



Walking the Lonesome Journey

Rev. Jundo Gregory Gibbs



I know you don't see me too often in San Diego, but I will be down in person before the end of the year. For a 73 year old, I am relatively busy. I have my work in Pasadena, at the temple there. I will resume my visits to the temple in Phoenix soon. And also, all that boxing I recorded on the DVR isn't going to watch itself.

In truth, at my age, I must prepare for the journey to the Pure Land. It could be a quarter century off. It could be a quarter of an hour off. That is true for all of us. But more urgently so for those past the age of seventy. Jodo Shinshu Buddhists don't usually prepare for the trip to the next life with prayer or meditation. We do, though, try to get our minds to be comfortable with the fact of it.

Although I claim to be busy (for an older feller) I did get off on a vacation for 5 days in August. My family and I met up in St. Louis Missouri. I particularly enjoyed visiting the Blues Museum, where my fondness for the recordings of Blind Willie McTell was renewed. Over time, one's tastes

change. ... Hopefully expand. But some of the old favorites stay with us.

Willie McTell wrote the lines "I got to walk that lonesome journey. I got to walk it for myself. Nobody else can walk it for me. I got to walk it by myself." The term "lonesome journey" here symbolizes death and dying. In a sense I agree with him that it will be "lonesome journey." ... The exact, subjective moment of experiencing death will be my "lonesome journey" alone. But I might be on hospice, or at home, when the time comes. I may not be alone at all. One of our members in Pasadena passed away a few years ago with her son holding one hand, and I the other. She was not alone, and she passed without pain or struggle. It could be like that for us. We may have support on this side of the journey.

We will have support on the far side of the journey. Support, respect and affection from Amida and all the Bodhisattvas who emerge from the realm of that Buddha. That lonesome journey may only be an instant between moving from the love of family and friends and arriving at all dreams come true in the Nirvanic realm of Amida.

JOIN US IN-PERSON FOR A SUNDAY SERVICE!

The temple is pleased to announce that all Sunday services have resumed in-person and are now being conducted in the hondo.

Reservations are no longer necessary. Check-in and mask-wearing is required in the hondo for everyone over age 2. All windows will be open to allow for fresh air circulation. Seating for those who wish to social distance is designated for the back three rows of the hondo's eastside. Mask-wearing is optional for all other areas outside of the hondo, including downstairs spaces, classrooms, Annex and Sangha halls.

Burning of incense has returned and gassho offering is an option for those who do not wish to burn incense.

All protocols and procedures, recommended by the Re-opening Committee and approved by the Board of Directors, will remain in place until further notice

The YouTube livestream will continue to be available for the Sangha and friends who wish to view services on their home computer or electronic device.

Please join Rev. Maribeth Smith, Rev. Laverne Imori and the Sangha for upcoming services at 10 a.m.

Contact the office or check the temple's website for more information.



Buddhist Education and Services

Please Welcome Reverend Anne Rensho Spencer our guest speaker, by joining us by Zoom for our Eshinni and Kakushinni Memorial Service on Sunday, October 23. The service will be offered live and via livestream.

About the Eshinni and Kakushinni Memorial Service, Eshinni was Shinran's wife, and Kakushinni their daughter. Both were crucial to the existence of our Jodo Shinshu tradition, so we are now holding a full separate service in their honor.

Reverend Spencer began attending the **Idaho-Oregon Buddhist Temple (IOBT)** in 2002, where she now serves as **Kyoshi** minister, a certification achieved in 2018. Previous qualifications include a **Tokudo** ordination in 2010, and an M.A. in Buddhist Studies from the Institute of Buddhist Studies and Graduate Theological Union in 2012. Beyond IOBT, she continues her medical work as a lecturer at Boise State University College of Health Sciences and in a small private practice.

Buddhist Education News

NOTE: Intro to Buddhism will resume in 2023 and will continue this year on demand. If you are on a class assignment, contact the Temple and we'll schedule for you.

