

BUSSEI SCRIPT

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We're From Here

Rev. Jundo Gregory Gibbs



Everyone at the Buddhist Temple of San Diego has been very kind and accepting of me. I have come to feel at home at the temple. At home with all of you, even though I am often several hours journey away. It's almost like I was from here.

We'll, I am from California. I have lived for 16 years in Southern California, for 14 years in Northern California and for 30 years in Central California. So even though I haven't got a Padre's cap yet; - I am from here. We are all from here, actually. ... From planet earth.

I'm not excited about the prospect of further 'manned' space exploration. We can launch telescopes, send drones, one day, perhaps, highly advanced robots. We shouldn't go into space for any significant amount of time ourselves; - we're from here. We need to accept our limitations. We are what, in the older sci-fi literature, is called "earthlings". Let's embrace our status as earthlings, even if it involves accepting some considerable limitations.

We're from here; - the pool of biological life on planet earth. This is our home which we must protect, preserve and also revel in. One of those sentences that is always true is: 'We are here now.' However, we will be from somewhere else, so to put it, later. The Buddha's Pure Realm of Joy and Goodness is "the place of all places, and not some separate place". I'm not from there. But I will go there one day, and I will be from there, then.

As Sekiya Sensei put it in the SFVHBT newsletter a couple of years ago: 'I did not come from the Pure Land, but it is my home to return to now.' Speaking for myself, my hometown is Fresno, but my home to return to one day is Amida's Pure Land. If I were already thoroughly enlightened, I could be in Fresno, San Diego, Pasadena, Phoenix and Amida's Pure land of Light, all at the same time. As an unenlightened being, I can only be in one place at a time.

The Buddha came from here; - earth. I am from here, we're all from here. Earth! As sincerely as I hope we can all continue to be about being Buddhists. We're earthlings first. And **we're** most definitely **from here!**

MEMBERSHIP IS OFF TO A GREAT START

Bill Teague, Membership Chair

As of mid-February, we are seeing a great response to Membership Month. We have six new members in 2023 not counting the people who have asked for membership forms. Four of the new members are from families with roots with Jodo Shinshu. Two have strong interest in the Dharma who had been following us and attending services for several years.

Financial Side. As a reminder in 2023,

No increase in dues for all renewals.

New Youth Membership (under 30) lowest rate of \$180 or \$15 monthly

New Introductory Membership at lowest rate (see above) for first year with gradual steps up to full rates.

Welcome New Members. Denise Amemiya, Florence Koga, Ronnie Morinaka, Jayson & Mariel Schmidt, and Pat Yamada.

Renewals Keep Pouring In. So far, we're at **30% renewal.**

We've been asked to send email reminders to members as a best practice and reminders will begin this month.

New Member Breakfast. Going back to 2020, any recent members are invited to our New Members Breakfast at 9 a.m. on **Sunday, March 5.** Parents are encouraged to bring their

kids, too. Please RSVP to the Temple office ASAP.

What New Members Need to Know. We have hybrid events for new members about the Temple, our practices, and Temple member benefits and expectations. Here are two options for this program, with coverage the same at either event:

Sat., Mar. 18, at 4 p.m., afternoon option. We will meet in the Hondo (or Zoom option).

Sun., Mar. 19, 9 a.m., morning option. We will meet in the Conference Room (or Zoom option).

Every Wednesday in April for Buddhism 1-2-3. Each Wednesday our Zoom session at 7 p.m. will discuss religious, spiritual, and practical aspects of membership in more detail, and most importantly, answer any new questions you may have. Sessions are April 5, 12, 19, and 26. Online only.

For questions or assistance, reach out to Bill Teague, btcomms@cox.net, 619-248-3749 (m).

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The monthly memorial, Shotsuki Hoyo service (March 5) and Higan (March 19) will highlight the services for the month. Higan is the observance of the spring equinox and dedicates the memory of loved ones who have crossed over to the "Other Shore."

Sunday services will be livestreamed on the temple's YouTube page for those who are unable to attend in-person. Meetings and activities will be conducted either in person or virtually on Zoom (Z).

Here is this month's calendar (activities and times subject to change):

