

Message from Bishop Kosen Ishikawa

Dear Members and Friends,

First of all, thank you very much for your support to our temple. It's already December. I hope you had a wonderful, safe Thanksgiving Day. Although coronavirus pandemic is still our biggest concern and hard to predict the situation in the future, we need to go forward with our daily life.

For the safety of our members, we decided to make it a virtual service for upcoming special services. This way we don't need to cancel services and you can watch it anytime according to your convenience. But of course, we try to do in-person services and events by following the safety guidelines and rules. So if you can use the internet, please join in our online services and if you'd like to come to the temple for services, please call us before coming.

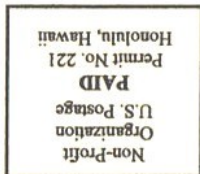
This year I've made many virtual services and it was my greatest pleasure to have responses from various places in the world. One of the most joyful replies I had was from a 96-year old lady. She sent me a donation with her thank-you letter which said she enjoyed watching the "virtual Bon Dance" from my YouTube channel. I was thankful to know that her family helped her to watch a virtual O-Bon. Sometimes a small help from the young one makes a big difference for older people. Let us continue to help our Kupuna whatever we can do for their safety.

At the same time, if you need spiritual help and guidance, please feel free to let us know. We are here to serve you. Even if I live far from you, there should be something I could help you. We'll continue to do our best to provide more and better services and we'll be more than happy if you could continue to join in our membership. And if you are not a member yet, please consider to join us.

Last, but not least, I sincerely pray for your safety and good health. And of course, Happy Holidays to you and your family!

Gassho,

Bishop Kosen Ishikawa



Jodo Mission of Hawaii
1429 Makiki St.
Honolulu HI 96814
Address Service Requested

JODO MISSION OF HAWAII
BULLETIN - DECEMBER 2020
(#1289-1220)



Another Message by Bishop Kosen Ishikawa

"Half Tatami mat for seating, one mat for sleeping."

This is the proverb used and loved by the people during Edo period in Japan. The author is unknown. This implies no matter how big a mansion you live in and no matter how gorgeous the room you may have, the space you'd need is just half a Tatami mat for seating and one mat for sleeping.

This saying is usually quoted when you'd like to emphasize the importance of satisfaction and a life of self-content, but I understand it differently. I see this saying as a great example of human equality and how we can see people equally.

Needless to say, there are tremendously many types or variety of people and many races in this world. Then how can we respect each other? And how can we be happy together? People during the Edo period must have sought for the positive understanding because people at that time were forced to live in an unequal world.

They must have thought about equality. What was common between the samurai and the merchant? What was common between the nobles and the commoner? Thus, they got this viewpoint that minimum space for people are same. Namely, they were able to reach the thought of equality by realizing the size of the human being. They realized whether people are rich or poor, samurai or farmer, merchant or priest, there are not much difference in sizes.

While there are racial discrimination going on, we should all realize we are not essentially different. Whether man or woman, rich or poor, the minimum space for human being is just a half tatami mat for seating and one mat for sleeping.

Interestingly, this proverb later got an additional phrase as follows:

"Even if you become a ruler of the world, you cannot eat more than two-and-a-half cups of rice at a time." This implies that even if you get an abundance of food, the amount you could eat daily is limited like all of us.

Gassho,
Bishop Kosen Ishikawa

2020 Virtual Jodo-E or Bodhi Day Celebration

Hawaii Buddhist Council's Virtual Jodo-E or Bodhi Day Service will be held online on Sunday, December 6, 2020 at 9:30 a.m. on HBC channel via YouTube page:

<https://bit.ly/3pHKOsD> Free and open to the public.

Guest Speaker: Reverend Dr. Kenneth Tanaka.

