

MESSAGE FROM BISHOP KOSEN ISHIKAWA

Dear members and friends of Jodo Mission,

Aloha Kakou. Thank you very much for your ongoing support and cooperation. Time flies, and soon it will be April—a time for the Hanamatsuri (Buddha's Birthday Celebration) and the Koinobori (Carp Streamer) Celebration. Also I would like to express my deepest condolences to the families of our members who have passed away recently and hope that we can continue to offer our spiritual support.

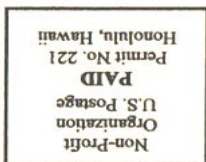


How have you all been during these first three months of the new year? I imagine you have all been very busy. I can hardly believe it is already April. Three months have passed in the blink of an eye. Reflecting on it, December—previously known as "Shiwasu"—is a time when even monks must rush around. After the hustle of mochi pounding, year-end parties, Christmas gatherings, and other events, we barely have a moment to relax before welcoming the New Year. Then, many organizations hold one of their biggest events of the year—the New Year's gathering—followed by celebrations like the Lunar New Year and the Super Bowl, bringing families together once more. I believe that the reason time feels like it flies by so quickly is that these three months are packed with so many events.

However, if we think about it carefully, being busy is, in a way, a great blessing. When we are busy, we neither dwell on the past nor worry about the future—we simply live in the present. We call it "happiness." Of course, there are many definitions of "happiness," and each person has their own. Some find happiness in reading, watching movies, engaging in sports, pursuing hobbies, or love. Others may feel happiest when doing nothing at all. But what do all these have in common? I have always believed that happiness comes from "being busy."

Why is reading enjoyable? Because we are so engaged in following the words that we become immersed in the world of the book. Why is baseball exciting? Because we are so focused on chasing the ball that we forget everything else. Like many of you, I am a huge fan of Shohei Ohtani. When he hits a home run, the sheer force of the ball overwhelms me, and I forget

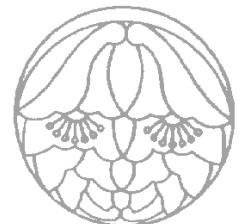
[Cont'd on page 2]



Address Service Requested

Jodo Mission of Hawaii
1429 Makiki St.
Honolulu HI 96814

JODO MISSION OF HAWAII
BULLETIN - APRIL 2025
(#1350-0425)



everything, experiencing a profound sense of happiness. Some people might say they feel happiest when doing nothing and just spacing out. At first glance, "being busy" and "doing nothing" may seem contradictory, but in reality, those who find happiness in doing nothing are actually "busy doing nothing." In other words, the moments we feel truly happy are the moments when we are deeply engaged in something. Conversely, when we are not engaged in anything, it is difficult to feel happy.

Take reading, for example. If we are not busy following the words, our minds wander, and we cannot fully immerse ourselves in the book. The same goes for movies—if a movie is uninteresting, we do not get engrossed in watching it, and we start thinking about other things, making it difficult to feel happiness.

Buddhism is a teaching of happiness, and practices such as meditation and chanting are ways to cultivate happiness. By deeply focusing on meditation or by chanting wholeheartedly, we can experience joy. As you may know, breathing is fundamental to meditation. We inhale with deep focus to replenish our energy and exhale with full concentration. By engaging in these actions with intention, we truly live in the present. However, if we fail to focus on our breathing, thoughts of past regrets and future worries creep into our minds. The same is true for chanting the Nenbutsu. When we sincerely think of Amida Buddha, express gratitude for His compassion, and wholeheartedly wish to be reborn in His Pure Land, chanting *Namu Amida Butsu* allows us to forget everything and immerse ourselves completely in the practice, leading to an incredible sense of happiness.

However, this requires training. But the wonderful thing about the Nenbutsu is that simply chanting it brings benefits. Even if stray thoughts arise while chanting, it does not matter at all—this is what Honen Shonin taught us.