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OCTOBER CALENDAR

The Lady Eshinni and Lady Kakushinni memorial observance (Oct 23) will highlight this month's special service gathering. Taiko workshops (Oct. 2, 9, 16) will continue for registered attendees.

Other activities will continue to be offered either in-person or virtually on the temple's Zoom (Z) and YouTube (YT) platforms. Here is the October calendar (activities and times subject to change):

- 1 – Southern District Tri-Temple Seminar, (page 8) “Encountering Amida’s Vow: From Scrolls to Online Propagation.” Presenter: Rev. Hibiki Murakami of the L.A. Homba Hongwanji Buddhist Temple, 10 am, Z
- 2 - Sutra chanting, 9 am, Shotsuki Hoyo (monthly memorial), Dharma School and Family service, 10 am, BWA Meeting, 11:30 am DR, Taiko Workshop – 9:15 to 9:45 am (4-8 years-old), 11:45 am to 12:15 pm (9-13 years-old), 12:30 - 1:30 (14 years+ and adults)
- 5 – Taiko, 6:45 pm AH, Buddhism 1-2-3, 7 pm Z
- 6 – Tai Chi, 10 am AH
- 8 – JAHSSD Annual Meeting and Kansha Awards, 10 am AH, BWA Book Club, 2 pm Z
- 9 – Sutra chanting, 9 am, DS/Family Service, 10 am, Taiko Workshop – 9:15 to 9:45 am (4-8 years-old), 11:45 am to 12:15 pm (9-13 years-old), 12:30 - 1:30 (14 years+ and adults)
- 11 – Ways & Means Meeting, 7 pm Z
- 12 – Taiko, 6:45 pm AH, Buddhism 1-2-3, 7 pm Z
- 13 – Tai Chi, 10 am AH, BOD Meet, 7 pm, CR
- 14-15-16 – FBWA Conf. Host: Northern District, Z
- 16 – DS/family service, 10 am, Jr. YBA meeting, 11:30 am, Taiko Workshop – 9:15 to 9:45 am (4-8 years-old), 11:45 am to 12:15 pm (9-13 years-old), 12:30 - 1:30 (14 years+ and adults)
- 19 – Taiko, 6:45 am, AH, Buddhism 1-2-3, 7 pm Z
- 22 – SD DS Teachers League Conference, 9:30 am, Z
BWA Makizushi cooking session, Kitchen/DR
- 23 – Lady Eshinni/Kakushinni Memorial, 10 am
- 26 – Taiko, 6:45 pm, AH, Buddhism 1-2-3, 7 pm, Z
- 27 – Tai Chi, 10 am, AH, Activities Meeting, 7 p.m. (Z)
- 30 – Southern District 850th/800th Shinran Shonin Proclamations Service at Gardena Buddhist Church and on Zoom, 10 a.m., Dharma School Halloween Party, 12 noon, AH

◆◆◆◆

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

For more information: Call the temple at 619-239-0896. Please leave a message if no one answers.

ACTIVITIES NEWS

Having our Temple Obon and final rummage sale signals the end of the summer months. The days are getting shorter and leaves changing color. The next Temple event is a favorite of most, it's the Mochitsuki (Rice Cake Making) currently scheduled for Sunday, December 11th. This will be the first time in several years we will be able to hold Mochitsuki. The committee feels the event can be held safely by making some minor changes to the setup and process. There will be more details coming out in the next couple of months as the day is finalized.

Mochi and Mochitsuki is an important cultural event in Japanese culture. Mochitsuki is usually held at the end of the year to provide mochi for the first meal of the New Year (Ozoni). It provides nourishment and warmth during the typically cold winter days as well as good luck, good health, strength and a prosperous year to come. Don't forget to check the moon for the two rabbits pounding mochi! In Gassho, Activities Committee



Sets Iwashita brought his old friend to visit the temple. Kaneko and Tets Kashima were visiting from Seattle. Tets had lived in the temple after the war when his dad was the minister here. It was a sweet and poignant visit.



**Annual Jr. YBA
Food Drive**
To Benefit the Union of
Pan Asian Com.

Please bring your
non-perishable food and Monetary
Donations To the Temple
before November 13

Monetary Donations pay for
turkey, pies and other fresh ingredients!