Dr. Tanaka will talk about Buddhism under the coronavirus pandemic. Dr. Tanaka is Professor Emeritus at Musashino University, Tokyo. Educated at Stanford Univ. (B.A.), a temple in Thailand, Institute of Buddhist Studies (M.A.), Tokyo University (M.A.), and Univ. of California at Berkeley (Ph.D.). His publications include *The Dawn of Chinese Pure Land Buddhist Doctrine*, *Ocean: An Introduction to Jodo Shinshu Buddhism in America* and *Amerika Bukkyo* (American Buddhism) (in Japanese). He has served as president of two academic associations, and his books have been translated into Japanese, Chinese, and Portuguese.



Jodo-E or Bodhi Day is the celebration when Shakyamuni Buddha attained enlightenment under the Bodhi tree. "Bodhi" means enlightenment or spiritual awakening. **Please join this happy occasion online!**

Hawaii Buddhist Council is comprised of seven Buddhist denominations: Higashi Hongwanji (hosting), Honpa Hongwanji Mission (hosting), Jodo Mission of Hawaii, Koyasan Shingon Mission, Nichiren Mission, Soto Mission, Tendai Mission.

Message by Rev. Myoko Takano

To our many members who are staying at home, please stay safe and we will see you again soon. Recently, I made this Omamori box that you can put old Omamori into this box after you used them. I placed this box next to Omamori in the office.



I found an old desk and wooden box in Otaba storage space during the O-Bon period. I cleaned and brushed it and then painted the box. Then I made this cover by cutting wood with electric saw.

I stained this box and cover with walnut color first, but the color of the box was different from the cover. I used same stain. But the original color of the cover and box were different so that color became different. Then I used more dark color, ebony color and stained again over the walnut color. The box and cover became same color and look much better.



Why do you think I prepared this box for old Omamori? This is because there is a Buddha in your Omamori. Even if your old Omamori has been used up, we must treat it carefully. That is why I made an Omamori box and laced the Namu Amida Butsu artwork writing in front of the box. I put the Namuamidabutsu (Onembutsu) artwork writing so that your old Omamori is blessed by Amida Buddha.

Now, I would like to talk about Omamori. Omamori means protection in Japanese. In English, we call it Amulet, Charm. As I just said above, there is the Buddha in your Omamori, and the Buddha is watching over and protecting us.

The origin of Omamori in ancient times is as follows. When the ancient people set out to journey from their homeland, they had their homeland's stones and tree branches as amulets. They wanted God to make their way safe along the way and safely return to their homeland. So they used stones and tree branches as amulet. The road conditions were bad in ancient times. The journey was much more dangerous and life-threatening. Although it is a very primitive belief, it is said that they felt close to God and kept their hearts strong by having an amulet.

There are a variety of Omamori at Betsuin such as for health, for car, for home, and for children.

various wish-off bad luck, ings. The of prayer from prays with



Omamori are basically made in es of people, such as to ward inviting good luck, and bless-Omamori of the temple is a "gift Buddha". Minister properly chanting sutra for Omamori be-

fore you use them. When Omamoris arrived at the end of last year, I actually prayed with chanting sutras and purified them. And it is said that Omamori's benefit expire in one year. In addition, Omamori should be returned as soon as the wish has been successful, such as a prayer for safe delivery and a prayer for passing an examination ,even if less than a year has passed. Some people have many Omamori at home without returning, and then they bring a lot of Omamoris at once to the temple. This is not good.

At the new year, you will come to the temple. At that time, you should return the old Omamori in the Omamori box and take a new one. **Omamoris are available at Jodo Mission of Hawaii.**

Cont'd on Page 4 in Japanese

最近、私は皆さんが使い終わった後の古いお守りの為の箱を作りました。オフィスで販売しておりますお守りの横に、設置致しました。古い机と木の箱を倉庫で見つけたので、磨いて、きれいにした後に、黒く塗りました。またこのお守り箱の蓋も木材をカットして、取っ手をつけて、塗装をいたしました。なぜ私がわざわざ古いお守りの為に、このような箱を用意したとおもいますか？それは使い終わったお守りといえども、お守りには仏様がやどっているからです。使い終わったお守りといえども、仏様がお守りにやどっている以上は、私達はお守りを大切に扱う必要があります。なので私はお守りの箱をつくり、阿弥陀様のお名号をお守りの前に安置いたしました。お名号を置いたのは、皆様の使い終わったお守りを、しっかりと阿弥陀様に供養していただくためです。お守りとは読んで字のごとく、私達を守ってくれるためのありがたいものです。お守りには仏様がやどっており、その仏様がお守りを持つことによって私達を見守って下さいます。

