

BUSSEI SCRIPT

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DECEMBER 2021

No Islands No Separation

By Rev. Jundo Gregory Gibbs,

I hope all of you are well and staying safe as you read this. This is the first article I have written for the San Diego temple. Some of you will see me in person on December 11th, when I visit for the funeral for the late Mrs. Miyo Hill.



We are in the middle of a ministerial shortage in the Buddhist Churches of America. I had been hearing about an impending shortage of Jodo Shinshu Hongwanji-ha ministers, ever since I switched my Dharma path to Shinshu 38 years ago. That pending shortage of ministers actually set in last year, and it is here, now, to stay awhile.

Fortunately, at the San Diego temple, you have seasoned lay leaders and well-trained Ministers' Assistants. I hope that with some occasional input from me, we will keep you going until we can find a full-time Resident Minister who suits and is enthusiastic about coming to the San Diego temple on a more permanent basis.

With the lack of seasoned ministers now, old-timers like me are getting invited to speak outside our home temples quite often. Recently I was invited to record a Dharma-message for the Monterey Peninsula Buddhist Temple. The temple name reminded me of an old ironic comment on a Jefferson Airplane album. Marty Balin starts riffing on the John Donne line, "No Man is an Island". He repeats that several times: No

man is an island. Then inserts his own comment: "He's a peninsula". Well, driving down here from Pasadena I pass several peninsulas, including Marina Del Rey, and it does remind me of the inseparable relation of the part to the whole.

Right now, North America seems quite distant from the islands of Japan. To get from here to Honshu, ... say, Kyoto, you will need a ship or a plane. It seems as if Honshu is this big island quite separate from the mainland of the Asian continent and certainly from North America. But, as Arthur Clarke points out in "Childhoods End", if the oceans dried up we would see that it is really just one land mass, one earth. The oceans provide an illusion of separation between different areas of the same world.

We are like peninsulas, in that we rise up out of the Oneness of it all with individuality and, in our cases, with sentience, the ability to experience life. But we are not islands. We are not separate from one another. Our individuality is actually an expression of what we are as the great Whole. As aspects of the great Oneness of Life.

I will explain over coming weeks and months why, from my particular perspective, this Unity of life is most fully appreciated in trusting utterance of nembutsu. For this time, let me just emphasize that it is one world. The Buddha knew that in a way that no one else had both known it and expressed it. He didn't have to dry up all the oceans to see that it is one earth. Protect the oceans. Protect the earth. Cherish life. Take care of all life. Take care of yourselves.

Rev. Gibbs First Dharma Talk to San Diego

December 5 (via Zoom)

This will be a live online service for Bodhi Day and Shotsuki Hoyo, Sunday, December 5, at 10 a.m. Joining Gibbs Sensei, Rev. Maribeth Smith will officiate and read the Shotsuki Hoyo names.

SIGN UP NOW. Find the link at the top of the BTSD.net website.

About Rev. Gibbs

Rev. Jundo Gregory Gibbs had a career in lab and clerical work for medical facilities in the Fresno Area. But his long interest in Buddhism led him to IBS and a path in the BCA ministry. Now, most of his professional life has been in service of the Dharma, as Assistant Minister at

the Los Angeles Homba Hongwanji (Nishi Betsuin) 1994-2001, Resident Minister at the Oregon Buddhist Temple (Portland) 2001-2014, and now Resident Minister at the Pasadena Buddhist Temple.

As Supervising minister since November 1, he guides our Minister's Assistants and works with the BTSD Board of Directors to help our Sangha. Rev. Gibbs is married to Kyoko Okura Gibbs. He and Kyoko have two sons, Sho Michael, 23, working on his PhD in Physics at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, and Ren Ian, 17, a junior at Glendale High School.

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DECEMBER EVENTS CALENDAR

All religious gatherings and meetings, and most social events will continue to be offered virtually on the temple's Zoom (Z) live and YouTube (YT) channel platforms. Please continue to take advantage of these opportunities and share the sessions with individuals who do not have internet access. Here is the December calendar (Dates and times are subject to change):

- 1 – Taiko practice, 6:45 p.m. (Annex Hall)
Buddhism 1-2-3, 7 p.m. (Z)
- 2 - Tai Chi, 10 a.m. (Annex Hall)
- 4 – Yasukochi Farms CSA Box pick-up, BWA Brittle sale and BTSD t-shirt order drive thru pick-up; Jr. YBA holiday food drive drop off, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. (parking lot), Sutra Chanting, 1 p.m. (Z)
- 5 – **BODHI DAY SERVICE**, 10 a.m. (Z). Shotsuki Hoyo monthly memorial and Dharma messages: English and Japanese, DS Staff meeting, 9 a.m. (Z), BWA Meeting, 1 p.m. (Z), Taiko practice, 11:30 a.m. (Annex Hall)
- 7 – Ways and Means meeting, 7 p.m. (Z)
- 8 – Taiko practice, 6:45 p.m. (Annex Hall)
Buddhism 1-2-3, 7 p.m. (Z)
- 9 – Tai Chi, 10 a.m. (Annex Hall)
Board of Directors meeting, 7 p.m. (Z)
- 11 – Book Club, 2 p.m. (Z)
- 12 – Adult Service and Dharma message (YT), Qigong, 8:45 a.m. (Z), All Dharma School service, 10 a.m. (Z), Jr. YBA Meeting, 11 a.m. (Z), Taiko practice, 11:30 a.m. (Annex)
- 15 – Taiko practice, 6:45 p.m. (Annex Hall)
Buddhism 1-2-3, 7 p.m. (Z)
- 16 – Tai Chi, 10 a.m. (Annex),
- 18 – Sutra Chanting, 1 p.m. (Z)
- 19 – Adult Service and Dharma message (YT), Qigong, 8:45 a.m. (Z), All Dharma School service, 10 a.m. (Z), Taiko practice, 11:30 a.m. (Annex Hall)
- 22 – Bussei Script mailing, 9:30 a.m.
Taiko practice, 6:45 p.m. (Annex Hall)
- 29 – Taiko practice, 6:45 p.m. (Annex Hall)
- 30 - Tai Chi, 10 a.m. (Annex Hall)
- 31 - Joya E (Year-end) service (Z or YT), to be determined



