

Information on O-Toba for 2021

Dear Members and Friends of Jodo Mission:

Thank you very much for your support to Jodo Mission. We hope you are enjoying a very safe and peaceful New Year. Time passes so quickly! It is time to order your O-Toba.

What is an O-Toba? An O-Toba is a long wooden memorial tablet with the name or names of your ancestors written to honor them. An O-Toba is like a hotel room for your ancestors and during the O-Bon period, your ancestors' spirits return from the Pure Land and stay in the O-Toba. Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, 2020 O-Bon services were done virtually and the links are still available at jodo.us if you wish to see it again. The virtual program was beautifully put together by Bishop Ishikawa. This year 2021, we may have to do O-Bon virtually again but as summer gets closer, we will have updated information.

You should be receiving your 2021 O-Toba order form.

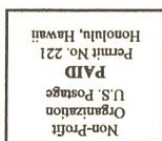
Please fill out the form and specify whether you request the writing in Japanese or English. If in Japanese, please provide the proper kanji as there may be many ways of writing kanji.

Because of the Temple's busy summer schedule and the continuing of the new O-Toba, **the deadline to order your O-Toba is Monday, March 1st.** Our O-Bon services will be held on **July 16-18** (Fri-Sun). If, for some reason, you did not receive the O-Toba form, please contact Jodo Mission office at 949-3995.

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

In Gassho,

Jodo Mission of Hawaii



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

JODO MISSION OF HAWAII
BULLETIN - FEBRUARY 2021

(#1291-0221)



MESSAGE FROM BISHOP KOSEN ISHIKAWA

Akemashite Omedeto gozaimasu!

This is a Japanese way to say “**Happy New Year**” but what it really means is quite different from English expression “Happy New Year” that is to wish you to have a Happy New Year. Because this is a good wish in the future, you can say “Happy New Year!” before the new year comes. On the other hand, “**Akemashite Omedeto**” is a word of celebration that New Year has come after daybreak.



“Akemashite” literally means “it has brighten up” and “Omedeto (gozaimasu)” means “congratulations.” Nowadays we understand a day starts with midnight but in old days, a brand-new day starts with sunrise. Therefore, you cannot say “Akemashite Omedeto” before the new year comes.

Another interesting opinion about this expression is, “Akemashite Omedeto” was originally to celebrate birthday for everyone since New Year Day had been birthday for all in Japan. This old way of counting age is called “**Kazoe-doshi**” and in this way, everyone added one year to their age on New Year Day, starting from one year old when you are born.

This kind of difference can be seen on many occasions even in the common greeting in the morning. Here we say “**Good morning**” but Japanese say “**Ohayo (gozaimasu)**.” Many people think they are the same meaning, but meanings are actually different.

Just like “Happy New Year”, “Good morning” is a word to wish you to have a good time in the morning. On the other hand, “Ohayo” literally means “Early” and “Ohayo” is just a word talking about “now it’s early.”

I think Japanese tend to celebrate “this present moment”, whereas Americans tend to express wishing for the future. I remember when we were planning to have the First birthday party for my son, our dear older members advised us not to have a party before the birthday. This was because quite a number of babies could not survive to one year old in old days. So, I knew it would be meaningful to make sure we wait until his birthday and do the big celebration of the first birthday with appreciation.

Then you may have a question that **why you are encouraged to have a memorial service before the memorial date?** This is one of the most frequently asked questions from our members. We are often asked, when should the family have a memorial service for their beloved one. According to our understanding of birthday, you cannot hold it before the memorial date but the truth is you are encouraged to do it before the day comes.

Why? I think there are at least two reasons. First, to observe memorial service days after the date sounds like being rude to our beloved one. It sounds like we have forgotten the date when we do it after the date of passing. Another reason is our unpredictable life. Since life is always feeling that nothing is certain, there is no guarantee that we could observe a memorial day. In order to avoid unpredictable happenings, it may be better not to wait for the memorial date but do it before the date. In this way, we are assured that the memorial day for our deceased loved one will be observed and not late.

Our founder of Jodo Shu, Honen Shonin (1133-1212) left a short poem.

With “(Namu) Amida Butsu” ten times, I go to sleep after this recitation,
since it may be an eternal sleep.

[cont'd Bishop's Message]

Honen Shonin was always mindful of death and realized he could die any time, especially before sleeping. Thus, he ends his day with **Namu Amida Butsu** since it might be impossible to wake up in the morning. However, thanks to his chanting of “**Namu Amida Butsu**” he was always peaceful and calm and no doubt about birth in the Pure Land after death.

As we welcome this new year, let us all realize life is unpredictable and therefore treasure and celebrate this moment with appreciation. And let us all recite **Namu Amida Butsu** always so that we keep receiving blessings and protection by Amida Buddha. **Namu Amida Butsu**

Gassho,

Bishop Kosen Ishikawa

Sunday School Christmas Surprise!