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By LuAnn Lee, Board President

It was nice to see some of you at the in-person services that started on September 11, always a somber day remembering the loss of so many. It was appropriate that we had our monthly Shotsuki Hoyo to honor and give thanks to those Temple family members and friends that passed away in September.

On the following Sunday, we observed Fall Ohigan. Sharon Sasaki gave the Dharma school message that day and talked about Ohigan (the other shore) and that it is a time when days and nights are of equal length, it is not too cold and not too hot. While I was sitting there listening, I was thinking back a couple of weeks ago when it was so hot and at my house, we had our fans on 24/7. The night before the service, I felt the cool breeze in the evening but during the day, it was exactly as she said, not too cold or hot, just right.

Maybe that is why at this time of year, even when it is so busy with life, I feel a sense of calmness and a renewed energy. Like Reverend Smitty said in her message, Ohigan is a time of balance. Luckily, we observe this twice a year, one in the Fall and one in Spring.

I want to invite you to come to the services that will be provided each Sunday and for now, we are not requiring reservations for services but when you come to the temple, we ask that you sign in with name and phone number for contact tracing purposes. Masks are required in the Hondo while at service and incense offering is optional.

I mentioned Reverend Maribeth "Smitty" Smith earlier and along with the Board of Directors and Sangha, we congratulate her on completing her Kyoshi training. As many of you know, it was a historic training as it was the first to be held in the United States at the Jodo Shinshu Center in Berkeley. For the past few months, she understandably had limited time for Temple duties due to extensive prepping for her training.

Luckily, we have Reverend Gibbs that is always available by phone or e-mail for guidance, but we relied heavily on Reverend Laverne Imori. She willingly took on many extra tasks while holding down a full-time job. She worked along-side everyone with a positive attitude and genuine kindness. Many memorial services were conducted by her and many attendees have expressed their appreciation to me for her meaningful messages, communication and attention she gave to their families. Along with her hard work, thank you to Bill Teague for his time to keep us updated with e-mails, setting up and sending meeting reminders along with his website and technology duties. Appreciation to Sharon Sasaki and her team for their work to schedule the 2022 services and to Arturo Rubio and Noriko Kawai for lending a

helping hand. We also thank Yukari Williams for helping out with prepping, cleaning and making sure we have flower arrangements for the Onaijin each week. We appreciate all that help and participate in the services and hospitality but I wanted to acknowledge the above as they have kept and will continue to keep the temple going while we await a resident minister.

Looking forward to a very special event coming up on Sunday, October 30 at 10 am. Gardena Buddhist Church is hosting a Southern District service to commemorate the 850th Anniversary of our founder Shinran Shonin's birth and the 800th Anniversary of the establishment of the Jodo Shinshu teachings.

We are limited to 20 people to attend in-person but everyone is invited to view it by zoom. Details are being sent out soon by e-mail and will be on the website.

As always, thank you for your support and especially towards the Resident Minister's fund.

We will have more details soon. Hope to see you at the services and feel free to approach me for any concerns or questions.

With Gratitude and In Gassho, LuAnn

BOARD HIGHLIGHTS

The Board of Directors met on Sept. 8

1. Arizona Buddhist Temple has resumed in-person services. Rev. Gibbs supervises ABT in addition to supervising BTSD and serving as resident minister of the Pasadena Buddhist Temple.
2. The Minister Assistants, all standing committees, and affiliated organizations updated the Board on their activities.
3. The Board ratified the email approval of the recommendations made by the temple reopening committee.
4. The JAHSSD annual meeting will be held on October 8 at which Mich and Naomi Himaka and Jeanne Elyea will be presented with the Kansha awards.

The Board thanked Lisa Umekubo for her service as Dharma School Superintendent and keeping students and teachers engaged during these past two years of remote services and classes .