お守りの起源は古代にまで遡ります。さまざまな事情により故郷を離れることとなった人たちが、神様に道中の安全と無事の帰還を願い、故郷の石や木の枝を呪物として身につけて出立したことがお守りの起源とされています。道路事情も悪く、自分の身は自分で守らなければいけない旅路は、今よりもずっと危険で命がけでした。非常に原初的な信仰ではありますが、そういった呪物を持って旅に出ることにより、神様を身近に感じ心を強く保っていたと言われています。

浄土宗ハワイ別院では健康、車、家、子供の為などの様々な種類のお守りがあります。お守りは一般的に、厄除け（魔除け）、招福（開運、幸運）、加護などの人の願いを象った物です。寺院のお守りは、僧侶が読経（どきょう）をしてしっかりとお浄めし、儀式が施された「祈りの賜物」です。実際にハワイ別院でも、年末にお守りが届くと、そのお守りを私達僧侶がお経を読んでお清めを致しております。お守りのご利益には有効期限があり、1年と言われています。また、安産祈願や合格祈願などのお守りは、1年経っていなくても、願いがかなった後にお返しするものです。中にはお守りを返すことなく家にたくさん持っている方がいます。そして、沢山のお守りを一度にもって来られます。初詣のときに、古いお守りを返納し、新しいお守りをお迎えすれば古いお守りがたまってしまうこともあります。

お守りはただ持っているだけでは意味がありません。お守りをもって、願いや、厄除け、招福のためにしっかりと努力することも必要です。健康を願いたいなら、日々規則正しく、食生活に気をつけなければなりません。交通安全を願うならば、安全運転を心がけなければなりません。そうやって願いや目標のために一生懸命に頑張ってる姿を阿弥陀様は必ず見ていますし、お力を与えてくれます。お守りには仏様がやどっており、あなたのすぐそばで常に見守りつづけてくれてます。年の始まりに次回お守りをお寺に返すときには、見守り続けていただいた仏様に一言“ありがとうございます”と言って十遍のお念仏を唱えて箱の中に返していただきたいです。

合掌

浄土宗ハワイ別院 駐在開教使 高野 明宏

NOSTALGIA



Mochi making day is one of the biggest events at Jodo Mission of Hawaii. This day brings together the elderly, the working people, and children, all for the purpose of making oishi mochi! Unfortunately, this year mochi making was **CANCELLED**. It was always wonderful to see the elderly, working people and children enjoy making mochi. Hopefully, next year we can go back to making mochi!



Coronavirus has caused everyone to do things differently with more guidelines from the government and CDC. No gatherings, No Hanamatsuri celebration, we did have O-Bon Services but Virtually (please see our website **jodo.us** for links to the videos), No Bon Dance and No ono foods and No dancing around the yagura, No Bazaar. All mass gatherings were eliminated or done virtually.



[cont'd on page 5]

New Year's Eve Service

New Year's Eve Service is one of the most familiar annual ceremonies for Buddhists in Japan. Here in Hawaii, the New Year's Eve Bell ringing service is observed at each Buddhist Temple. When we listen solemnly to the sounds of the bell in the silent midnight, we reflect in ourselves and have a feeling of deep meditation. **Do you know why the temple bell rings 108 times on New Year's Eve?** To ring the bell 108 times signifies the dispelling of 108 evil passions which all human beings have. In Buddhism, we have 108 different kinds of evil thoughts in our minds. While the temple bell is ringing, we pray to dispel our evil passions and thoughts. Japanese people call this night "joya". Joya means the very night when we should try to dispel all evil things in our lives.

The New Year's Eve service gives us a good opportunity to meditate and reflect on our life on this last day of the year. And it is also a time to express our gratitude to every blessing which we have received in our lives and at the same time to our ancestors, parents, our country and our Lord Amida Buddha. In so doing, we can welcome a most Happy New Year!