Since 2020 was not a good year, **Rev. Takano, Mrs. Yukari Narashiba and Sophie Narashiba became Santa Sensei with his driver and helper.** Students had to stay at home most of 2020 and had studies via internet. They wanted the Sunday School students and senior Sunday School students to be happy at Christmas with wonderful presents. [Note in photos Santa Sensei also got a mask that matched his outfit.]



On the Sunday before Christmas, Santa Sensei, driver Yukari-san and helper Sophie went on their Christmas journey.

They visited the following:

The **Shinozaki family** with Honori, Kokone and Nakai Sensei.

The **Kaneda family** with Himawari and mother Naomi;

The **Parasso family** with A'Marie and Strider.

The **Fujikawa family** with Wyatt and parents Marsha and Herbert.

The **Nii family** with Takeru and mother Makoh.

Jo Ann Matsuo who always helps Sunday School.

They were not able to visit the **Guris family** but mother **Mallika** picked up gifts for Declan and Jax.

Santa Sensei had so much fun delivering gifts to Sunday School and parents and seeing all their wonderful smiles made their Christmas journey memorable. Last photo is of Santa Sensei waiting for his ride at a bus stop.

In the end, please put your hands together in gassho and recite Amida Buddha's sacred name—**Namu Amida Butsu**.



Buddha's Memorial Day Service (Nehan-e) **Sunday, February 14th at 10 a.m.**

Nehan-e is the Memorial Day Service for Shakyamuni Buddha. He is the founder of Buddhism. He passed away at the age of 80 about 2500 years ago on February 15.

"Nehan" is "Nirvana" in Sanskrit. "Nirvana" means the state of things after a fire has been put out. In other words, it means that Shakyamuni Buddha put out the fire of bad things human beings have in their minds; such as, anger, confusion, sorrow and so on. Then, he completely reached Enlightenment on that day. It is said that Shakyamuni Buddha achieved Enlightenment at the age of 35 and then spent the rest of his life teaching his wisdom throughout much of northern India. After nearly 45 years of lecturing, he and a number of his loyal disciples journeyed toward the place of his birth. During this journey, Buddha experienced much pain from his illness and knew his time on earth was coming to an end but still continued to his birthplace. When his pain became unbearable and he had to stop moving, his disciples prepared a bed for him under a sala tree where he could rest. He still continued to preach his sermons and told his disciples that they must continue to practice his teachings and strive for enlightenment.

Thanks to Shakyamuni Buddha, we can live with his wonderful teachings. Shall we express our great appreciation to Shakyamuni Buddha on this Nehan Service. **The service will be held on Sunday, February 14th at 10:00 am.** We look forward to your attendance.

New Year Eve/New Year Day at Jodo Mission of Hawaii

At both the New Year Eve on December 31 at 11:30 pm and New Year's Day Service on January 1st at 10:00 am, Rev. Takano played a message from Bishop Ishikawa.

At both events we did not have very many people but those that attended had a chance on New Year Eve to help ring the bell to dispel the 108 different kinds of evil thoughts or things in our lives and get ready to welcome the new year. Those who attended were given a small bowl of soba noodles, with sauce and green onions to take home and eat soba and welcome the new year.

Hawaii Herald had wonderful photos of our New Year Eve service with the bell ringing.

On New Year's Day, Rev. Takano gave blessings to everyone who attended. Because of Covid, we were worried that we might have too many people and were prepared to have the overflow people go to our social hall and view the service virtually and as people received their blessings, and left, they would be able to come to the temple. But luckily, it was not needed.



Jodo Shu Masks

Jodo Shu Masks , designed by **Ms. Stacey Hayashi** , will be available to purchase at Jodo Mission of Hawaii. One size but mask string adjustable. For ordering mask, contact the office. Each mask costs \$10.00. Please call 949-3995 to put in your order and send payment to **Jodo Mission of Hawaii**, 1429 Makiki Street, Honolulu, HI 96814



There are two types of masks available—one with the Jodo Shu logo and the second is with the little girl on the second mask is a legendary Japanese mermaid monster called “**Amabie**”. Amabie is pronounced Ah-mah-bee-ey. It is said that this monster advised, “Draw me and show me to the people so they can be free from disease.”

Amabie is a kind of monster or spirit known as *yokai*, the earliest written records of

which date back some 1200 years ago. Japanese have traditionally drawn yokai as a process of bringing fears and hopes out of the subconscious onto paper. This mythical mermaid monster has made a resurgence in Japan’s culture as people hoped for the end of the coronavirus. Stacy has made the mythical mermaid a little cuter.