BWA NEWS

The BWA Book Club - The book club is recently reading [What Makes You Not a Buddhist](#) by Jamyang Khyentse and [To Kill a Mockingbird](#) by Harper Lee. The group will be attending the musical, "To Kill a Mocking Bird," playing at the Civic Theater in December. Contact Sue Moribe, suzbandaid@yahoo.com, if you are interested in book club.

Fall Talk by Dr Paula K. R. Aria (Free, *Gratis*) - newly named Eshinni/Kakushinni IBS Chair, Dr. Paula K R Arai, will speak on Friday, Oct 14, 2022. Zoom registration is needed. Fall Conference, Buddhist Churches of America,

Federation of Buddhist Women's Association (BCA)
Continued on Page 4

Cont. from page 3

FBWA) - members will attend the online conference, Oct. 14-16, 2022 and enjoy the speakers and workshops on current Buddhist topics. On the Saturday, (Oct.15) of the 3-day event, members will meet at the temple to view the conference together. They will take advantage of the temple's big screen TV, enjoy the conference experience and fellowship. Although members have already signed up, there is still time. BWA is taking care of the registration fee, if you are a BWA member.

Bonenkai (Year End party) - the BWA plans a Bonenkai Lunch on a Saturday in December. Place to be determined. Contact Laurine Ota, if questions or suggestions, 858.733.0111 (text or call).

Fun Things - future plans are for an orchid lesson by Ronnie Morinaka and maybe a manju workshop. Stay tuned.

Ukraine Items (Not \$) - contact BWA member Ghean Maksimow, if you would like to donate items for Ukraine. They need cold & flu meds for adults and kids, in pill form, no liquids. For more info, contact Ghean. Ghean Maksimow, ghean@bowgenie.com

BWA Fundraisers - (see temple website, www.buddhisttemplesandiego.org and September/October newsletters for brittle and makizushi order

Forms, on page 8. 1. *Almond Brittle, Brittle Popcorn & Sweet Hots* (FYI "Sweet Hots" are spicy sweet coated almond pieces) - don't forget to order these yummy items soon. Pickup is available November 13th and after.

2. *Makizushi sale* - (vegetable sushi roll) order & enjoy BWA's delicious makizushi. Pick up is Sunday, Nov 13, 2022 after Eitaikyo service. In Gassho, Laurine Ota

DHARMA SCHOOL NEWS

We're excited to be back in person and have kicked off classes for the 2022-23 Dharma School term! This year, we have three classes with teams of teachers. Junko Kajita, Gregg Yonekura, and Breven Honda are teaching the Pre-K through 3rd grade class. Kimberly Kruse and Lorena Covarrubias are teaching the 4th through 8th grade class. Sharon Sasaki, Norman Kiyono, Julie Watson, and Greg Bull are teaching the 9th through 12th grade class. To comply with new California Assembly Bill 506, all teachers are completing training in child abuse and neglect identification and reporting.

From October 2-22, the Dharma School will collect new stuffed animals for the Ronald McDonald House Charities. See details in the separate article in this issue on page 8. Everyone is invited to our annual Halloween Party, to be held in person at the temple on Sunday, October 30 starting at 12:00 Noon. The Jr. YBA is planning games and activities. Come in costume and join the fun!

This month, some teachers and staff members will attend the 2022 SDDSTL conference on October 22 on Zoom. It will be hosted by the Los Angeles Homba Hongwanji Buddhist Temple. The theme for the conference is "Life of

Nembutsu Enables Us to Appreciate Every Encounter." If there are potential new students who may be interested in Dharma School, or if you have any questions, please contact me at btsd.dharmaschool@gmail.com.

In Gassho, Nancy Martinez, DS Superintendent

Membership News

Bill Teague, Membership Chair

What Inflation? Member Dues Remain the Same

We haven't raised dues for years now, and we don't plan on doing so in 2023. We wanted you to know ahead of time some good news when other necessities keep going up.

Basic individual rates per person will remain at \$15 a month for seniors (75 and older) and \$28 otherwise.

For 2022 we'll be reaching out soon to the 20% of you who still need to renew.

See the Members / Easy Renewal part of the website for renewal information.