The Spanish-language Dharma message, presented by Arturo Rubio, will be posted on the temple's YouTube channel.

Office hours: 9 am to 4 pm Tuesday-Friday. There is limited staff coverage on weekends. The temple is closed on Mondays. **Holiday hours:** Dec. 21-22-23, 9 am to 4 pm; Dec. 24, 9 am to 2 pm and Dec. 31, 9 am to 2 pm.

For more information: Call the temple at 619-239-0896. Please leave a message if your call is not answered and staff will respond as soon as possible. Email the temple at info@btsd.net or check the BTSD website <http://www.buddhisttemplesandiego.org> for updates.

ACTIVITIES

It's hard to believe December is here and the end of 2021! I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of you for your continued support and patience this past year, although better, it still continued to be a challenging time for us all. I would also like to thank the Activities Committee for always keeping an open mind and rolling with the punches to make 2021 a successful year.

Coming up on December 4th will be our winter Yasukochi CSA vegetable and fruit box drive through event. The pick up process will be the same as in the past, for those of you first-timers, keep an eye out for future emails containing more information. In conjunction with the Yasukochi event will be the Temple T-Shirt Sale distribution of Pre Ordered shirts. There will not be any sales of CSA Boxes or T Shirts on the distribution day, December 4. Along with the CSA boxes and T-shirts, the BWA will be distributing their brittle to those who have pre ordered.

The committee has decided to hold off on Mochitsuki for one more year considering the continued uncertainty of Covid 19. I would suggest for those of you wanting to purchase mochi to ring in the New Year, to buy it when and if you see it at the local stores and shops.

In Gassho,

Glenn Torio and Ann Ong

RELIGIOUS ACTIVITIES FOR LATE DECEMBER

YouTube adult Dharma message and Dharma School zoom service are not planned for Dec. 26.

Year-end and New Year's Day in-person religious activities have been canceled for the second straight year.

Broadcast of the Joya-E (year-end) on Dec. 31 and Shusho-E (New Year) Jan. 1 services have not been determined at press time. Both services will be presented either on the temple's Zoom or YouTube platforms.

The traditional Joya-no-Kane or year-end bell ringing ceremony planned for Dec. 31 at Shelter Island is canceled.

On Sunday, January 2, the service will be a YouTube Dharma message. No Dharma School on this date.

Please call the temple or check the BTSD website for up

BTSD Holiday Office Hours

December 21-23, -- 9 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

December 24, Friday -- 9 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

December 25, Saturday -- Closed

December 28-30 -- 9 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

December 31 -- 9 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

January 1, Saturday -- Closed



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By LuAnn Lee, Board President

Four times a year, Sensei and I attend the Southern District meetings. Thirteen chapters make up our district as far north as Santa Barbara, to the east Arizona and down here to San Diego. Pre-pandemic, we would drive up on a Friday afternoon to one of the hosting Los Angeles temples like Gardena, Venice or West LA. Due to lots of traffic, it would take us anywhere from 3 to 4 hours to arrive and a little over 2 hours to get back home. Including the service and meeting, the day ended up being about a nine-to-ten-hour trip. Although it was a trek, it is something that I will fondly remember. Sensei and I would catch up on all the Temple events and share family stories. We were always so grateful to the hosting chapter for their hospitality, and they would always have something for us to eat for dinner and yummy desserts. Zoom has been a great way to have meetings close to home and from afar but we have missed seeing each other in person.

At our recent Southern District meeting, temples shared their re-opening status. More than half of the chapters are gradually opening to limited capacities and taking precautions that we are following as well. The re-opening Committee has been meeting regularly and has updated recommendations to present to the Board of Directors. In the past, we have intended on opening sooner but due to many factors, decided to err on the side of caution. Keeping safety at the top of our list, opening will be gradual and with requirements to follow but we know our Sangha will be respectful and mindful. Thank you for your understanding and patience as we work through a changing pandemic.

On November 14th, we observed our annual Eitaikyo service and BWA Lady Eshinni and Kakushinni Memorial. On behalf of the Temple, I would like to thank our guest speaker Rev. Hibiki Murakami from Los Angeles Hompa Hongwanji Buddhist Temple for taking time out of his busy schedule to prepare and present his Dharma messages for us to listen to and enjoy. We hope he can visit us in San Diego in person sometime soon.

Thank you, Smitty Sensei, for officiating the service and to Yukari Williams for chairing. We give special thanks to Bill Teague for putting the video together for us to view, the zoom team for their technical assistance and to the Dharma school students for reciting Our Pledge.