- 1 – Buddhism 1-2-3, 7 pm, Zoom, Taiko practice, 7 pm, AH
- 2 – Tai Chi, 10 am, AH
- 4 – Funeral Service, 11 am, Strategic Planning Meet., 5 pm, CR
- 5 – New Members Breakfast, 8:30 am, DR, Ondo dance practice, 9 am, AH, Sutra chanting, 9:15 am, H, **Shotsuki Hoyo/ Dharma Service**, H/L, Taiko practice, 11:30 am, AH, BWA Meeting, 11:30 am, CR, Strategic Planning Meeting, noon, SH
- 8 - Buddhism 1-2-3, 7 pm, Z, Taiko practice, 7 pm, AH
- 9 – Tai Chi, 10 am, AH, Board of Directors meeting, 7 pm, Z
- 10 – **Panda Express Virtual Fundraiser**, all day. Online orders only, special order code **912916**; No walkups accepted.
- 11 – Strategic Planning Meeting, 11 am, CR, JFG Cherry Blossom Festival at Balboa Park, 2 pm – BTSD Ondo Dancers; 3 pm – BTSD Taiko, Book Club, 2 pm, Z
- 12 – **Daylight Savings Time** begins (move clocks forward one hour), Sutra chanting, 9:15 am, H, Dharma Service, 10 a.m., H/L, DS Staff meeting, 11:30 am, CR, Jr. YBA meet., 11:30 am, Rm 1, Taiko prac., 11:30am, AH, Strategic Planning meet, noon, SH
- 15 – Buddhism 1-2-3, 7 pm, Z, Taiko practice, 7 pm, AH
- 16 – Tai Chi, 10 am, AH
- 18 – Funeral service, 11 am, H
- New member intro., 4 pm, Z, Strategic Planning meet, 5pm, CR
- 19 - Sutra chanting, 9:15 am, H, **O HIGAN** Service, 10 am, H/L, Taiko prac., 11:30am, AH, Strategic Planning Meet., noon, CR
- 22 – Buddhism 1-2-3, 7 pm, Z, Taiko practice, 7 pm, AH, **Bussei Script newsletter mailing**
- 23 – Tai Chi, 10 am, AH, Activities meeting, 7 pm, Z
- 25 – **Interfaith Org/San Diego Food Bank drop-off**, 9 am-11 am, BTSD parking lot
- 26 – Intro. to Buddhism, 9 am, SH, Sutra Chanting, 9:15 am, H, Dharma Service, 10 am, H, Taiko practice, 11:30 am, AH
- 29 – Buddhism 1-2-3, 7 pm, Z, Taiko practice, 7 pm, AH
- 31 – Tai Chi, 10 a.m. (H)



The Spanish-language Dharma message will be posted on the temple's YouTube page.

Office hours: 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday-Friday. There is limited staff coverage on weekends. The temple is closed on Mondays. More information: Call the temple at 619-239-0896. Please leave a message if your call is not answered and staff will respond as quickly as possible. Email the temple at info@btsd.net or check the BTSD website <http://www.buddhisttemplesandiego.org> for updates.

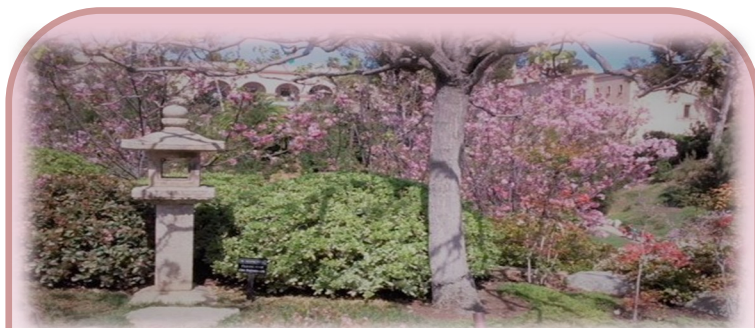
ACTIVITIES NEWS



Spring is upon on us, and The Japanese Garden's Cherry Blossom Festival is March 10-12, 2023. We will not be participating with a food booth this year because of the anticipated minimal number of volunteers as a result of other concurrent events. We are planning to have a booth hosted by the Ministers Assistants for community outreach and possible sale of small items to include Daifuku. Please support our partners at the Garden and visit our booth.

The next Temple Panda Express Event will be held Friday, March 10, 2023. Order your favorite dish(es) and let them do the cooking! The process is the same as our other events, when you order your food on line, include the special code (#912916) and Panda Express will donate a percentage of the order to the Temple. There are no additional charge or service fees. More information can be found in this issue.

Other fundraising events coming up include a Pot Pie Sale, Sukiyaki Dinner, Bingo Night and the Cultural Bazaar in June.



The Annual Japanese Friendship Garden's Cherry Blossom Festival

March 10-12 10am - 6pm
On the 11th, check out BTSD
Ondo Dancers at 2pm & Taiko at 3pm

DRIVE-THRU FOOD COLLECTION

Neighbors Helping Neighbors Food Drive Benefiting The SD Food Bank

BTSD is supporting the San Diego Food Bank's Neighbors Helping Neighbors Food Drive. Through March 25th drop off nonperishable donations in the red collection barrel at temple, or use the convenient drive-up option on the 25th from 9-11am.

Among the San Diego Food Bank's most needed food items are: canned chicken and tuna, canned fruit, peanut butter, beans and cereal.

Thank you for your generosity.



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I want to give a BIG thank you to all who attended the general meeting on January 29.

The business of BTSD was able to be completed for another year.

Thanks to Laura Yoshida for organizing the lunch, the Board of Directors for contributing towards the main dishes and to all that brought food to share. Special thanks to Michael Kinoshita who put the packets together. Appreciation to the technical team and to those that set-up, served tea and stayed to clean up.

On February 2, I attended a Conferment Ceremony honoring Mrs. Kate Leonard (Consul General of San Diego).

Congratulations to her as she was presented conferment of the order of the Rising Sun, Gold Rays with Neck Ribbon. The Ceremony was held in the Inamori Pavilion at the Japanese Friendship Garden of San Diego.