JR YBA

Our Jrs had a great time attending the 72nd Annual Southern District JrYBL Conference held at the Orange County Buddhist Church. Youth-led workshops were centered around the theme "Finding the Dharma in Disneyland." It was wonderful to see familiar faces and meet new friends at this in-person event. Jrs are gearing up to bring some spooktacular fun to the annual BTSD Dharma School Halloween Party on October 30. Our annual Food Drive begins on 10/23, so please bring your canned goods, non-perishable food, and monetary donations to the temple that will greatly support the Union of Pan Asian Communities (UPAC) 501c3 non-profit organization.

LOOK AT THESE NUMBERS, (FOOD DRIVE)

You are all amazing and have done a wonderful thing by participating in August's regional food drive. What we are doing here really matters...to the people in need in our communities and to those who volunteer to help. We have served others and THAT matters!

I am always in awe and so grateful to serve alongside all of you!

WELL DONE my friends!

Robin C. Gephart

**JUST
SERVE**

BTSD Donated 1,647 MEALS!

**Dial the Dharma' for Enlightening
Messages 800-817-7918 Press 1 for English, Press 2
for Japanese, Press 3 for Spanish.**

DONATIONS

The Buddhist Temple of San Diego is grateful to the following individuals and organizations for their recent donations to the Temple and its affiliated organizations. "IMO" means "In memory of." For a correction, please inform our Admin. Assistant at 619-239-0896 or info@btsd.net. Donations listed are through September 22,.

BUDDHIST TEMPLE

Nagata, George & Alethea
 IMO Agnes Benson
 Matsumoto, Richard
 Kashima, Jeanie
 IMO Motoo Tsuneyoshi
 Honda, Ralph & Avis
 IMO Agnes Benson
 Kinoshita, Yasuko
 T. Ogata's Service
 Amy E. Yamashiro Trust
 IMO Amy E. Yamashiro
 (inurnment)
 Suyenaga Family
 IMO Agnes Benson
 Yonekura, Susan
 IMO Roy Yonekura
 Sasaki, Sharon & Robert
 Yamamoto - most needed
 Yoshida, Laura - Taiko
 Mitchell, Rev Jonathan
 Owashi, Bruce - IMO Wife
 Vyvyanne Terada, Organist
 & Pianist in 1960's BTSD
 Honda, Mikiye
 IMO Agnes Benson
 Uyeji, Masako
 IMO Agnes Benson
 IMO Po Kaneyuki
 IMO Motoo Tsuneyoshi
 Estes, Carol - Gen. Fund
 Morinaka, Ron
 Sasaki, Brian & Lorin
 Himaka, Michio & Naomi
 IMO Agnes Benson
 Okuhara, Roy & Karen
 Omori, Shirley
 IMO Agnes Benson

Terada, Keiju
2022 APPEAL
 Hiding, Holly
 Kawasaki, Kiyoshi & Aileen
 Kawamoto, Mitsuko
 Oto, June
 Tsuji, Masako
 Spears, Margo
 Yagura, Ronald & Sheila
 Yamamoto, Koichi & Joyce
 Fuchigami, Lynn S. &
 Stephen
 Nakamura, Jake & Patty
 Amano, Takeko
 Cross, Joe
 Sugiyama, Yukiko
 Kasubuchi, Naoye
 Koga, Florence
 Ohara, Ann
 Yamanishi, Miyoko
 Isakari, Henry & Marcia
 Malmgren, Jeffrey B
 Lund, Ronald
 Asakawa-Ellis, Patricia
 Hamada Bigelow, Erin
 Omori, Shirley & Efton
 Woodford
 Gladsjo, Julie
 Yamamoto, Jane
 Kitano, Margie
 Sato, Steve
 Voorhies, Ruth
 Sasaki, Brian & Lorin
 Tsukamoto, Wayne & Betsy
 Oyama, Garrick
 Rubio-Torres, Arturo
 Nakatani, Nancy & Fred
 Copeland, Karen Matsumoto