I want to take this opportunity to acknowledge Arturo Rubio for heading up the Dana Club. He has come up with a schedule through the year that focuses on our Sangha donating items to give to the homeless or less fortunate. Kaytee Sumida has been there with him sorting items and

a few of us have helped make deliveries but Arturo is taken on these projects and always with a great attitude. Currently, he planned a winter clothing drive that will go through the month of November and possibly into early December. We thank him for his compassion and dedication.

Also, thank you to Lisa Umekubo and Sharon Sasaki for leading the Dharma school and organizing a food bank outing that helped those in need.

In closing, we want to give deep gratitude to you, the Sangha for your generous donations and constant support to the temple. We hope this Thanksgiving was enjoyed safely with family and friends.

Gassho, LuAnn Lee

BOARD MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

The Board met on November 11th -

1. Rev. Maribeth Smith ("Smitty Sensei") and Rev. Laverne Imori ("Laverne Sensei") provided updates on the Minister Assistants (MA)'s recent activities and upcoming services.
2. Compensation was approved for the two tokudo ordained MAs and the Hospital Chaplain MA per the Bishop's and the Ways and Means Committee's recommendations.
3. Re-opening after the COVID closure was discussed. Further meetings of the ad-hoc re-opening committee, standing committees and the Board will take place.

BWA NEWS

In the past few months, we have lost two more members from our BWA and Temple families. Sadly, Tomiyo Ota and Miyo Hill are no longer with us in the physical realm but will always be with us spiritually in our hearts and memories. Tomiyo's memorial service was moving and touching. After hearing her story from Ralph Honda and Grant, her grandnephew, we learned so many wonderful things about this little lady who lived to be almost 101 years old. She was smart, athletic and had a joyful and loving sense of humor. Her Japanese name, Shaku Myo Ki is translated to mean Life of Joy.

Miyo Hill's funeral service will be held on Saturday, December 11 at the Temple. Specific information about attending the service can be found on page 8 of the Kaiho. We hope you will be able to attend to bid farewell to this wonderful person and to share your condolences with her family.

Ralph Honda and Sue Moribe will be the tour and travel coordinators for our Temple and BWA for the World BWA Conference, Jodo Shinshu anniversary and birthday of Shinran Shonin to be held in Kyoto Japan in May 2023. There will be an informative Zoom meeting on Monday, December 6 at 7

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pm with representatives from 3 D Travel, Kintetsu and JTB tour companies who will describe the tours they are organizing. Although it is not for another 1½ years, seating for the event is limited and an estimate of the numbers attending from each temple is requested by the end of December. Please be sure to contact Ralph Honda (619) 885-3788 or email: rkhonda205@gmail.com, Sue Moribe ([email:suzbandaid@yahoo.com](mailto:suzbandaid@yahoo.com)) or the temple to receive the Zoom link for the meeting and more information about this amazing travel opportunity.

Lastly, the Almond Brittle and Popcorn Sale is ongoing, but supplies are limited, so please be sure to contact Sue Moribe before you place your order. To avoid disappointment, please do NOT send in an order or order online before confirming inventory is still available. Pick up for these items will begin on Nov. 18 and continue through December 4th. Please call the Temple to schedule a time to pick up your orders.

In gassho, Mani Ryan

DHARMA SCHOOL NEWS

In November, Laverne Sensei conducted the All Living Beings Memorial service. We thank everyone who participated as November was a time to honor all life forms who have passed away as we observed Eit-aikyo. We will take the last weekend of December (Dec. 26) and the first weekend of January (Jan. 2) off from Dharma School to celebrate the holidays. On behalf of the Dharma School, we hope everyone has a wonderful holiday filled with laughter and joy.

In Gassho, Lisa Umekubo

2021 Tax Year Info Coming End of January

We know many of you are eager to get your paperwork ready for 2021 Federal and California Income Tax returns. Your membership and Treasurer's committee will be assembling the tax statements by the end of January. More information will be provided in the January issue of *The Bussei Script*.

SCRIP NEWS

We were saddened by the passing of our Scrip coordinator, Miyo Hill. Through her efforts, the scrip program was one of the temple's successful fundraisers. Namu Amida Butsu.

Susan Yonekura, Laura Yoshida, Nancy Martinez and our Office Administrator Linda Redenbaugh have volunteered to help the program continue.

Gift card purchases are a great way for you to support the temple while getting the full value of the cards purchased. We have a number of popular cards (Albertsons/Vons, Home Depot, Smart & Final, etc.) on hand but can order other cards for you. See the full list of participating vendors at www.shopwithscrip.com or get a printed list from the temple office.

If you'd like to give gift cards for the holidays or as year-end appreciation gifts, please consider ordering through the temple's Scrip program. Please contact the temple office or any of the coordinators.



JR YBA NEWS

Hi everyone! We have been having Dharma School classes after the Zoom services every Sunday and some weeks we help chanting or chairing services. We also have monthly Jr. YBA meetings where we plan future events and discuss Southern District Jr. YBL events.

On October 31 we hosted our annual Dharma School Halloween party on Zoom after the Sunday service. We led fun games for the Dharma School, including Simon Says, a scavenger hunt, Box of Boo's, a quiz show, costume parade, as well as three fun crafts! We loved seeing everyone's amazing costumes and had fun hosting games. We hope that next year we might be able to host in person! We passed out goody bags for the party at the temple's 95th anniversary drive through, and some of our members that are also part of the Scouts had a stuffed animal drive for Rady Children's Hospital!