On Nirvana Day, the Temple hosted Guest Speaker Reverend John Hughes from Longmont, Colorado.

Although it was a brief drive to Cabrillo Monument, Gas Lamp area, Old Town, Clairemont area and to see a local place, Harper's Topiary, Harold and I enjoyed showing Reverend John around San Diego. We invite his wife Nancy to join him next time. Thank you to the Junior YBA for hosting Reverend John for breakfast burritos on Sunday and later for tostadas.

On Friday night, February 10, I attended via zoom, the Southern District meeting. The chapters were able to share what forms of communication they use to outreach to their Sangha and the community. Most used websites, Facebook, mailings, e-mails, phone calls, etc. If anyone is interested in helping our Temple with social media, please see me or anyone on the Board of Directors.

We are looking forward to having Guest Speaker Bishop Harada for the BWA Memorial/Lady Takeko Kujo Memorial Service in conjunction with a Kieshiki ceremony and San Diego MA certifications. Although he will not be able to attend in person due to Covid, he will be giving a Dharma talk to our Dharma school students and will also give a BWA and Lady Kujo memorial message.

Our deepest gratitude to Bishop Harada for making time in the middle of having Covid plus planning and preparing for the BCA National Council workshops on February 18 and the National Council meetings on February 24 and 25 plus the BCA Eitaikyo Muen Hoyo (Service) on the 26th.

As I close out my message, I hope that those that received e-mails or letters about the focus groups will participate and give us your thoughts on BTSD. They are scheduled in March so we look forward to chatting with you. Thank you for your support and donations to the Temple.

In Gassho,
LuAnn Lee

BOARD OF DIRECTORS HIGHLIGHTS

The Board of Directors met on February 9th -

1. President LuAnn Lee welcomed the newly elected and returning Board members to the meeting.
2. The Board approved an orei to Bishop Harada for certifying 3 ministerial assistants and providing a Dharma talk for the February 19th service.
3. Funds were approved for the backyard patio cover at the Bay Leaf property to be replaced.
4. An email vote approved the Kiku Gardens Board of Directors use of annex for its quarterly meeting on January 31 was ratified.
5. The Board ratified their approval of a modification to the mask required mandate in the Hondo for February 11th Jr.YBA seminar .
6. A change to the mask required mandate in the Hondo was approved. The Board approved a mask recommendation in the Hondo to match the policy for the rest of the indoor spaces on the property. Social distance seating is still provided in the rear of the Hondo. The policy change also discontinues the contact tracing requirement for people attending services.
7. The Executive Board (President, 1st, 2nd & 3rd Vice Presidents, Treasurer, Recording Secretary) slate was approved.
8. A recommendation by the Scholarship Committee to provide grants to the three newly certified ministerial assistants to attend the Joint Celebration in Kyoto in May was approved.
9. An ad-hoc committee will be formed to discuss a potential screening of the film *Carving the Divine*.
10. Funds were approved for work by the Strategic Planning Committee for focus group sessions and development of planning for the temple's future.

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING REPORT

The temple's General Membership Meeting was held January 29th

1. Forty-nine persons (46 members, 3 guests) attended the meeting. The required quorum of 25 was attained.
2. Minutes of 2022 General Membership meeting was approved.
3. Reports were received from the Board President, and all standing committees and most of the affiliated organizations.
4. President LuAnn Lee reported on the BCA National Council Meeting and the Southern District meetings she attended.
5. Ralph Honda provided a report on the status of the May 2023 Japan trip for the Proclamation Service.
6. Treasurer Aki Tomiyama provided the 2022 Profit and Loss report and the 2023 Budget Projection. The 2023 Operating and Improvements budgets were approved.
7. The slate of the Board of Directors for the two-year term beginning February 2023 and expiring January 2025 was approved.
8. Certification of three Ministerial Assistants Arturo Rubio, Sharon Sasaki, and Yukari Williams will be performed by BCA Bishop Harada, February 19th.
9. An ad-hoc Strategic planning committee was formed to determine steps for sustainability and viability of the temple for the next 100 years.
10. The Membership Committee report identified plans to build membership and work with the Strategic Planning Committee.

BWA NEWS

Welcome Spring! Although rain has been excessive for many, it surely has made lots of beautiful greenery and colorful flowers for all to enjoy! February was short but full of activities!

Shinnenkai, our New Year's party, was held on Saturday, February 4. We took care of business too, starting our monthly meeting, even before our delicious lunches arrived. Oseibo gifts were distributed to some hard working temple members, and everyone enjoyed our annual gift exchange. A beautiful cake dedicated to Ruth for her 100th birthday later in the month, was a yummy way to end our party. Thank you to Laurine and her committee for all the planning.

There was a great turnout for the joint Kisaragi Lady Takeko Kujo and BWA memorial service with special guest speaker Bishop Marvin Harada. Thank you to the Bishop for a wonderful message, Ann Y, Susan Y, Margo S, and Aki for reading the BWA names, and Laverne Sensei for organizing and hosting the service.