Open Letter to All Honolulu Jodo Shu Fujinkai Members

With the COVID-19 pandemic, the Fujinkai ladies have not been able to meet regularly on the first Sunday of the month. Our last monthly meeting was on March 1, 2020. Each year in February, the Fujinkai ladies gather for a New Years party and have fun and fellowship. Unfortunately, with the pandemic, we are sorry we are **UNABLE TO HAVE A NEW YEARS PARTY** this year..

However, we still need to have our **General Membership meeting of the Honolulu Jodo Shu Fujinkai to carry on our business, which is now scheduled for Sunday, February 21, at 10:45 a.m.** One item on the agenda is the Election of Officers. At this time, the slate of officers is as follows:



President:	Sally Hayashi
Vice President	Gail Okamura
Recording Secretary	Christine Inouye
Treasurer	Yukari Narashiba
Assistant Treasurer	Gail Masaki
Auditor (1)	Doris Soma
Honorary Shuji	Bishop Kosen Ishikawa

Note: There is an opening for an Assistant Recording Secretary , if anyone wants to volunteer.

If possible, we would like as many of the Fujinkai members to attend this general meeting on February 21. **If you are unable to attend but would like to vote on the slate of officers, would you kindly contact the Jodo Mission office at 949-3995** as to whether you agree or disagree with this slate of officers. *Thank you for your support.*

What is “Perpetual Memorial Service?” (Eitaikyo)

This record of a perpetual memorial service and is called Eitaikyo in Japanese. When the date of death occurs for a person listed on this record, the ministers pray for that individual during the morning service. The prayers will continue each year for as long as Jodo Mission exists.

Anyone can be included in it. You may put your own name on the list, too. This also helps when it is difficult to have memorial services. We also welcome you to attend the morning service at 9:30am.

How to apply

Stop by the office, and fill out the application form. Each name costs \$200. After the application is accepted, the name will be listed on the record.

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 Mon to Sat

12 pm to 3 pm Sunday*

10 am to 3 pm Holidays

*Sundays no one in office since we have Sunday Service

2021 Memorial Years Observed

1 st year	2020
3 rd year	2019
7 th year	2015
13 th year	2009
17 th year	2005
23 rd year	1999
25 th year	1997
27 th year	1995
33 rd year	1989
37 th year	1985
43 rd year	1979
47 th year	1975
50 th year	1972
100 th year	1922

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!

REMINDERS

Gojikai or Membership—\$60.00 per year

Persons of the same family but living separately should have their own membership

Nokotsudo owners should continue your Membership or Gojikai each year **\$60.00**