New Year's Day Service



New Year's Day Service is another special service held on January 1st. New Year's Day has three beginnings. It is the beginning of a new day, a new month and a new year. Therefore, it is a very important and significant day. Buddhist temples have a special service which is called **Shusho-e**. This service means a religious gathering to reflect on the past life (year) and correct it and think of the New Year with hopes of a better life. We can reflect on our past lives (years), confess to past deeds, and resolve for a better life by following the teachings of Amida Buddha. And we can begin the New Year with hopes for the future. Both New Year's Eve and New Year's Day services have long been the practices for Buddhists to finish the old year and begin the first day of the New Year. In so doing, you can begin the New Year with strengthened faith in Amida Buddha.

Shusho-e or New Year's Day Service: Please join us on Friday, January 1, 2021 at 10 a.m. for the first service of the year and pray for our safety, happiness and world peace for the coming new year. Blessings will be given to everyone who attends. Happy New Year! [Please note that we can only have 42 people social distancing in the temple.]



[Nostalgia cont'd]

Many people who have lost loved ones during this time did private funerals or no funerals for their loves, hoping to do it after the pandemic. Funerals were limited to 10 people or less including the officiating minister. Some immediate families totaled more than 10 and had to choose who could attend or have some on skype. **This is so sad,** however those who did have funeral services were satisfied they did the best they could for their departed family member and that the departed family member is with Amida Buddha and is without pain. **Namu Amida Butsu.**

Many of our hourly tenants have cancelled their classes. Some have returned for a few weeks but "Stay Safe At Home" came back and classes cancelled again. So far, the aerobics class on Tuesdays/Wednesdays and the Taiko classes have returned.

Please continue to Stay Safe, use facial masks, wash your hands often with soap or use a sanitizer, No mass gatherings, social distance of 6 feet and if we follow all of these guidelines, may next year be better and safer for everyone!
NAMU AMIDA BUTSU.

Obituaries

The Jodo Mission of Hawaii extends its sincere condolences to the family members and loved ones of the following members who have recently left this world for the Pure Land.

Evelyn Sumako Nonaka	102
Nancy Hisako Takara	92
Kazuyoshi Oyama	91

Email Monthly Bulletin—Please advise if you wish to have your monthly bulletin via email instead of U.S. mail. **Please also keep Jodo Mission advised of your current address and telephone number. Mail forwarded also adds additional cost.** Thank you for your consideration!

Notice to Nokotsudo Visitors

Many people call to see if the Nokotsudo/Columbarium is open. We have been letting people in if they come and ring the bell. **You must wear a mask, use the hand sanitizer going in and coming out and go home and wash your hands with soap.** No more than 4 people at a time, social distancing.

New Hours: 10 am to 5 pm Monday-Saturday

12 pm to 3 pm Sunday*

10 am to 3 pm Holidays

*Sundays no one in office since we have Sunday Service

Otsutome Book

Black Otsutome Book is available at Jodo Mission of Hawaii. **Please contact Jodo Mission office at 949-3995 if you wish to have a copy.**

This book was printed and donated by **Bobbie and Mark Fisher** and dedicated in memory of Bobbie's mother **Toshiko Higa**. Betsuin is very grateful for the Fisher Family's most generous donation when the old Otsutome books were disappearing and some were in very bad condition. This black Otsutome book has an English version on one side and a Japanese version on the back side. The printing is very easy to read.

However, shortly after the donated books were printed and used by Betsuin members, as part of the 800th Anniversary of the founding of Jodo



Shu by Honen Shonin, the latest revised version of the Otsutome book was put together. This revised version integrated the English, Japanese, Chinese char-

acters and English translations and is currently used by all Hawaii Jodo Shu temples.

If anyone is interested in having their own Otsutome book, we are offering this black donated version. Please contact Jodo Mission office at 949-3995. Thank you.