The book club continues to discuss What Makes You Not a Buddhist by Dzongsar Jamyang Khyentse, chapter by chapter, on the second Saturday of the month.

Many of our members will be attending the World Buddhist Women's Convention (WBWC) in Kyoto, Japan, in mid-May, followed by a tour of Japan with Doug Ojiri of 3D Travel. Special thank you to Ronnie Morinaka who made a generous donation IMO his mother, Mrs. Asako Morinaka, to help defray costs for BWA members who are planning to attend the convention. Mr. Morinaka shared that his mother loved being in the BWA and participating in our activities.

Please be on the lookout for an announcement for the English Tea, which we hope to hold this year, possibly in the summer.

Laurine and her Well-Care committee continue to visit with sangha members. Please let us know if there is someone you know of who you think may welcome a visit.

One upcoming activity for our group is to get together to make daifuku mochi for a bake sale at the Hanamatsuri service. We will also be preparing for a sushi sale at the temple bazaar on June 4th, with a possible sushi practice before.

Stay well, till next time...Gassho

On behalf of Vista and San Diego's Jr YBA, thank you very much for your support and help with Seminar 1. We appreciate the time you dedicated to help us, and all the baked goods, chips, crackers, cookies, brownies, sweets, spam musubi, chili, side dishes, salsa, and generous monetary donations. Seminar 1's theme "Buddhism by the Border" and workshops connected Mexican and Japanese cultures beautifully, and the high school aged participants enjoyed learning from their San Diego and Vista dharma friends. Special thanks to Minister's Assistant Bill Teague for welcoming and leading chanting for the 11 chapters that participated in Seminar 1, Sharon Sasaki for the ringing of the Kansho, Robert Yamamoto for the beautiful music he played throughout the two services, and Minister's Assistant Arturo Rubio for his engaging Dharma messages. Avis, Ralph, Breven, and Gregg, we appreciate your help before, during, and after Seminar 1! Thank you to Mr. Hector and Ms. Lorena Covarrubias for cooking dinner and breakfast for this event. The tostadas, rice, beans, sides, and breakfast burritos were DELICIOUS. We greatly appreciate our Sangha!



Sangha members take in the Super Bowl 57 Watch Party in the dining room on Feb. 12. Some were rooting for Philadelphia while others were cheering on Kansas City. More on back page.

DHARMA SCHOOL NEWS

We've enjoyed another activity-filled month! On February 12 following the Nirvana Day Service, Dharma School students made "Shinjin Hats", a fun activity (see accompanying photo) that was led by Norman Kiyono. We held regular Dharma School classes on February 5 and 19. Dharma School students who are Scouts led the Scout Sunday Service on February 26, thanks to the leadership of Ric Cheeks.

This month, we invite everyone to donate items for "Little Kids Can Do Big Things" to support Ronald McDonald House, which is a "home-away-from-home" for families with children being treated for serious, often life-threatening conditions at local hospitals. Until March 26, we'll accept donations of new Board Games, Card Games, Crossword Puzzle Books, Word Search Books, Coloring Books, Colored Pencils, and Pens. Gassho, Sharon



DONATIONS

BTSD

Sasaki, Brian & Lorin
McDonald, Marianne
Ryan, Mani
Sasaki, Sharon & Robert
Yamamoto
Wade Watanabe Family -
Service for Wade Watanabe
Service Programs
Use of facilities
Yamamoto, Koichi & Joyce
Yamada, Diane
Wade Watanabe Burial
Martinez, Nancy
IMO Wade Watanabe
Morinaka, Ron
Voorhies, Ruth - in
appreciation for Hospitality
Slobudyanyuk, Alina - Jr. YBA
Inouye, Derek & Lindsay
Teague, Bill

BODHI DAY SERVICE

Ryan, Mani
Yamaguchi, Laura

DHARMA SCHOOL

Sugiyama, Yukiko
Voorhies, Ruth
Kawasaki, Mildred & Trace
Bull, Gregory & Julie Watson
Omori, Shirley
Gladsjo, Julie
Kasubuchi, Naoye
Kao, Philip and Megan Dixon
Okuhara, Roy & Karen
Kawasaki, Kiyoshi & Aileen
Yanagihara, Sumiko
Yamamoto, Mae
Koga, Florence
Ochi-Fontanott, Janet
Schmidt, Mariel & Jayson
Tsukamoto, Wayne

EITAIKYO FUND

Hill, Edwin
IMO Gail Miyo Hill

END OF YEAR

Ryan, Mani
Yamaguchi, Laura
Ochi-Fontanott, Janet

FLORAL OFFERING

Sugiyama, Yukiko
Voorhies, Ruth
Kawasaki, Mildred & Trace
Ryan, Mani
Yamaguchi, Laura
Gladsjo, Julie
Kao, Philip and Megan Dixon
Kawasaki, Kiyoshi and Aileen
Okuhara, Roy & Karen
Anonymous
Yanagihara, Sumiko
Yamamoto, Mae
Koga, Florence
Ochi-Fontanott, Janet