AND

Maintenance fee \$5.00 per year per niche



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 February

- | | | | |
|---|--|---|---|
| 1. Itaro Yanagihara
The Yanagihara Family
Kisaburo Teraoka
The Teraoka Family
The Mitani Family
Sumako Kishii | The Yamamoto Family
Kame Uyehara
The Uyehara Family
Michie Watanabe
Jimmy Nestegard
Chiyo Tanaka
J Jackson Miiyagawa | Family
Tsutako Yamanaka
The Yamanaka Family
Matsuyo Machida
Otome Takara
Tomiko "Ruth" Inouye
Cory Ikuta
Masae Matsumoto | Noboru Hirano
Shigeru Takara
Tatsuki Hirano
Matsuye Hirano
Keiji Kokubun |
| 2 Kuma Kawamura
The Kawamura Family
Robert Hiroshi Yamanaka
Dorothy Mieko Oshita
Hideo Takamatsu
Yasuko Tanaka
Sueyo Nakamura | 11 Minekichi Taniguchi
The Taniguchi Family
Tsuneko Nago
The Nago & Kunitomo
Family
Rev. Shuen Inouye
Townsend
Sue Nishimoto (2)
Noboru Yamasaki
Kameyo Fujita
Hisae Yamato | 19 Chozo Kawano
The Kawano Family
Eijiro Murakami
The Murakami &
Yamamoto Family
Ishi Matsuda
Eijiro Murakami
The Murakami Family | 28 Fukuichi Fukuda
Mitsuyo Gladys Yoshiwara
The Goichi Kawamura
Family
Tsuru Kuniyuki |
| 3 Rymond Hisashi Narahara
Ayame Kano
Hazel Mitsuko Imai | | 20 Ryozo Hamada
The Hamada Family
Magoichi Mineishi
The Mineishi Family
Taro Takara
Tomoyo Takara
Kimie Matsuda
Suye Takabayashi
Natsuko Aoki
The Takara Family | 29 Nobue Kochi |
| 4 Kii Hirohama
The Hirohama Family
Kiyoe Soma
Robert Takashi Maehara | 12 Sumie Kanayama
The Kanayama Family
Bishop Shinkyo Tachikawa
Doris Umeno Nojima
Yoshihiro Hata | 21 Tamotsu Kuniyuki
Momoyo Yoshida
Kikue W. Awaya | |
| 5 Hatsu Konaka
The Yano, Konaka &
Hayashi Family
Gorokichi Ishida
The Ishida and Aimoto
Family
Misao Mitsuyasu
The Mitsuyasu Family
Masaharu Kotake
Tsugio Hayase
Shigeyo Kawano
Harumi Mayeda
Sumiko Sakaguchi | 13 Torajiro Kusunoki
The Kusunoki Family
Ichiro Yasumoto
Fusakichi Kawanishi
Haruyo Tarumoto
Seijiro Takabayashi | 22 Yoshi Hayashi
The Yano, Konaka &
Hayashi Family
Kinu Nishimura (2) | |
| 6 Matsuemon Tanimura (2)
The Tanimura Family (2)
The Sawaichi Nakagawa
Family
Kimi Higashi
Misae Ichida
Bunji Kishii (2)
Umeyo Yamamoto
Dr. Yasuhiko Hayashi
Patrick Seiji Yamamoto | 14 Hajime Nishimoto
The Nishimoto Family
Kensuke Hironaka
The Hironaka & Ishimoto
Family
Sae Tachikawa
Hiroshi Sato
Raymond Shizuo Asaumi
Shigeyo Otani
Takeji Gushikuma
Matsu Kiyuna
George Satoshi Tarumoto
Kikuye Homareda
Eleanor Emiko Nishimura | 23 Taichi Sato
Tsutae Tanimura | |
| 7 Namiye Nakamura
Tsugi Hifumi
Yoshizo Muramoto
Byron T. Shimotsukasa | 15 Fred Kiyoshi Tsukiyama
Otake Takara | 24 Kame Akamine
The Akamine Family
Kikuno Hisamura
Kamesuke Nakahama
Peggy Takiko Yanagihara | |
| 8 Toshio Higa
The Higa Family
Yukie Higashi
Tame Ito
Stella Masako Takamatsu | 16 Shigeru Asaumi
The Asaumi Family
Yukio Nakagawa
Motoo Muramoto | 25 Sue Maeda
The Maeda Family
Shinichi Takao
The Takao Family
Takayo Matsuo
The Matsuo Family
Shigeki Umemoto
The Yoza Family
The Shimabukuro Family
Tamotsu Nakamura
Florence Kimie Karimoto | |
| 9 Haruyo Yanagihara
The Yanagihara Family
Minoru Okawa
The Okawa Family
Kishichi Yoshikawa
Kimie Tanaka
Yoshiteru Sakaguchi
Miyono Shimoda | 17 Masuyo Shimokawa
The Shimokawa Family
Kinzaburo Makino
The Makino Family
Kazuyo Hashimoto
Choshiro Ikuta
Tsuchiyo Fujimoto
Reiko Hata
Alfred Akira Tanaka
Frederick Kinzaburo
Makino | 26 Jirosaku Otani
The Otani & Yanagihara
Family
Shiro Fukuda
Richard Kiyomi Ochiai
Robert Bobby Mitsuyasu
Stanley Ryosei Matayoshi | |
| 10 Satomi Yamamoto | 18 Reiji Yamane
The Yamane & Harada | 27 Taichi Wakaki
The Wakaki Family
Keiko Hanano | |

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.

Curtis Masao	
Noborikawa	95
Walter Maso Nakasone	80
Herbert Shoichi Nakaue	88

9:30am Morning Service Everyday

Note: Time may change due to
Covid-19 Schedule

February 2021

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

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7 10:00am Obetsuji Service	8	9	10	11	12	13
10:00am Nehan-e Family Service						
14 11:45 am Board Meeting	15	16	17	18	19	20
10:00am Sunday Ser-						
10:45am Fujinkai General						
21 Membership Mtg	22	23	24	25	26	27
10:00 am Sunday Service	Jodo Shu Calendar for February 2021: There will be new					
28	challenges—let's prepare for them, one step at a time.					

.....
COMING EVENTS:

.....
Deadline for O-Toba Orders: March 1
Spring Higan Service: March 21 @ 10 am
.....

Fujinkai: Feb 21, at 10:45 am

General Membership Meeting
after Sunday Service

Sunday School

No Sunday School

Bazaar Donations are NOT being accepted until Covid allows Bazaar. *Thank you for your patience.*

Sewing Circle: No Class in February;
Senior YBA: No meeting

.....
Membership Dues (Gojikai) REMINDER: Please pay your membership dues (\$60) for this year and if you did not pay for 2020, we would appreciate you doing so by making your check payable to **Jodo Mission of Hawaii** (mail to 1429 Makiki Street, Honolulu, HI 96814). *Thank you.*
.....