We also attended Southern District Jr. YBL's Leadership where we participated in two workshops to better our leadership skills. We had a great time and learned a lot! We hope everyone is doing well and thank you to the Sangha for always supporting the Jr. YBA. Have fun and stay safe as the world begins to open up again!

In gassho,

Ava Yamamoto

Vehicle Donation:

Donate your vehicle, running or not. Hassle free.

Go to: [https://](https://haroldscardonation.com)

haroldscardonation.com

and make sure you mention BTSD so we will receive proceeds from your donation. For more information, contact Ken Muraoka at kenmuraoka@mac.com or 619-851-7737



ANNUAL HOLIDAY BASKET FOOD DRIVE

Sponsored by BTSD Jr. YBA

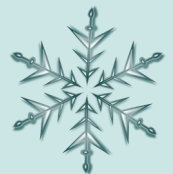
Donations accepted:

Non-perishable food and monetary gifts. (Make checks payable to SD Jr. YBA).

Monetary gifts may be mailed to the temple, or Drop off your donation on DECEMBER 4 during the Yasukochi Farms Drive Through.

This Dana Project, now in its 45th year, enables families in need to have an enjoyable holiday season. Last year we provided five baskets for families in need.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROUS SUPPORT!



DONATIONS

BUDDHIST TEMPLE

VFW Asian Pacific Post 4851
Masumoto, Chiyoko - Oct
Yonekura, Susan
IMO Roy Yonekura -
Yonekura and Tomiyama
Families
Koga, Florence
Estes, Toshiye
Desiderio, Miwako
Ishizaki, Sheryl
Morinaka Family
Ryan, Mani
Miyazaki, Saori
Tomiyama, Aki
IMO Tomiyo Ota
Kinoshita, Michael & Yasuko
IMO Tomiyo Ota
Kajita, Junko & Tim
IMO Tomiyo Ota
Martinez, Nancy
IMO Tomiyo Ota
BWA
IMO Tomiyo Ota
Kruse, Kimberly & Jeff
IMO Tomiyo Ota
Gladsjo, Julie
Yamamoto, Jane
IMO Sachiye Yamamoto
Okuhara, Roy & Karen
Nimura, Saburo
Martinez, Nancy - QB et.al.
Kawamoto, Mitsuko - One
Year Mem. Yukio Kawamoto
Honda, Ralph & Avis
IMO Tomiya Ota
IMO Masato Asakawa

95th ANNIVERSARY

Yanagihara, Sumiko

SPECIAL, COVID-19

Sasaki, Brian & Lorin

BODHI DAY

Hidinger, Holly
Hill, Miyo
Ohara, Ann
Ota Family, Ken & Laurine
Kaneko, Richard & Ruth
Asakawa, Masato (Bruce)
Yamamoto, Ann Miyuki
Hara, Ruby

BUILDING IMPROVEMENTS

Sumida, Floyd & Kaytee
Ochi-Fontanott, Janet
Kaneshiro, Gale

DHARMA SCHOOL

Iwashita, Setsuo and Jan
Yamamoto, June
Copeland, Karen Matsumoto
Ring, Linda

EITAIKYO FUND

Graeber, Kiku
IMO Masao Santohigashi
IMO Kiyoko Santohigashi

Hill, Miyo
IMO Koyoshi Nakamura
IMO Kinjiro Nakamura
IMO Yoshiko Nakamura
IMO Minoru Nakamura
Yanagihara, Sumiko
Tsuneyoshi, Motoo &
Angelina
Yamashita, Emiko
IMO Chiyo Yamashita
Himaka, Michio & Naomi
IMO Himaka Family
Kuwada, Howard Kanji &
Kaneko
Moncrief, Mayko
IMO Shie Hagio
IMO Yuruko Hagio
IMO Leo Hagio
Oto, June
IMO Motono Oto
IMO Shigeru Oto,
IMO Jeffery Oto
IMO Oto Ancestors
Ogasawara, Michiko
IMO Arikazu Ogasawara
Hashiguchi, John & Tsune
IMO Kasuke Hashiguchi
IMO Fuji Hashiguchi
Uyeji, Masako - IMO
Magotsugu "Kottie" Uyeji
IMO Zentaro Asamen
IMO Eda Asamen
IMO Asamen Family
Masumoto, Chiyoko -
IMO Shigeru Masumoto
IMO Yuki Masumoto
IMO Koichi Masumoto
IMO Masumoto family
Iwataki, Craig
IMO Masami Iwataki
IMO Yoshiko Iwataki
Honda, Ralph & Avis
Ishino, Isabel
IMO Kosaburo Ishino
IMO Matsue Ishino
Sugiyama, Yukiko
IMO Yasaku Nakamura
IMO Hamako Nakamura
IMO Yasayuki Sugiyama
Self
Omori, Shirley
IMO Gi & Kiyoko Omori
Yamamoto, Jane
Self
Shigehara, Wilbur & Janice
Self
Himaka, Norman & Katharine
Benson, Agnes
IMO John E Benson
Takashima, Wilbur
IMO Katsumi J Takashima
IMO Yoshiko Takashima
IMO Katsue Takashima
IMO Tsume Takashima
IMO Rev Jim Yanagihara
IMO Patsy Yanagihara

Copeland, Karen
Matsumoto and Troy
Matsumoto
IMO Hajime Yano
IMO Yoshiharu Yano
IMO Hatsuyo Yano
IMO Chiyoji (George) Yano
IMO Harry T Matsumoto
IMO Dorothy S Matsumoto
IMO Elaine T Barrett
Torio, Betty