GENERAL MAINTENANCE

Sugiyama, Yukiko
Voorhies, Ruth
Kawasaki, Mildred & Trace
Ryan, Mani
Yamaguchi, Laura
Gladsjo, Julie
Kao, Philip and Megan Dixon
Kawasaki, Kiyoshi & Aileen
Okuhara, Roy & Karen
Anonymous
Yanagihara, Sumiko
Yamamoto, Mae
Koga, Florence
Ochi-Fontanott, Janet
Schmidt, Mariel & Jayson
Tsukamoto, Wayne

HOONKO SERVICE

Monji, Yoshiko
Ryan, Mani
Yamaguchi, Laura
Koga, Florence
Kawasaki, Kiyoshi & Aileen

SPRING O HIGAN

Ryan, Mani
Yamaguchi, Laura

MAP

Sugiyama, Yukiko
Voorhies, Ruth
Kawasaki, Mildred & Trace
Ryan, Mani
Yamaguchi, Laura
Gladsjo, Julie
Kao, Philip and Megan Dixon
Kawasaki, Kiyoshi & Itsuko
Okuhara, Roy
Yonekura, Susan - towards
Shinran's 850th
Yanagihara, Sumiko
Yamamoto, Mae
Honda, Mikiye
Koga, Florence
Ochi-Fontanott, Janet
Schmidt, Mariel & Jayson
Tsukamoto, Wayne

MEMBERSHIP

Tsuneyoshi, Angelina
Williams, Yukari
Williams, Erika
Kasubuchi, Naoye
Yamada, Jean
Tsuneyoshi, Angelina
Sugiyama, Yukiko
Uchiyama, Tissa & Chris
Voorhies, Ruth
Kawasaki, Mildred & Trace
Bull, Gregory & Julie Watson
Omori, Shirley
Gladsjo, Julie
Kasubuchi, Naoye
Kao, Philip and Megan Dixon
Okuhara, Roy & Karen
Kawasaki, Kiyoshi & Aileen
Tanaka, Kelvin & Lara

Amano, Takeko
Yanagihara, Sumiko
Yamamoto, Mae
Koga, Florence
Olson, Kimberly
Ochi-Fontanott, Janet
Kamada-Fujii, Doreen
Taira, Yuriko
Taira, Yuriko
Schmidt, Mariel & Jayson
Tsukamoto, Wayne
Other -
Kawasaki, Kiyoshi & Aileen
Okuhara, Roy & Karen

MOCHI GOME

Ochi-Fontanott, Janet

NEW YEARS DAY

Ryan, Mani
Yamaguchi, Laura
Kawasaki, Kiyoshi & Aileen
Ochi-Fontanott, Janet
Yokotobi, Fusako

NIRVANA DAY

Ryan, Mani
Yamaguchi, Laura
Kuwada, Howard Kanji &
Kaneko
Hashiguchi, Tsuneko & John
Otsuji, Dennis & Elaine
Sugiyama, Yukiko
Kida, Katsumi
Hendrix, Hiroko
Honda, Ralph & Avis
Honda, Mikiye
Suyenaga, Irene
Masumoto, Chiyoko
Estes, Carol
Nogata, Yuriko & Sumihiro
Yamanishi, Miyoko
Sumida, Floyd & Kaytee
Voorhies, Ruth
Aoyama, K. Alice
Kawasaki, Mildred & Trace
Okuhara, Roy & Karen
Himaka, Michio & Naomi
Ong, Mike & Ann
Negoro, Glenn
Kawasaki, Kiyoshi & Aileen
Spears, Margo
Graeber, Kiku
Teague, Bill & Joyce
Martinez, Nancy
Shigehara, Wilbur & Janice
Moribe, Susan
Tomiya, Akie
Tsukamoto, Wayne

OSEIBO

Ryan, Mani
Yamaguchi, Laura

SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Sugiyama, Yukiko
Voorhies, Ruth
Kawasaki, Mildred & Trace

Ryan, Mani
Yamaguchi, Laura
Gladsjo, Julie
Kao, Philip and Megan Dixon
Kawasaki, Kiyoshi & Aileen
Okuhara, Roy & Karen
Yanagihara, Sumiko
Yamamoto, Mae
Koga, Florence
Ochi-Fontanott, Janet
Hill, Edwin
Taira, Yuriko
Schmidt, Mariel & Jayson
Tsukamoto, Wayne