Kashima, Tetsuden
EITAIKYO FUND
 Owashi, Bruce
 IMO Vyvyanne Owashi
FLORAL OFFERING
 Yoshida, Laura
GEN. MAINTENANCE
 Yoshida, Laura
HANAMATSURI SERV.
 D'Orsi, Ruby
MEMBERSHIP PLEDGES
Thank you for your renewals
 D'Orsi, Linda
 Yoshida, Laura
 Seymour, Leslie & Family
 Negoro, Glenn
OBON
 Yamanishi, Miyoko
OHIGAN
 Suyenaga, Irene
 Tsuneyoshi, Angelina
 Oto, June
 Yamanishi, Miyoko
 Shigehara, Wilbur & Janice
 Otsuji, Dennis & Elaine
 Jones, Mikako & Morton
 Honda, Mikiye
 Honda, Ralph & Avis
 Morikawa, Kazuhiko
 Monji, Yoshiko
 Yamamoto, Jane
 Gladsjo, Julie
 Masumoto, Chiyoko
 Kuwada, Howard Kanji &
 Kaneko
 Nogata, Yuriko & Sumihiro
 Hendrix, Hiroko
 Hashiguchi, Tsuneko & John

Sugiyama, Yukiko
 Graeber, Kiku
 Tsuji, Masako
 Estes, Carol
 Kashima, Jeanie
SHOTSUKI HOYO
 Hiding, Holly
 IMO Kiyoko Ochi
 IMO Hideo Ochi
 Oto, June
 IMO Ikuji Oto
 Yonekura, Susan
 IMO Noboru Tomiyama
 IMO Kiichiro Osaki
 Honda, Mikiye - Sept.
 Yamashita, Emiko
 IMO Shozo Yamashita 9-13
 Sugiyama, Yukiko
 IMO Yasuyuki Sugiyama
 Takashima, Wilbur
 IMO Haru Takashima
 IMO Yoshie Yonekura
 IMO Rev. Jim Yanagihara
 Estes, Carol
 IMO Rev. Jim
 Kashima, Jeanie
 IMO Rev. T. Kashima
 Yoshida, Laura
 IMO Sho Yoshida
 Honda, Mikiye
 IMO Sumiye Nakashima
 Himaka, Michio & Naomi
 IMO Rev. Jim Yanagihara
 IMO So Yamada
 IMO Yasuyuki Sugiyama
 Tomiyama, Akie
 IMO Noburo Tomiyama

RUMMAGE SALE

Because of the Bussei Script publishing deadline, we were unable to provide a thank you to our wonderful volunteers and generous donors in the September issue. Your efforts and support of this temple fundraiser raised close to \$7000 for the operational expenses of the temple.

Thank you to our volunteers - Aki, Ann O, Ann Y, Arturo, Benjamin, Bill, Breven, Carol, Carolyn, Cole, Debbie, Derek, Ed, Efton, Erik, Finn, Floyd, Fred, Gale, Garrick, Gheann, Glenn N, Glenn T, Gregg, Harold, Henry, Holly, Isaac, Jake, Jaime, Jamie, Jane, Janice, Jeanie, Joe, Joshua, Joyce, Junko, Kaytee, Kendall, Kiku, Kim, Laurie T, Laura Yo, Laurine, Laverne, Leslie, Linda C, Linda D, Linda R, Lindsay, LuAnn, Mary, Mariel, Michael, Mildred, Nancy M, Nancy N, Norman, Patty, Penelope, Ralph, Rose, Ruby D, Ruth, Sharon, Shirley, Susan, Steve, Suz, Tabo, Tim, Valerie, Victor, Wilbur, Yasuko. (sincere apologies if I missed anyone).

Unsold medical supplies and equipment were donated to Escondido Health Assistance Organization.

Donations were also made to the Minority Humanitarian Organization/Welcome Home Boutique, San Diego Humane Society, Rachel's Women's Center, Streets of Hope, Deseret Communities and other worthy organizations.

The temple collected over 100 pounds of food to benefit the San Diego Food Bank in the Neighbor to Neighbor inter-faith effort which coincided with the Rummage Sale. We hope to participate in their next drive scheduled for March 25th.