EITAIKYO SERVICE

Hidinger, Holly
Hill, Miyo
Ohara, Ann
Ota Family, Ken & Laurine
Asakawa, Masato (Bruce)
Yamamoto, Ann Miyuki
Hara, Ruby
Ogasawara, Michiko
Suyenaga, Irene
Torio, Betty
Nogata, Yuriko
Kuwada, Howard Kanji
Oto, June
Ishizaki, Sheryl
Tsuneyoshi, Motoo
Moncrief, Mayko
Graeber, Kiku
Hashiguchi, John
Honda, Ralph
Iwataki, Craig
Masumoto, Chiyoko
Hagio, Quimico
Sugiyama, Yukiko
Sumida, Floyd & Kaytee
Yamamoto, Jane
Sakai, Jeffery & Kathy
Omori, Shirley
Ishino, Isabel
Shigehara, Wilbur & Janice
Benson, Agnes
Ohara, Fumiko
Tsuji, Masako
Tomiyama, Aki
Tsukamoto, Wayne
Teague, Bill & Joyce
Moribe, Susan
Yamanishi, Alan
Kawasaki, Kiyoshi & Aileen

FLORAL OFFERING

Iwashita, Setsuo and Jan
Yamamoto, June
Copeland, Karen Matsumoto
Ring, Linda

GENERAL MAINTENANCE

Anonymous
Iwashita, Setsuo and Jan
Yamamoto, June
Copeland, Karen Matsumoto
Ring, Linda

MAP

Iwashita, Setsuo and Jan
Copeland, Karen Matsumoto

Ring, Linda
Koga, Robert & Chelsey

MEMBERSHIP

Uchiyama, Drs. Chris & Tissa
Iwashita, Setsuo and Jan
Guiang, Cynthia & Orlando
Rubio-Torres, Arturo
Seymour, Leslie
Copeland, Karen Matsumoto
Ring, Linda

NEW YEAR'S DAY-SHUSHO-E

Asakawa, Masato (Bruce)

OBON

Benson, Agnes

OHIGAN

Benson, Agnes

OSEIBO

Hidinger, Holly
Hill, Miyo

SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Iwashita, Setsuo and Jan
Yamamoto, June
Copeland, Karen Matsumoto
Ring, Linda

SHOTSUKI HOYO

Tsuneyoshi, Angelina
IMO J. Yamasaki
Yamashita, Emiko
Chiyo Yamashita
11-19-1984
Graeber, Kiku
IMO Sachiko Santohigashi
Yanagihara, Sumiko - Nov
Honda, Ralph & Avis - Nov
Masumoto, Chiyoko
IMO Shigeru Masumoto
Yano, Michael
IMO Tai Yano
IMO Betty Yano
Sugiyama, Yukiko
IMO Hamako Nakamura
Nakamura, Jake k & Patty
IMO Yoshiko Nakamura
Benson, Agnes - July & Aug.,
Sept., Oct., Nov., Dec.
Martinez, Nancy
IMO Ritsu Nabeta
IMO Hatsuye Uyeno
IMO Betty Yoshioka
IMO Fred Kuwahara
IMO Charles Yoshida
Kawamoto, Mitsuko
IMO Kiyoji Mayumi
IMO Imataro Kawamoto

YEAR END SERVICE (JOYA-E)

Hidinger, Holly
Hill, Miyo
Ohara, Ann
Ota Family, Ken & Laurine
Asakawa, Masato (Bruce)
Yamamoto, Ann Miyuki
Hara, Ruby



DECEMBER SHOTSUKI LIST

Join us for a live Zoom service on Sunday, December 5 starting at 10 a.m. Smitty Sensei will host the service and will read the Shotsuki names of loved ones who passed away in December. Rev. Jundo Gregory Gibbs, our supervising minister from the Pasadena Buddhist Temple, will deliver a pre-recorded Dharma message. Please share the service with family members who do not have access to the internet. If you find an error, wish to add a name to the list or would like to receive the Zoom link for the service, please contact the temple at (619) 239-0896 or email info@btsd.net Gassho

DECEASED

FAMILY MEMBER

Kitsu Ito (12-14-1939).....Ito Family
 Nihei Furusho (12-5-1943).....Chieko Saito
 Tadasu Oya (12-18-1947)Oya Family
 Yutaka Amano (12-11-1950)..... Amano Family
 Masaki Yoshida (12-7-1954) Sakamoto Family
 Wakako Tsuneyoshi (12-29-1959) Duane Koba
 Sone Takada (12-17-1961)Ichiji Takada
 Daniel Amano (12-14-1962) Mike Amano
 Yasu Akiyama (12-17-1963)Akiyama Family
 Kiyoko Hosaka (12-24-1963)June Hosaka
 Hiroshi Oyama (12-29-1963) Oyama Family
 Isamu Miyama (12-20-1964)..... Friends
 Tatsu Hata (12-9-1965).....Hamada Family
 Hichijiro Masuyuki (12-5-1966) Troy Matsumoto
 Kenji Nishigaki (12-7-1967)..... Friends
 Takeo Tachiki (12-5-1969)Tachiki Family
 Natsu Tanaka (12-4-1970) Tanaka Family
 Takeshi Okuma (12-12-1973)..... Okuma Family
 Shigeto Amano (12-28-1973)..... Amano Family
 Zentaro Araumi (12-8-1974)..... Shizuka Azuma
 Aya Tokimura (12-16-1974) Furuya Family
 Matsue Tsuji (12-22-1977).....Tsuji Family
 Mitose Okuma (12-30-1977) Okuma Family
 George Hamada (12-31-1978).....Hamada Family
 Ito Kawamoto (12-22-1979)Kawamoto Family
 David H. Uda (12-1-1981)Georgiana Uda
 Masaru Higuchi (12-4-1983).....Yasuko Higuchi
 Hikoichi Okimoto (12-2-1985)Tom Okimoto
 Shigeo Amano (12-14-1986).....Mikiye Honda
 Frank Yonekura (12-9-1987).....Yonekura Family
 Naomi Campbell (12-14-1988).....Campbell Family
 Take Torimaru (12-27-1988).....Torimaru Family
 Yoshimi Uyeji (12-12-1997).....Chieko Takeguchi
 Asao Momita (12-21-1989).....Gary Momita
 Kakuaki Kaneko (12-16-1990).....Kaneko Family
 Bunichi Tsukamoto (12-17-91).....Wayne Tsukamoto