SHOTSUKI HOYO

Fuchigami, Lynn S.
IMO Osao Himaka
Ryan, Mani
IMO Masa Nishinaga
IMO Kahn Nishinaga
IMO Rev Gikan Nishinaga
IMO Ronald Nishinaga
Baker, Carol & Mike
IMO Mari Tanizaki
IMO Patsy Yanagihara
Yagura, Ronald & Sheila
IMO Iwao Yagura
Yamamoto, Jane
IMO Iwao Yagura
IMO George Yamamoto
Uyeji, Masako
IMO Eda Asamen
IMO S. Kodama
Ong, Ann & Mike
IMO Masanori Koba
IMO Masami Honda
Yoshida, Laura - 2 Year
IMO Ruby Yoshida
Kawasaki, Mildred & Trace
IMO Tome Yamashita
Aoyama, K. Alice
IMO Satoshi Jack Takagi
IMO Robert M. Sakiyabu
Kashima, Sara
IMO Ben Honda - Dec
IMO Tets Kashima - Jan
Koga, Florence
IMO Bill Koga
Takashima, Wilbur
IMO Kisouyemon Sato
IMO Bunshiro Takashima
IMO Patsy Yanagihara
IMO Tosh Yonekura
Honda, Ralph & Avis
Honda, Mikiye
Himaka, Michio & Naomi
IMO Suma Shimada
IMO Patsy Harue Yanagihara
Estes, Carol
IMO Patsy Yanagihara
Masumoto, Chiyoko
IMO Yuki Masumoto
Ochi-Fontanott, Janet
IMO Hideo Ochi - July
IMO Kiyoko Ochi - Aug



MARCH SHOTSUKI LIST

The Shotsuki Hoyo honors the memory of loved ones who passed away during the month. This month's service will be held on March 5 at 10 a.m. If you are unable to attend in-person, the service will be livestreamed on the temple's YouTube page and can be accessed on the BTSd website under the "Video" tab. If you find an error in the Shotsuki listing or wish to add a name, please contact the temple at (619) 239-0896 or email info@btsd.net Gassho.

*The Sangha extends deepest condolences to the family and friends of:
Mrs. Yoshie Okuma ~ January 31, 2023*

DECEASED

FAMILY MEMBER

Tsugiyo Ishisaki (3-16-1913)..... Florence Koga
 Tomiye Torimaru (3-18-1923) Torimaru Family
 Sadao Kinoshita (3-28-1923) Kinoshita Family
 Senkichi Yanagihara (3-12-1924) Yanagihara Family
 Iwakichi Okumura (3-23-1934)..... Yamashita Family
 Matsu Yamanishi (3-26-1945)..... Miyoko Yamanishi
 Sakuhichi Yano (3-2-1954)..... Kathryn Moriyama-Liss
 Yonekichi Tsubakihara (3-27-1959) Kent Tsubakihara
 Mizuno Nakano (3-28-1959) Nakano Family
 Shina Shindo (3-28-1959) Friends
 Tokumatsu Shiosaki (3-14-1960) Iwata Family
 Yoshigoro Mamiya (3-8-1961) David Kawamoto
 Kura Hashimoto (3-16-1961) Kuko Mayeda
 Dennis Suyenaga (3-24-1961) Suyenaga Family
 Sawa Yamanishi (3-18-1962) Miyoko Yamanishi
 Taiki Ikemi (3-22-1964) Charles Ikemi
 Ichinosuke Kiyono (3-7-1965) Norman Kiyono
 Tsune Haseyama (3-5-1966) Noboru Haseyama
 Fude Hirai (3-9-1967)..... Dorothy Mansfield
 Shuji Kaneko (3-17-1967) Kaneko Family
 Zenkichi Iwashita (3-8-1968)..... Iwashita Family
 Yoshito Yamamoto (3-9-1969) Kanji Kuwada
 Akira Date (3-18-1969) Shirley Umekubo
 Fusamatsu Morimoto (3-19-1971) Morimoto Family
 Motono Oto (3-22-1972) Oto Family
 Matsu Higuchi (3-26-1972) Yasuko Higuchi
 Shina Nishiuye (3-18-1975) Nishiuye Family
 Shimeno Nabeta (3-30-1975) Joyce Teague
 Shunzo Sakamoto (3-29-1976) Amano Family
 Buyemon Ohara (3-1-1977) Ohara Family
 Roy Yamada (3-10-1977) Kimi Yamada
 Teru Kiyono (3-27-1978) Kiyono Family
 Kiyotaro Osaki (3-13-1979) Tomiyama Family
 Yuku Hosaka (3-20-1980) Hosaka Family
 Masaaki Tanizaki (3-25-1981) Friends
 Hanano Matsui (3-11-1983) Imori & Curtis Family
 Tets Tachiki (3-18-1983) Tachiki Family
 Masaru Yanagihara (3-9-1984)..... Yanagihara Family
 Suna Torio (3-24-1985) Betty Torio
 Haruhiko Otsuji (3-3-1986) Otsuji Family
 Sukeichi Yamada (3-16-1986) Keisuke Yamada

