL

A glance back at June 2026.

Our theme for June was “reflection”.

As our Dharma School year comes to an end, it is a good time to stop and reflect. Reflection means taking time to look back and think about our experiences, what we have learned and the people who have helped us along the way.

Over the past year, we have listened to Dharma talks, listened to stories, learned about the Buddha’s teachings, sang gathas, made Buddhist themed crafts, celebrated special services and spend time together as friends. Each experience has helped us to grow as a person.

When we reflect, we can ask ourselves.....

What is something I have learned this year:

What story or activity do I remember the most?

Did I learn something about kindness, gratitude or helping others?

Is there someone I would like to say, “thank you” to?

Amida Buddha taught us that our lives are connected to many people.....parents, grandparents, teachers and friends. Because of their kindness and support, we are able to learn and grow. Shinran Shonin often expressed deep gratitude for all the people who guided him. In the same way, when we look back on this year, we can say, “thank you” to all the people and things that made it possible to spend time together every Sunday.

Reflection is not just about remembering the past or things that have already happened. It also helps us to think about how we want to keep going. Perhaps we can ask ourselves.....how can I be kinder? How can I listen more carefully? How can I continue to learn about Amida Buddha and his teachings.



Please note***

It’s Kid’s Sangha Day at Camp Lumbini on Friday July 31, 2026. All kids and their parents are invited to spend the day at the Temple Camp in beautiful Wasaga Beach for the entire day. This special day gives children 8 years and under a day to experience camp. There is no fee to attend. However, please register with the TBC office at 416-534-4302. This helps chef Joanne Kataoka and her team with her meal planning.

Have the best summer ever. See you on September 13 at Rally Sunday.

With gratitude,

Kid’s Sangha / Dharma School



SHOSANSHIKI FOR
CONNELL AND
SHAMUS
JUNE 21, 2026

JUNE 7 SHOTSUKI AND GRADUATES PRESENTATION



JUNE 21 SERVICE AND SHOSANSHIKI



Jodo Shinshu Buddhist Temples of Canada Women's Federation's 2026 Fundraiser THANK YOU

The JSBTC Women's Federation would like to thank those who purchased our "Gassho/Hands together in Peace" T-shirts. We hope you enjoy wearing the T-shirts.

We were able to sell close to 300 T-shirts which was beyond our expectations. The proceeds from this fundraiser will go towards the WF's costs in participating in the World Buddhist Women's Convention in Hawaii, 2027.



In gassho,
JSBTC Women's Federation

TBC Women's Federation (WF) Update

Toronto Buddhist Church has a long history of Women's groups that were generational: Fujinkai (Issei), Dana (Nisei) and Shin-Fujinkai (Sansei). We are combining the groups and respecting the history and knowledge to create the TBC WF.

TBC WF will participate at the Canadian national level Jodo Shinshu Buddhist Temples of Canada (JSBTC) Women's Federation. This connects us to The Buddhist Women's Association (BWA) the English name of the worldwide auxiliary lay organization of the Nishi Hongwanji-ha branch of Jodo Shinshu Buddhism. Its Japanese name is Fujinkai. Many Jodo Shinshu temples in Japan, mainland United States, Hawaii, South America and Canada have BWA chapters.

One of our first activities will be to prepare the flowers for Ohakamairi. The Japanese tradition of visiting family graves occurs the following day (Saturday July 11, 2026). It's a simple yet meaningful way to honour ancestors. Families clean the gravesite, offer flowers or incense and take a moment to reflect or share updates with loved ones who have passed. The schedule for cemetery services is published in this issue of Guiding Light (p. 5). In keeping with tradition, small flower tributes are available. We would greatly appreciate your assistance in the preparation. **Friday July 10, 2026 at temple from 10 am to approximately 2 pm.** Lunch to be provided. If you can join us, please RSVP to tbc.wf@tbc.on.ca, by Monday July 6, 2026.

Plans to re-energize the TBC WF:

Leadership Committee will draft Terms of Reference. To build on the past experiences and to plan for the future and to welcome new members.

October 4, 2026 Shotsuki service - **WF Baking Fundraiser**. Please mark your calendars and consider donating some bake goods or preserves or your specialty!

February 7, 2027 Shotsuki service - WF Fundraiser scheduled

Membership Survey: Your input on the type of fundraisers, workshops and activities that you would be interested in.

Your feedback is welcomed. If you know of others interested in joining us, please share this with them. All are welcome! Including men! Email: tbc.wf@tbc.on.ca

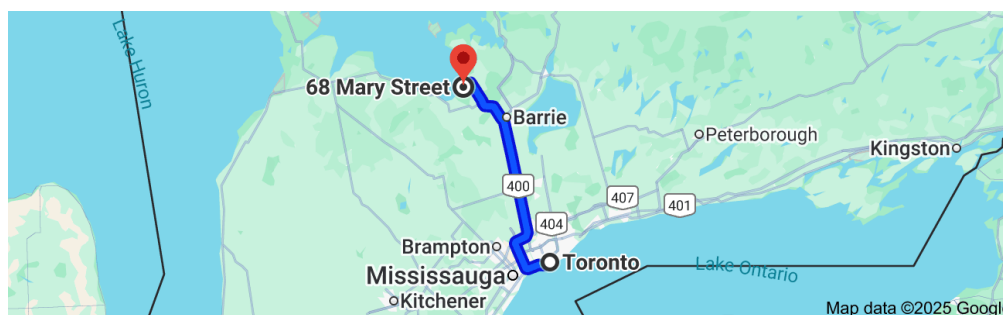
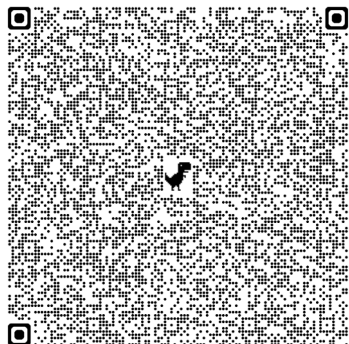
Enjoy the warm summer weather!

Joanne Miyazaki
Chair, TBC WF

Save the Date for the TBC Annual Picnic at Lumbini Saturday, August 15th • Noon–4 PM 68 Mary St. Wasaga Beach

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. QR code for directions below



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

JUNE THANK YOU'S

- ◆ Donna Nakano and Sandra Izukawa for playing the organ at this month's service
- ◆ To all those who came early and left later to help Susan with tea toban after service
- ◆ Naomi Tsuji-Tamaki 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 the Graduates luncheon a success and a great day for our honorees
- ◆ To all those who helped make the Back Yard BBQ a fun and enjoyable day.

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

HAVE YOU SUBMITTED YOUR MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION AND FEE?**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.