"If we live, we accumulate the merits of the Nenbutsu; if we die, we are born into the Pure Land. Whatever happens, there is nothing to worry about in this life"
Honen Shonin (1133-1212)

As long as we continue chanting the Nenbutsu while alive, we can accumulate merit, and when our lives end, with these accumulated merits, we are born in the Pure Land. Understanding this fully, we need not trouble ourselves with thoughts of life and death. It is truly a wonderful teaching, and whenever I think of this, I cannot help but recite Nenbutsu. 'Namu Amida Butsu' naturally come to my lips."

Needless to say, the very fact that we are alive is truly a blessing, made possible by immense support and countless blessings. With the intention of sharing this gratitude, honoring, respecting, and encouraging the people in the past, present, and future, we began the Koinobori Celebration. This year marks our fourth annual event.

Thanks to everyone's understanding, cooperation, and the generous support of many sponsors, we displayed 800 koinobori (carp streamers) last year and hopefully many more Koinobori this year. By raising so many colorful koinobori, we hope they will flutter against the blue Hawaiian sky, bringing encouragement and inspiration to the community. We would be truly grateful for any further support in sponsoring additional koinobori.

This year, the opening ceremony is scheduled for **Sunday, April 13**, featuring a Taiko performance by *Dragon Beat Hawaii* and hula performance. Additionally, we will host a Japanese

[Cont'd Bishop's Message]

cultural month, including special talk by **Sensei Grant “Sandaa” Murata**, a master of Okinawan classical music and the *Sanshin* (Okinawan three-stringed instrument), as well as introduction of Japanese Culture by **Mr. Nate Gyotoku**, President of JCCH (Japanese Cultural Center of Hawaii), kyūdō (Japanese archery) by **Hawaii Kyudokai Group** and Kendo (the way of sword) by **Sensei Christopher Goodin**. **Please do not miss out on these special presentations and talks!**

For more details and updates, please visit www.jodo.us or www.hawaii-jodo.net. We hope to welcome as many people as possible to join us in this celebration!

Once again, thank you very much for everything. Please stay safe and healthy. We look forward to seeing you soon.

Mahalo with Gassho,
Bishop Kosen Ishikawa

Hawaii Buddhist Council Buddha Day Service 2025

Date: Sunday, April 6, 20245
@ 9:30 am (HST)

Place: Soto Mission of Hawaii
1708 Nuuanu Ave, Hon, HI

Guest Speaker: **Jay Sakashita, PhD.**
Religion Professor
Leeward Community College

Parking: Soto Mission of Hawaii
SEEQS Charter School
Honpa Hongwanji Hawaii Betsuin



Hawaii Jodo Shu Rengo Fujinkai Scholarship -Namiye Nakamura Scholarship

The Hawaii Jodo Shu Rengo Fujinkai offers a \$1,000 Namiye Nakamura Scholarship to a Hawaii high school graduate or a member of the temple who wishes to further his/her education toward a degree or advanced degree in an accredited college, university or institution of higher learning.

Deadline to submit applications must be postmarked by **June 15, 2025** and sent to the **State Fujinkai President on Maui**. The family or legal guardian of the applicant must be a member of his/her respective Jodo Mission.

For more information, please call temple office at (808) 949-3995 for application, criteria for scholarship, etc.



JODO MISSION KOINOBORI CELEBRATION 2025

Dear Members and Friends,

Thank you very much for your ongoing support to our temple. We are very happy to announce the continuation of the “Koinobori Celebration” to display many colorful Koinobori streamers here at Jodo Mission in order to celebrate all lives.

We plan to have an opening ceremony **on Sunday, April 13 at 10:00 am** with opening prayer, followed by presentation of Hula and Taiko performance by Master Tsutomu Nakai with Dragon Beat Hawaii.

This year, we are excited to introduce a Japanese Cultural Month, providing opportunities to deepen our understanding and appreciation of Japanese culture. Throughout the month of Koinobori, we will have the privilege of hearing from various Sensei as they share their insights and experiences. For more information, please check our **jodo.us** or **hawaii.jodo.net** websites.

Again this year, we would like to ask your sponsorship to display “Koinobori” here at the temple. The more koinobori you sponsor, the more spectacular it will be to attract much more people. At the same time, this could be a great help for our financial situation.