Thank you to our Sangha members and friends who consider the temple for their donations.

Please continue to help as possible with the Silent Auction and White Elephant Shop (general fund), Obon Again Shop (Scholarship) and the Dana Groups outreach efforts throughout the year.

マウンテンビュー仏教会「回向」 二〇二二年一〇月法話

「唯除」はお慈悲の裏返し(二)

駐在開教使 向嶋裕史

先月の法話で、十八願に説かれてある抑正文は阿弥陀仏の大悲の裏返しであると申しました。そして、その心は親が子を思って叱っていることとよく似ていると述べました。そこで今日は、私の恩師から聞かせていただいたお話を少しアレンジして紹介したいと思います。皆さんに、賭け事が好きなお子さんがいるとします。友達の間でよくトランプで賭け事をしていました。その子が高校を卒業し大学に入って、親もとを離れるとなると、親は寂しいというよりは心配なはずです。ギャンブル依存症になってしまう恐れがあるので、それを見抜いた親というのは、子供と別れる前に必ず一言忠告します。「お前、賭け事に手を出したら勘当するぞ」と。勘当とは「除く」ということです。子供は勘当されたら困るので「気をつけます」と言って親と別れます。大学に入って、いろんな友達が出てきて親交を深めていくうちに、ある日、賭け事が好きな友人からカジノに一緒に行くかと誘われます。しかし、「賭け事をしたら父親に勘当される」と言うと、「黙っていれば、ばれることはない」と言われ、翌日二人でカジノに出かけます。始めは抑え気味に遊んでいましたが、スロットやブラックジャックで一度勝って味を占めるとそのままのめり込んでいきました。しかし、賭け事は勝ち続けることありません。結局、多くの友達からお金を借りてまで遊んでしまふようになりました。

そのうち息子の友達から借金返済を催促する電話が親のほうにかかってきます。親は心配になって子供に電話をするけれども電話に全く出ません。これは困ったと思い、息子のアパートに行ってみても、ここ数日帰っていないように見つかからない。そこで、親は子供の友人から事情をよく聞いて、息子の賭け友達のところを必死になつて探し回ります。そして苦勞の末、ようやく息子に出会うわけです。すると、親の顔を見た息子は観念して、一切切なりゆきを説明します。「やっぱり賭け事に手を出しておったか!」その時、皆さんがその子の親だつたらどうしますか。「お前は賭け事に手を出したから勘当する!もう二度と帰ってくるな」と言つて、見放すでしょうか。そうではないでしょう。息子とお金を借りた友人のところへ行って一緒に頭を下げて、息子の借金を返済するはず。その後、息子に「今回のことは目をつぶつていてやる。だから、サンクスギビングには家に帰つてきなさい。もう二度と賭け事には手を出さなよ!」と言つのです。世の中には、いろんな親がいますが、親の子に対する想いというものはこのようなものだと思えます。ですから親の子に対する「除く」という表現はどうゆうことかといえます。親に全て見抜かれていくことなのです。残念ながら、私達人間は、自己中心の生き物です。自分のわがままを通すためだつたら仏法までそしることもあります。そうゆう愚かな生き物ですから、たとえ仏さまを突き飛ばしても、自己中心的な考え方を押し進めて生きています。仏法といえど、それほどのものを踏みこじって進んでいく私達の自己中心的な生き方を見抜いたからこそ、五逆と誹法だけはするなよと阿弥陀仏が願われているのです。