DECEASED

FAMILY MEMBER

Grace Hosaka (3-6-1987) Hosaka Family
 Kimi Terada (3-24-1987) Etsuko Smith
 Shiro Takahashi (3-19-1988) Sugioka Family
 Susumu Yagi (3-23-1989)..... Yagi Family
 Zenpachi Kubota (3-28-1989)..... Kubota Family
 Tsune Yamasaki Atsuko Thomas
 Hideo B. Watamura (3-10-1990) Elizabeth Takasaki
 Hisaji Taniguchi (3-15-1993) Robert Taniguchi
 Miyuki Takanashi (3-31-1994) Minoru Takanashi
 Thomas Yonekura (3-1-1995) Yonekura Family
 Haruki Koba (3-25-1995) Duane Koba
 Mieko Holt (3-29-1995) Joe Holt
 Masaru Niwata (3-29-1995) Joe Niwata
 Shoichi Nomura (3-28-1997) Kiyoko Nomura
 Chisato Kuroye (3-18-1998) Roy Kuroye
 Kiyu Kawasaki (3-22-1998) Trace Kawasaki
 Rosie Yamada (3-4-2001) Laurence Yamada
 Fumie A. Martin (3-23-2001) Tazuno Lowell
 Masahito Iwanaga (3-6-2002) Masami Iwanaga
 Kiyoko Hazel Baker (3-10-2002) Miyo Tanaka
 Michael S. Kawamoto (3-13-2003) Mitsuko Kawamoto
 Misao Kawasaki (3-5-2005) Kawasaki Family
 Mark Isao Kasubuchi (3-27-2005) Naoye Kasubuchi
 Rui Nemoto (3-11-2007) Fumiko Hayashi
 Fred Nabeta (3-14-2007) Joyce Teague
 Sam Amano (3-6-2008) Amano Family
 Yoshiko Kawato (3-28-2009) Nancy Nakatani
 Susumu Kawato (3-22-2010) Nancy Nakatani
 Tadami Maruyama (3-12-2011) Michi Maruyama
 Katie Tomoe Krause (3-28-2011) Pamela Lopez
 Shizuko Tsukamoto (3-3-2012) Wayne Tsukamoto
 Mary Haruko Yagura (3-5-2013) Ron Yagura
 Ben Shizuto Sekishiro (3-30-2013) Victor Sekishiro
 Bruce Riyou Moriyama (3-24-2014) Moriyama Family
 Gilbert Shuji Wakisaka (3-27-2015)..... Gail Susan Wakisaka
 Tohoru Hidutsu Shimizu (3-1-2016)..... Paula Shimizu
 Richard Iwao Ito Sr. (3-21-2016)..... Richard Ito
 Ayako Otsuji (3-27-2017)..... Otsuji Family
 Emiko Ishisaki (3-12-19)..... Florence Koga
 Mary Sayoko Tomiyama (3-31-21)..... Tomiyama Family

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 death to express gratitude for and acknowledge their continuing influence in our lives.

2023 is the memorial year for those who passed away in:

1st Year Memorial	2022	13th Year Memorial	2011	27th Year Memorial	1997
3rd Year Memorial	2021	17th Year Memorial	2007	33rd Year Memorial	1991
7th Year Memorial	2017	25th Year Memorial	1999	50th Year Memorial	1974

マウンテンビュー仏教会「回向」 二〇二三年三月法話

よつらく — 璽珞を捨てる —

駐在開教使 向嶋裕史

浄土真宗で一番大切なことは何かといいますと、信心をいただくことです。この信心をなくして、日頃の生活をつつしんで暮らそうとも、平和をどれだけ語ろうとも、浄土真宗の法義は成り立ちません。

どのようにして信心をいただくかといえますと、聴聞によつて信心を獲得するといわれています。皆さんの中には、もう何十年も聴聞しているけれども、未だに信心をいただけないという人がおられると思います。それは何故かと言いますと、邪見と驕慢の心が信心の目覚めを妨げているからです。邪見とは真理に背いた考え方のことで、自分の考えに固執して自分が一番正しいと信じてやまないことをいいます。ですから仏法を聞いていても、邪見の人には仏の願いが胸に響いてこないのです。また、驕慢とは驕り高ぶりの心をいいます。自尊心が強く、自分の力で悟りの道を切り開くことができると思い上がっている人です。そのような人は仏の願いをただ聞き流しているにすぎません。『観無量壽経』という大切なお経があるのですが、その中に韋提希という王妃がでてきます。韋提希の息子である阿闍世は友人の提婆達多にそのかされて自分の父親を殺して王座を奪おうと企てます。そして頻婆娑羅王を牢獄に閉じ込めますが、韋提希は我が子に父殺しをさせたくない、また夫である王も死んでほしくない、と幽閉中の王にこっそり食事を運びます。それを知った阿闍世は母である韋提希をも殺そうとします

が、それだけは大臣に諭され思いとどまりました。結果、韋提希も牢獄に閉じ込められてしまふのですが、お釈迦さまが慰問にかけつけてこられます。お釈迦さまの顔を見た瞬間、韋提希は胸につけていた璽珞を引きちぎり大地に投げ捨て、体も大地になげうつて声をあげて泣きました。そして、お釈迦さまに自身の苦しみを訴え、往生極楽の道を求めます。それに對し、お釈迦さまは苦惱から救われていく他力念仏の教えを説き、それを聞いた韋提希は歡喜の心に満ち溢れ救われていくという話が『觀經』に説かれています。

この物語の主人公である韋提希は、これまでも長い間、お釈迦さまの説法を聞いていた人物です。しかし、牢獄に閉じ込められてみると、今まで聞いていた教えが自分の苦しみを救う力になつていなかった。ところがこの度、お釈迦さまが説かれる法を聞いて、乾いた砂に水がしみこむかのように、韋提希の心に法がしみこんで大歡喜が起きました。すなわち信心をいただいたのです。では何故、これまで聴聞を重ねていたにもかかわらず、韋提希は信心を得られなかったのか。その鍵は、璽珞にあります。