Bishop Kosen Ishikawa



Rev. Myoko Takano
Resident Minister

Jodo Mission Office Hours: [New Covid Hours]

Monday to Saturday 10am—5pm
Sunday & Holidays 10am—3pm

Phone: 949-3995

Website: www.jodo.us


Perpetual Memorial Service (Eitaikyo) for December

- | | | | |
|--|--|---|---|
| 1 Jusaku Kimura
The Kimura & Muroshige Family
Sato Imaguchi
The Imaguchi Family
Isamu Matsumoto
Masayoshi Tanigawa
Ushi Matayoshi
Ronald Seiji Buna | 8 Reisuke Wakaki
The Wakaki Family
Seiichi Nakamura
The Nakamura Family
Yoshio Higashimura
Matsuyo Tanimura
The Tanimura Family
Takaichi Tamakawa
Joginder Lal Bhanot | The Kitagawa Family
Yoshio Miyao
Masami Kawamura
Ichiji Kiyuna
Kisei Takara
Manabu Omura
Yoshiko Kitagawa | Matsu Yokomichi
Kame Yanagihara
Ryuichi Ipponsugi
Hatsuno Hirai
Michika Umeda Gaines
Roy Toyosuke Ohnaga (2)
Yokichi Tanaka
Tome Tanaka |
| 2 Kame Aoki (2)
The Aoki & Kimura Family
Kame Yano (2)
The Yano, Konaka & Hayashi Family
Ayako Yokoyama
The Yokoyama & Morita Family
Shizue Matsuda
The Matsuda Family
Shizue Nakano
Hisashi Kochi
Tose Terada
Michiko Miyao
Tsuruko Tanaka
The Kodama Family | 9 Genjiro Shimabukuro
The Shimabukuro Family
Tora Aoki
The Aoki Family
Ichiro Kishi (2)
The Kishi Family (2)
Earl Yutaka Onaga (2)
Sadakichi Yoshida
Hanae Fujimoto | 16 Fusakichi Okawa
The Shigeoka & Okawa Family | 25 The Sato Family
Robert Umeo Mitsuyasu
Fumiyo Kouchi |
| 3 Fumie Chinen
The Chinen Family
Fumiko Hayashi
Fujino Masatsugu | 10 Hyoichi Sugihara(2)
The Sugihara Family
Asa Namba
Chokichi Nakamura
Hiroshi Hayamoto
Ito Kawanishi
Matsu Gushiken
Hiyoichi Sugihara
Jiro Saiki | 17 Yasukichi Kaya
Kaya & Shimazaki Family
Rinsuke Uesugi
Hideo Moritsugu
Kona Matsuda | 26 Haru Ogawa
Seiji Minehira
Maurice Bungo Udo
Shinemon Toishigawa
Doris Hisayo Imaguchi |
| 4 Ryuichi Higashimura
The Higashimura Family
Gunichi Morioka
The Morioka Family
Nobusuke Shinagawa | 11 Asajiro Inada
The Inada & Morimoto Family
Zenshiro Sato
Paul Tanigawa
Edward Yutaka Yokoyama
Hanako Uchiumi
Grace Saiki Beringer
Roy Takeo Yokomichi
Phyllis Miyoshi Aoki | 18 Bishop Kyodo Fujihana
Alice Yoshie Fukunaga (2)
Kiyoko Kagihara
Taichi Ebisuzaki | 27 Tsunesuke Yamamoto
Robert Tamito Yasuda
Evelyn Hideko Yagi
Edith Fusae Mizuno
Richard Sadao Murashige |
| 5 Tatsuji Kusunoki
The Kusunoki Family
Yuichi Kanayama
Yasuyo Hirano
The Hirano & Kaneko Family
Kane Otani
Rite Ishii
Kameyo Morimoto
Irene Kazue Nishida
Kiyoichi Kishida
Tane Oda
The Kanayama Family
Yasuo Nishida | 12 Rokuichi Yanagihara
Jisaku Yanagihara
Robert Wong | 19 Tsunesuke Yanagihara (2)
Iwa Yanagihara
The Yanagihara Family
Jeanette Asako Hayashi
Jane Sumiyo Takabayashi | 28 Ichiro Sagawa
The Kawahara Family
Saichi Ikeda
The Ikeda Family
Dorothy Tamano Yasuda |
| 6 Tokuemom Imamoto
The Imamoto & Kawakami Family
Hideo Morita
Hazel Kiyoko Maehara
Kazue Ukeda | 13 Mosaku Hayashi
The Yano, Konaka & Hayashi Family
Hana Imai
Sachiko Kathlee Fujikami
Mutsuko Reed
Joyce Tomoe Yoshikawa | 20 Satoshi Yasumoto | 29 Kiku Yanagihara
Shotaro Nose
Kamato Akamine
Chiyoe Kameoka
Teruo Gushikuma |
| 7 Matsujiro Tanimura | 14 Umetaro Ogata
James Yuichi Nose
Thomas Tamikichi Yasuda
Naoji Nishimura
Yoshiko Tanigawa
Tsuruko Gushikuma
Curtis Tokue Uehara
Ken Kenichi Miyoshi | 21 Tokutsuchi Saeki
The Saeki Family
George Kiyoshi Kimoto
Masao Yano
Seiichi Kimura
Judith K. Kodama
Hikato Okamura | 30 Seiichi Tsuchiya
The Tsuchiya Family
Hatsuyo Yoshioka
Michael Koji Hadano |
| | 15 Masagoro Kitagawa | 22 Emiko Hirai
The Hirai Family
Kama Chinen
The Chinen Family
Tsurumatsu Miyamasu
The Miyamasu Family
Umekichi Yamachika
The Yamachika & Matsushige Family
Kikuyo Goto
Harold Torao Hamasaki
Kazuyoshi Homareda | 31 Hira Yamane
The Yamane & Harada Family
Frances Sachiko Johnson Ito
Teruyo Kishii
Yoshikazu Wada
Wilfred Masaichi Taira
The Agari Uebaru Family
The Naka Uebaru Family
The Uebaru Guwa Family |
| | | 23 Tsuru Nakamura
The Nakamura Family
Teruo Asai
Hideko Wada
Giichi Kawamura
Setsuko Onaga | |
| | | 24 Totsuchi Namba
The Namba Totsuchi Family(2)
Tokutsuchi Muranaka
The Muranaka Family | |