DECEASED

FAMILY MEMBER

Keisuke Okuma (12-28-1991).....Yoshie Okuma
 Ben Honda (12-24-1995).....Mikiye Honda
 Taiji Santohigashi (12-16-1997)...Shunichi Santohigashi
 Tsuruyo Kawamoto (12-22-1997).....Matsui Family
 Yoshiko Kashima (12-15-1998).....Kashima Family
 Nobue Nishii (12-23-2001).....Toyo Nishii
 Nobuo Nadahara (12-22-2002).....Nakagawa Family
 Isamu Sugimoto (12-24-2002).....Joe Sugimoto
 Koharu Katie Shiraishi (12-7-2005).....Shiraishi Family
 Kaoru Saito Bennett (12-14-2005).....Ford Bennett
 Mary Sanaye Yamaguchi (12-19-05)...Donna McDonnell
 Masao Kishi (12-23-2005).....Elena Barrett
 Eiji Oya (12-11-2006).....Yumiko Oya
 Kasuke Ogata (12-3-2009).....Toshiko Ogata
 Irene Koga (12-18-2009).....Florence Koga
 Manaie Mayumi (12-17-2010).....Katsuhiko Morishita
 Shizue Yamamoto (12-15-2011).....Yamamoto Family
 Isamu Nakamura (12-6-2012).....Shari Nakamura
 Kaitlyn Sky Yotbounmy (12-1-13)...Stephanie Yamamoto
 Ritsuko "Tosh" Ogier (12-15-2013).....Robyn Ogier
 Walter Julian Vallery (12-27-2013).....Aiko Vallery
 Kenichi Hitomi (12-30-2013).....Chiharu Hitomi
 Nobuko Uchino (12-10-2015).....Gary Uchino
 Kuriko Darini (12-22-2015).....Bruna Mori
 Yoko Ajishi Garcia (12-16-2015).....Joseph A. Garcia
 George S. Kitagawa Jr (12-17-2015).....Gary Kitagawa
 Ron L. Okuma (12-19-2015).....Okuma Family
 Kathy Yamada Olsen (12-19-2015).....Scott Olsen
 Pauline Masako Nakamura (12-24-15)...Shari Nakamura
 Yukiko Negoro (12-27-2015).....Glenn Negoro
 Roy Mitchell (12/21/2018).....Mitchell Family
 Sakiko Kada (12-29-2018).....Naomi Himaka
 Pat Heyamoto (12/14/2019).....Takeshita Family
 Chiyeko Yagi (12/21/2019).....Christine Driscoll
 Arikazu Ogasawara (1213-20)..Michiko Ogasawara

MEMORIAL SERVICES

MEMORIAL SERVICES allow us to pay homage to loved ones who have passed away. In our Jodo Shinshu tradition, family members hold a service at certain intervals following a relative's death to express gratitude and acknowledge their continuing influence in our lives. If you wish to schedule a memorial service for a loved one, please call during weekly office hours.

2021 is the memorial year for those who passed away in:

1st Year Memorial	2020	13th Year Memorial	2009	27th Year Memorial	1995
3rd Year Memorial	2019	17th Year Memorial	2004	33rd Year Memorial	1989
7th Year Memorial	2015	25th Year Memorial	1997	50th Year Memorial	1972

マウンテンビュー仏教会「回向」 二〇二一年十二月法話

— 西方浄土を想う —

駐在開教使 向嶋裕史

七月下旬に夏休みを利用して家族と一緒にグランドキャニオンとモネメントバレーに行ってきました。全行程二〇〇マイルを超す車での長旅となりましたが、先の五月に亡くなった母に思いを馳せながら、母なる大地が生み出した大自然の中で心を整えることができました。

グランドキャニオンのどこまでも続く大峡谷は壮大な筆舌に尽くし難いほど美しく、幾層にも重なった地層から伝わってくる長い地球の歴史に思わず感動しました。また、モネメントバレーの神秘的な岩山が立ち並び、赤土の大地にネイティブアメリカンの息吹を感じながら、雄大な自然を思いっきり満喫しました。

その中でも私達家族の心の中に一番印象に残っている光景は何と言っても、夕日に赤く染め上げられたグランドキャニオンの渓谷で、ヤバイポイントから見た夕日は時間が経つのを忘れてしまうほど大変美しいものでした。壮大な渓谷に沈みゆく真赤に輝く太陽が幼き日に母に見た夕日と重なって私の心を優しく包み込んでくれました。自然が織り成す壮大な景色に癒されながら、亡き母とのさまざまに思い出を懐かしむことのできた大変有意義な旅行でした。