If you were a sponsor for our Koinobori streamers of the past three years, we will continue to honor your names and messages inside the temple. You don't need to order Koinobori. However, if you would like to sponsor additional Koinobori or to be a new sponsor, please use the following sponsorship form. The sponsor fee for the smaller Koinobori is \$10, \$20 for bigger size Koinobori and \$100 for the family set of Koinobori.

All the sponsor names with messages will be displayed with carp-shaped paper tag inside the temple. There is no deadline but Koinobori will be displayed from April 13 until May 17. Please help us to display Koinobori to celebrate lives. Again thank you very much

Gassho, Bishop Kosen Ishikawa

Jodo Mission Koinobori Celebration Sponsorship

Sponsor Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Message : e.g. In honor of / In celebration of / In memory of _____



Size: Small Koinobori (about 15 inch) \$10 x _____ (Quantity)= _____

Bigger Koinobori (over 20 inch) \$20 x _____ (Quantity)= _____

Family Set Koinobori \$100 x _____ (Quantity) _____

(Color of Koinobori is random) Grand Total _____

Please make checks payable to “Jodo Mission of Hawaii” and mail to 1429 Makiki Street, Hon., HI 96814

For Office Use Only

Message / Y/ N

Order accepted /Received by _____ Date paid ___/___/2025 (In person/Mail/ By phone) (Cash / Check # _____)



Ozoni at New Years

Sunday Services

Please attend our Sunday Service. You might be surprised. Thank you.

Setsubun Bean throwing to symbolically drive away evil spirits.



Group photo of Taisho University students and teacher on February 9, 2025



Oni has arrived.

Bishop has a lot of peanuts which people used to drive the oni or evil spirit away.



Professor Emeritus Tsukasa Takahashi and Sayuri Takahashi of PonoPono, Bukkyo University visited us on Sunday, March 23rd. Pono Pono is storytelling, using a felt board, cutouts and music.



VISION FOR THE FUTURE (5)

By The Late Bishop Yubun Narashiba

Japanese Buddhism in Hawaii has a very unique cultural background. In Japan, Buddhist customs differ from village to village, town to town, prefecture to prefecture. This is because Buddhism has been localized to fit to the custom in each area. Since Japanese immigrants came to Hawaii from the various regions of Japan, ceremonial customs are different according to the area where the family came from. However, as time passes, those customs are becoming unclear and more confusing for the younger generations. Because of this confusion, younger generations seem to be going away from Buddhism by saying that Buddhism is hard to understand. Therefore, in this article, I would like to explain the standard procedure of doing a service. First, let me show you the two common procedures of having funerals among the members of Jodo Mission of Hawaii.



1. When Someone Passed Away

- Death
- Medical examination
- Call for a minister
- Makuragyo (Bedside service)
- Call for a mortuary
- Body pick-up
- Meeting with the funeral director at the mortuary
- Viewing service
- Cremation
- FUNERAL with the first 7th day service**
- 49th day service
- Burial service
- Hatsubon (1st O-Bon) service
- 1 year memorial service

2. When Someone Is Very Close To Death

- Call for a minister
- Rinju Gyogi (Last rites)
- Death
- Medical examination
- Call for a mortuary
- Body pick-up
- Meeting with the funeral director at the mortuary
- Viewing service
- Cremation
- FUNERAL with the first 7th day service**
- 49th day service
- Burial service
- Hatsubon (1st O-Bon) service
- 1 year memorial service

Note: Above two service procedures are purely for informational purpose. We shall honor your family customs and decisions to arrange a funeral service. ****Editor's note:** This article is a reprint from our August 2011 issue. This article contains information you will need to know some day. We will continue to reprint it from time to time as space permits.

What is Perpetual Memorial Service (Eitaikyo)

When the date of death of a deceased occurs, ministers do prayers on this anniversary date each year. Prayer services are held each day at 9:30 am (times may change due to scheduling). This perpetual memorial service is called *Eitaikyo* in Japanese.

Please contact temple office if you are interested..