親鸞聖人は、「尊号眞像銘文」の中で「五逆罪と正法を誹謗する者を除くといわれたのは、それらの罪の重さを知らしめるためのものであつて、本當に除くということではありません」と示されています。阿弥陀仏が、私達凡夫を罪惡深重であると見抜ききつたうえで、「このような心だけは持つてくれるな」と願われたのが、「唯除、ただ除く」ということなのです。ですから、阿弥陀仏の本願は、誰一人として除かないということなのです。分け隔てなく、どんなものであつても平等に救つと誓われているのが、本願なのです。私が四、五歳の頃、年の暮れに母と兄で買い物をしてバスで出かけることがありました。年末年始に向けて食材やお歳暮などを求めて店を軒々とし、大きな荷物で母と兄の両手がふさがるほどの買い物でした。その帰り道、バスの中で幼い私は歩き疲れてウトウトし始めたそうです。するとそれを見ていた母は私に向かつて、「ここで寝ちゃだめよ。起きなさい」といつて私の体を揺らしました。それでも私が目を開けないので、困った母は「今寝たらよう連れて降りんよ。置いていくわよ。もう知らないよ」と言つて起さそうとします。しかし、その声は届かずとうとう寝てしまつたそう。その数分後、私達の降りる駅に着いた時、兄は母が本當に弟を置いていくのではないかと心配になつて見ていると、母は両手に大きな荷物を持ちながらも、私をしつかりと抱き上げて駅を降りたそう。置いていく、「知らないよ」と言いながらも決して子供を見放さない母の姿に、兄はあの光景こそが本願の中で誓われている「唯除」すなわち「慈悲の裏返し」であつたんだと大人になつて気づかされた言っていました。浄土真宗では信心をたまわることが肝要でありますが、それは、誰一人として見捨てないという阿弥陀仏の本願に出遇うことなのです。五逆の悪人と仏法をそしる人を他人事として見るのではなく、縁によつてどんな人間になつてしまふ愚かな自分を常に反省しつつ、こんな私一人の爲に、お念仏の道つまり、お浄土に生まれてゆく道を開いて下さつた阿弥陀仏の大慈大悲のお心を深く慶ばせていただきましよう。

BWA Brittle & Popcorn

ORDER FORM

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Qty.	Item	Price	Total
_____	Almond Brittle	\$17.00	_____
_____	5 oz.	\$7.00	_____
_____	Brittle Corn	\$9.00	_____
_____	Sweet Hots	\$7.00	_____

Total Purchase/Payment _____
(check/cash/credit card)

Card No. _____ Exp. _____

ORDERS CAN BE PLACED ON THE BTSD WEBSITE Using PayPal at:
www.buddhisttemplesandiego.org

Please make a notation what the payment is for. Or you can mail this form with a check, made out to: SD BWA BTSD, 2929 Market Street, San Diego, CA 92102.

Orders will be available for pickup at the Eitaikyo Service on November 13. Afterwards, contact the temple at 619-239-0896 to arrange a pickup.

Delicious

BWA

Makizushi Fundraiser

Pick up on November 13 starting at 11am
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THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

The 23rd Annual
Bloom-Futaba Memorial Lecture
Meditation, Mindfulness, & Gratitude
The Natural Path to Awakening & Joy



Friday, October 7, 2022
6-8:30 Hawaii time-
(9-11:30 Pacific time)

In-person and Livestreamed

Free Registration Advised

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Hompa Hongwanji Hawaii Betsuin
1727 Pali Highway, Honolulu, HI 96813

Tri-Temple Seminar

Rev. Hibiki Murakami

Saturday, 1 Oct 2022, 10:00 am

Encountering Amida's Vow:

From Scrolls to Online Propagation

(In English & Japanese)



The landscape of Buddhism now includes more virtual spaces, such as online dojo Or "practice sites." How does that affect our encounter with the Buddha Dharma? We will explore the role of Name scrolls from Shinran's time to the present day.

Free Online Event

To register for the Zoom link, please contact
Ocabc.seminar.info@gmail.com

Orange County Buddhist Church
Vista Buddhist Temple
Buddhist Temple of San Diego

DS STUFFED ANIMAL DRIVE

From October 2nd through the 22nd, the Dharma School will be collecting new stuffed animals for the Ronald McDonald House Charities. This is the 2nd year that Dharma School is participating in this interfaith effort. Last year, several of our students in Scouting programs took the project on as part of their religious award activities.



The last day for collection is Oct. 22. Stuffed animals need to be new (can be hand-crafted or purchased - please keep tags on if purchased). Monetary donation accepted and receipts will be available.