璽珞とは「飾り」のことです。これまで、お釈迦さまのところに聴聞に行くときは璽珞をつけていたはずですが、この璽珞とは、権力の象徴であり、富の象徴です。さらに言えば、邪見と驕慢の極みです。その璽珞を身につけていたということは、一人の人間としてではなく、王妃という立場で仏法を聞いていたのです。その璽珞には、権力、財力、地位、名譽、知識などといった彼女の強い自尊心が満ち溢れていました。その為、韋提希の心には煩惱具足の凡夫として眞摯に法を聞かせていたどころという謙虚な姿勢はなかったのです。常に自分が正しく、自分が優れているという邪見で驕慢な心が璽珞という飾りに表れていたことがよくわかります。しかし、牢獄の中で韋提希がこの璽珞を引きちぎって

投げ捨てたということは、人生の一大事に権力や富が何の役にも立たないことを韋提希本人が悟つたということの意味します。もちろん、権力、富、地位、名譽というのは私達の社会生活をおくる上で大変魅力のあるもので、それらを懸命に求める人は多くいますが、生死という問題に直面したとき、それらは私達の苦惱を解決することはできません。全く役に立たないのです。ですから、それに目覚めた韋提希は璽珞を捨て、一人の凡夫としてお釈迦さまの話に耳を傾けたのです。その結果、凡夫がそのまま救われていく念仏のみ教えに出会い、韋提希の苦惱は大歡喜心となつて信心を得ることができたのです。

私達も韋提希のように常日頃自尊心に囚われながらこの璽珞で自分を飾り取り繕って生きています。阿彌陀仏の本願を素直に受け入れる心を妨げている私達の隔たつた知識や価値観はまさに邪見・驕慢であり、虚仮の璽珞でしかありません。自分を飾ることに執着している凡夫にとつて、この璽珞を捨てることは至難の業でしょう。しかし、思い切つてその飾りを手放して仏法を聞かせていただくと、阿彌陀仏の本願は一人の爲であったと気づかされ、煩惱具足の私をそのままおさめとつて捨てないという念仏の光に出遇わせていただきます。聴聞によつて阿彌陀仏の呼び声が私の心に至り届いたとき、その喜びと感動が私達の手を合わせ、念仏せずにはおれない身とならせて下さいます。この瞬間を信心をいただいたというのです。

信心をいただくとお念仏のみ教えと出遇えた感動が行動となつてあらわれます。それは邪見・驕慢の身を深く反省しながら、謙虚と報恩謝徳を忘れず、凡夫の身でありながらも、つねに世のため人のために尽くしている、こうという行動です。これこそ璽珞を捨てた眞實信心の念仏者の生き方です。

BUDDHIST EDUCATION IN MARCH

Don't miss the March memorial (**Shotsuki Hoyo**) on Sunday, March 5, at 10 a.m., with **Rev. Laverne Shidou Imori** presiding. We also have the Spring Ohigan service to help us mark the vernal equinox with **Rev. Hōkai "Smitty" Smith** presiding on Sunday, March 19 at 10 a.m.. Buddhist lessons abound in such observances, including *gratitude* for Shotsuki Hoyo and *the Bodhisattva ideals* and *the "other shore" of awakening* at Ohigan.

Intro to Buddhism will be Sunday, March 26, at 9 a.m., runs for one hour in the Sangha Hall, with **MA Kaytee Sumida**. Great overview of Buddhism in general and our Temple in particular.

Buddhism 1-2-3 in be every Wednesday via Zoom at 7 p.m., and this month we hope to spotlight the temple's new Certified Minister's Assistants, **Arturo Rubio**, **Sharon Sasaki**, and **Yukari Williams**.

We now conduct **Buddhism Zero** as an *ad hoc* program on request. If you have questions about Buddhism, our Pure Land tradition, or the Temple, please contact the office and suggest some times you could meet via Zoom. Buddhism Zero is also great for students on class assignment.

SANGHA ENJOYS SB LVII WATCH PARTY

On February 12, Dharma friends gathered in the temple dining room to watch the biggest NFL game of the year and on the largest television screen the temple has to offer.

The Sangha Super Bowl Watch Party was a big hit!

Sixteen Sangha friends cheered, groaned, filled their stomachs and shared friendships with each other as Super Bowl LVII was a nail-biter.

There was a lot of *gochiso* (good food) of hot dogs, casseroles, lumpia, salads, desserts galore, snacks and leftovers from the Jr. YBA seminar.

By the way. The final score of the game was Kansas City 38, Philadelphia 35.

Everyone had a great time and are looking forward to next year's gathering. We all hope that you will join in the fun!



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TAIKO – ANN ONG

Note * Affiliated Organizations are automatic voting representatives on the BOD. They are asked to attend the board meeting to communicate information discussed at the meetings and report back to their respected groups.