思えば、仏教徒には古来より西に沈みゆく夕日を眺め、亡き人に思いを馳せながら浄土に往生を願うという風習があります。これは「浄土三部経」に、阿彌陀仏が築かれた極楽浄土は西方へ十萬億の仏国土を過ぎ

たところにあると説かれていることから、一日の終わりを告げる日没を私達の人生の終焉と重ね合わせ、いのちの終わりに仏として帰らせていただく極楽浄土の世界と阿彌陀仏を心に思い描くというものです。

しかし、浄土が西方の遙か彼方に存在するということや、浄土や阿彌陀仏の具体的な形を思い描くという表現は、現代に生きる人達にとって、おとぎの国の話をしているように聞こえているかもしれません。

浄土は本来「法性法身」、つまり、悟りそのものをいいます。それは色や形のない世界で、智慧と慈悲のはたらきを指します。ですから確かに、浄土とは目に見えるような世界ではありません。しかし、そのような色や形のない悟りの世界を迷いの世界に生きる凡夫の私達には到底理解できないことから、お釈迦さまは具体的な色や形、そして方角を用いて私達凡夫が阿彌陀仏や浄土を認識し易いように「阿彌陀経」の中で表現して下さいました。これを「方便法身」というのですが、そのお陰で、悟りの世界を認識できない私達が形ある浄土を心に思い描き、苦しみのない真実なる世界に生まれたいと願うことができるのです。それでも方便だからと言って西方浄土の存在を軽んじて否定される人達がおられると思いますが、方便なくして真実の世界に触れることは凡夫には不可能なことなのです。

龍樹菩薩は、これを指と月に譬えておられます。月を指差す人がいて、その指に導かれて月の美しさを知らず、しかし、月を指差す人に折角出会うことができて、その人の指を見ているだけで肝心の月に目を向けられない人がいます。そのような人達は、その人の指の色や形にとらわれ、頭上にある月の美しさに気づくことのできない残念な人達といえます。

これは、月を真実の悟りを表し、指をお釈迦さまの言葉、教えを表しています。悟りの世界は言葉で表すことのできない仏の境地です。ですが、その不完全な

言葉を駆使してお釈迦さまは、凡夫の私達が悟りの世界に目を向けることができるように具体的な表現で教えを説いて下さっているのです。

私の娘が一歳の頃、デイズランドでミッキーマウスが娘の後ろを歩いていたので、娘に「ほら、向こうを見てごらん。あそこにミッキーがいるよ」とミッキーを指差した時、娘は私の指をじっと見るだけで私が指差すミッキーを見ることはありませんでした。

このように、具体的な表現がおとぎ話に聞こえるからといって、お釈迦さまが伝えようとしている真意に目を向けようとしない人は、私の指にとらわれてミッキーマウスを見逃した幼い娘と何ら変わりないのです。浄土は色や形がなく広大無辺であるというのは仏の智慧の目だからこそ認識できる世界であり、凡夫の私達には想像を超えた世界です。しかし、そんな凡夫でも悟りの世界に触れられるようにと、「仏のはからい」によって表されたのが西方浄土であり、私達が仏として生まれゆく世界なのです。

浄土真宗では、広大無辺で形を持たない本来の悟り（法性法身）と形と方角で表した悟り（方便法身）を硬貨の裏表のように不可分の関係として大切にしていきます。むしろ親鸞聖人は、仏の「はからい」によって表された形ある方便法身の阿彌陀仏と浄土の方を喜ばれました。

西方十萬億の仏土を過ぎたところに浄土があると示されたのは、ひとえに私達凡夫に浄土往生を願わせるための仏の導きであり、私達は西に浄土を思い浮かべながら、阿彌陀仏の攝取不捨の救いの中に収め取られていくのです。

報恩感謝のお念仏と共に「阿彌陀経」に示された西方浄土を心の拠り所として力強い人生を歩み、そしてこのいのちが終えた時、親鸞聖人や母が待つ同じ悟りの世界へと生まれさせていただきます。

Buddhist Education in December

We continue to host educational opportunities this month, with a little bit of a break before the New Year.

Buddhism 1-2-3 will round out the year with three sessions on the Three Treasures. The topics are “Buddha” on Dec. 1, “Dharma” on Dec. 8, and “Sangha” on Dec. 15. All sessions are Wednesday at 7 p.m.

Buddhism Zero will conclude its last session on Sunday, Dec 12, 2021, at 6 p.m.

We plan to present the basic understanding, some interesting complexities, and how each treasure shines within the Shin tradition.

In 2022 we will continue to program topics of wide and basic interest, always with an eye to showing how the Nembutsu teachings further illumines the teachings.

Broad Resources within Our Tradition

In part because of the pandemic, there are a wealth of opportunities to learn more about the Nembutsu path than ever before. We continue to list new ones on our website as does the BCA website. Most are free (donations always appreciated). Everyday Buddhism is a low-cost informational website with fee-based courses from knowledgeable teachers.

Ocean 2 Starts February 2022

Many of us have benefitted from Rev. Ken Tanaka’s book, *Ocean*, and he will be rolling out an online course in 2022, that for him, is the follow-up to *Ocean*. It is subtitled, “The Seven Phases of the Pure Land Way.” A modest tuition will be requested – not to be paid to Ken Tanaka Sensei – but to your favorite Buddhist organization or charity. More information is available on our website.