9:30am Morning Service Everyday
Note: Time may change due to
 Covid-19 Schedule

December 2020

Jodo Mission of Hawaii
 Phone: 949-3995
 Website: www.jodo.us

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6 9:30 HBC Virtual Bodhi Day Service Online	7	8	9	10 Ministers & Wives Workshop 12/10 or 12/14 Virtual	11	12
13 8:00 am Temple Cleaning Day 11:00 Board Mtg	14 Ministers & Wives Workshop 12/10 or 12/14—Virtual	15	16	17	18	19
20 10 am Sunday Service	21	22	23	24	25	26
27 10:00 Sunday Service	28	29	30	31 11:30 pm New Year's Eve Service		

HIGHLIGHT OF EVENTS:

Dec. 6 at 9:30 am HBC Virtual Jodo-e (Bodhi Day) online!
 Dec. 13 at 8:00 am General Clean-up—WE NEED YOUR HELP!
 Dec. 31 at 11:30 pm New Year's Eve Service
 Jan. 1 at 10 am—New Year's Day Service
 Jan. 14 Deadline for Chutoba Order
 Jan. 24 at 10 am Gyoki-e Service or memorial service for St. Honen
 Jan. 31 at 10 am Sun Service, General Membership Meeting

Jodo Shu Calendar for December 2020:

Trust is one of life's precious properties.

NO Meetings or Classes in December for
 Fujinkai, YBA, Sewing Circle & Sunday School

Bazaar Donations will not be accepted temporarily. Thank you for your understanding.

Membership Dues (Gojikai) REMINDER: If you have not paid your membership dues (\$60) for this year or would like to pay for 2021, please do so by making your check payable to **Jodo Mission of Hawaii** (mail to 1429 Makiki Street, Honolulu, HI 96814). *Thank you.*