Notice to Nokotsudo Visitors

(Sometimes referred to as the Niche rooms)

Many people call to see if the Nokotsudo/Columbarium (or sometimes known as Niche rooms) are open. We let people in if you come and ring the blue bell. **We recommend you 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, with 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

REMINDERS

Gojikai or Membership—\$80.00 per year

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

Niche owners should continue their Membership or Gojikai each year (Gojikai is paid only once each year). **AND**

Maintenance donation \$5.00 per year per niche

Become a Jodo Mission Member!

If you're coming to services, volunteers at events, and/or donates to the temple, please become a Jodo Mission member for \$80 a year!

Thank you for your understanding.

Memorial Years Observed

1 st year	2024
3 rd year	2023
7 th year	2019
13 th year	2013
17 th year	2009
23 rd year	2003
25 th year	2001
27 th year	1999
33 rd year	1993
37 th year	1989
43 rd year	1983
47 th year	1979
50 th year	1976
100 th year	1926

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 & phone number.

Mail forwarded because you moved also adds additional costs. Thank you for your cooperation.

お知らせ

2023年より年間護持会費（メンバーシップ費）が、一世帯につき年間80ドルへと変更になりました。お住まいの家族世帯が別の場合は個々にメンバーシップが必要となります。

また、納骨堂（ニッチ）内に納骨棚を所有の方は、護寺会費とは別途、5ドルの年間管理費をお納めください。

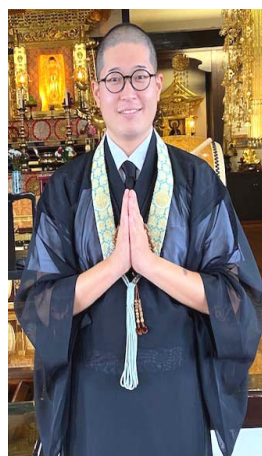
皆様にはご負担をおかけしますが、ご理解ご協力のほどよろしくお願い致します。 合掌



Bishop Kosen Ishikawa



Rev. Myoko Takano
Resident Minister



Rev. Takaaki Kouken
Tanabe
Resident Minister

Jodo Mission Office Hours:

[New Hours]