Our Ministerial Staff

Bill Teague

Although no one will ever replace our **beloved Rev. Kenji Akahoshi**, now retired, we are fortunate in our ministerial staff for the next year or so (my guess), until we can obtain a resident minister of our own.

Supervising Minister. Rev. Gregory Gibbs (whose Dharma article appears in this issue of the Kaiho) of Pasadena Buddhist Temple continues to guide and assist the Sangha. As just one example, he will be officiating at a funeral of a Sangha member here in San Diego later this month.

Ordained Minister's Assistants. San Diego has three MAs who are ordained, **Laverne Imori, Noriko Kawai** and **Maribeth Smith**. Rev. Laverne and Rev. Smitty have *Tokudo* ordination in our tradition. *Tokudo* is the first of three steps to becoming a full-fledged resident minister for a BCA Temple. Rev. Noriko has an inter-faith ordination acquired in her preparation to be an interfaith hospital chaplain.

What Do We Call Ordained Minister's Assistants? All three ordained MAs can be addressed as Reverend or Sensei. Rev. Laverne and Rev. Smitty could be called Tokudo MAs. (Our non-ordained MAs do not receive such titles.)

Other MAs. Not ordained but still assisting the Temple as part of the ministerial staff are **Arturo Rubio, Kaytee Sumida, Sharon Sasaki, Yukari Williams**, and myself. I currently have certification from the BCA, and several of the other MAs are working on certification.

Yukari provides English and Japanese Dharma talks and floral arrangements, Sharon provides English Dharma talks, Kaytee provides Fourth Sunday messages and other support, and Arturo provides English and Spanish Dharma talks.

Who Can Provide Dharma Talks? Currently the BCA allows ordained MAs and certified MAs to deliver Dharma talks. However, other MAs are encouraged to share Dharma talks as part of their MA training.

My main area is to serve as a liaison with Rev. Gibbs and BCA. I also help Linda in the office redirect emails and requests as appropriate and facilitate Buddhism 1-2-3 and Buddhism Zero.

Please contact the Temple directly for any ministerial requests.

LIFE’S TRIBUTE: MIYO HILL

A memorial service for longtime temple member Gail “Miyo” Hill will take place at the Buddhist Temple of San Diego on Saturday, December 11 beginning at 10 a.m.

Family members and friends planning to attend the service are asked to follow the safety guideline requirements as recommended by the BTSD Board of Directors:

- ◆ Vaccinated attendees: Proof of full Covid-19 vaccination via physical card or digital Covid-19 vaccine card (i.e. SMART Health Card).
- ◆ Unvaccinated attendees: Proof of a negative Covid 19 test result within 72 hours prior to the service.
- ◆ Face coverings must be worn at all times inside the premises for fully vaccinated and unvaccinated.

If you are feeling ill or have not received a negative test result within 72 hours, it is recommended not to attend the service.

Dress is casual Hawaiian attire.

Please contact the temple for more information.

In Gassho

2022, The year of the Water Tiger



Wishing you a
Happy & Healthy New Year



Buddhist Temple of San Diego

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Adult Buddhist Association
Buddhist Women's Association
Dharma School
Jr. Young Buddhist Association
Taiko

OSEIBO

(Year-end appreciation)

December 1, 2021

Dear Temple Members and Dharma Friends,

In Buddhism, the term Dana represents the practice of selfless giving. Combined with the expression of "Thank You," Dana conveys true appreciation and gratitude.

In Japan, a customary year-end expression of thank you, known as *Oseibo*, is often presented.

As 2021 draws to a close, the Buddhist Temple of San Diego invites the Sangha (congregation) and friends in extending an expression of appreciation and gratitude to the temple staff and maintenance vendors for their hard work throughout a most challenging year.

Deep appreciation is extended to our retired resident minister **Rev. Dr. Kenji Akahoshi** for his spiritual guidance and leadership. Kenji-Sensei has demonstrated such energy and enthusiasm in sharing the Dharma in meeting the needs of the Sangha of all ages. Kenji Sensei's outreach to the membership and the community has warmed us immeasurably. We would also like to recognize **Rev. Gregory Gibbs** who has been assigned as our supervising minister. We are looking forward to his Dharma talks and welcoming him to be a part of Buddhist Temple of San Diego. Also, **Rev. Maribeth Smith**, **Rev. Laverne Imori** and **Rev. Noriko Kawai**, our Minister's Assistants, continue to support the Sangha by conducting chanting classes and outreach, involvement with Dharma School, and are now managing Sunday Dharma messages, funerals and other services, **Yukari Williams** serves as a ministerial aid to Kenji Sensei and the Minister's Assistants. **Rev. Yushi Mukojima**, former resident minister, provides the Japanese message for the monthly Bussei Script newsletter. **Linda Redenbaugh**, administrative assistant, supports the temple Tuesday through Friday during business hours and is your welcoming presence when you contact the temple. **Mr. Masanobu Kinjo** takes care of the garden maintenance at the temple. **Lizzie's Cleaning Biz** janitorial service has returned to keep the facilities sparkling clean on a monthly basis.

From now until December 27, the temple will accept *Oseibo* offerings that will be presented to these individuals. If you wish to make a heartfelt contribution, your gift of any amount will be received with deepest appreciation and gratitude. Please enclose your donation in the envelope provided and mail it to the temple.

In advance, the temple expresses its sincerest appreciation for your thoughtful consideration of Dana through your *Oseibo* gift.

In Gassho,

Board of Directors

Buddhist Temple of San Diego