Monday to Saturday

10am—5pm

Sunday & Holidays

10am—3pm

Phone: (808) 949-3995

Website: www.jodo.us

Parking: NO PARKING in Reserved stalls. Thank you

EITAIKYO (Perpetual Memorial Service) for April

- | | | | |
|--|--|--|---|
| <p>1 Yasuemon Kajioaka
The Kajioaka & Morita
Family
Yae Ogata
Mitsuko Arakawa
Bessie Shimoyo
Karamatsu
Seiichi Kimura
George Kaname Sakuda
Carl Kaoru Saito
Masaye Oyama
The Kagimoto Family</p> | <p>Alan Sukeharu Masaki</p> <p>11 Tsunekichi Matsuno
The Matsuno Family
Sadako Yokoyama
The Yokoyama & Morita
Family
Teru Sakuda
The Sakuda Family
Sada Harada
The Kohatsu Family
Yoshiko Hara
Orin Fumio Hakoda</p> | <p>Motoo Ueda
The Ueda Family
Maka Tamanaha
The Tamanaha Family
Matsutaro Shimizu
Isamu Yoshioka
Thomas Rai
Ellen Shizuka
Yanagisawa
Myles Mitsuo Hirota</p> | <p>Misao Yamane
Masa Okamoto Miyao
Ume Kawamura
Stanley Y. Ogomori
Tsuyuko Kaneda
Fumiye Teruya
Marian Tsuyuko
Yamamoto</p> |
| <p>2 Ryosaku Maeda
The Maeda Family
Shuzaburo Kunihiro
The Kunihiro Family
Masao Kamihara
James Isamu Tomita
The Hoichi Nishimura
Family
Clarence Hajime
Shimotsukasa</p> | <p>12 Naka Nakamura
Toshiko Umemoto
Chiyono Toyomura
Beatrice Akiko Buna</p> <p>13 Yasuko Daitoku
The Daitoku & Fujimoto
Family
Kayo Doi
Tsuyo Uchiumi
Zentoku Uyehara
Yasu Iguchi
Herbert Masashi
Yamane
Mattie W. Murphy
Yachie Kinoshita</p> | <p>20 Hiroshi Ohta
Mantsu Takara
Shozaemon Matsumoto
Mildred Yukiko
Toshikiyo Ito
Elaine Michie Miyakawa</p> <p>21 Naomi Takara
Genichi Tamura
Kikue Kakimoto
Masami Yano</p> <p>22 Kyoichi Koyama
The Koyama Family
Chieko Miyakawa
Hiroshi Nakai
The Nakai Family
Kazu Saiki
Kyoichi Koyama
Francis Sadamu
Furutani, Jr.</p> | <p>29 Mitsuyo Kamioka
The Kamioka & Hanaoka
Family
Tatsuyo Ohara (2)
The Ohara Family
Tsuchi Kajioaka
Heijiro Asai
Tsune Uesugi
Yukiji Kamioka
Manzuchi Higashi
Kazuto Hamada
Hatsumi Nakamura
Yoshiyo Yanagihara
Tatsuyo Ohara
Mitsuyo Kanai Yoshida
Mitoshi Tanaka (2)
Tetsuo Oyama</p> |
| <p>3 Kinjuro Ajimura
The Ajimura Family
Katsuichi Takeda
The Takeda Family
Takeo Kuniyuki
Katsusaburo Yamamoto
Kikue Kubota</p> | <p>14 Heiji Yasumoto
The Yasumoto Family
Yoshi Okamura (2)
Kiyoto Kawaoka</p> <p>15 Toso Kamisato
The Kamisato Family
The Aoki Family
Mikayo Higashimura
Toshiro Kawabe
The Kawabe Family
Masakane Himuro
Kenji Hayashi
Toshiko Sumida
Nishimoto
William Hatsuichi
Kishimoto
Loretta Masayo Fujikami</p> | <p>23 Bishop Sensho Fukuda
Moushi Uyehara
Harriet Yeiko Gushikuma
Shigeichi Aoki
Tom Shigeo Muranaka
Richard Tadataka
Nomiyama</p> <p>24 Setsuyo Misawa (2)
The Misawa & Watanabe
Family
The Misawa Family
Yoshio Kunimoto
Setsuko Kondo</p> <p>25 Michizo Imaguchi (2)
The Imaguchi Family
Tsunegoro Iwamoto
Yasuko Ueda
Soichi Sakai</p> | <p>30 Tsuru Matsuno
The Matsuno Family
Esa Yamane
The Yamane & Harada
Family
Kume Nakamoto
The Nakamoto &
Sakagawa Family
Shigetaka Imada
Miyoko Shindo</p> |
| <p>4 Masayo Kusunoki
The Kusunoki Family
Shinichi Amakawa
The Amakawa Family
Hitomi Miyaura</p> | <p>16 Bunsuke Isobe
The Isobe Family
Ryu Tsurusaki
The Tsurusaki & Inada
Family
Masatoshi Umemoto
Patsy Hisako Himuro
Mitsuyoshi Gushikuma</p> | <p>26 Kikujiro Yokoyama
The Yokoyama & Morita
Family
Makoto Takahashi
Masato Ishida
Tokue Uehara
Noble Noboru Karimoto</p> | <p><u>Obituaries</u></p> <p>Jodo Mission of Hawaii
extends its sincere con-
dolences to the family mem-
bers and loved ones of the
following members who
have recently left this
world for the Pure Land.</p> |
| <p>5 Tsune Isobe
The Isobe Family
Mamoru Najita
Isematsu Takenaka
Brian Kazumitsu Kaya
Kikuyo Kunimura</p> | <p>17 Kenichi Namba
The Namba Family
Tsuneji Imaguchi
Betty Hisako Goto
Jane Iyoki Yamanaka</p> | <p>27 Misae Umemoto
The Umemoto, Ida &
Matsushima Family
Shizue Nose
Robert Kazuo Murakami
Haruko Teruya</p> | <p>Harue Eto Okuhara 103</p> |
| <p>7 Yasu Hirohama
The Hirohama &
Kawasugi Family
Kikujiro Uchiumi
Faye Naomi Johnson
Yumi Yokoyama
Isaburo Terada
Toru Yamane</p> | <p>18 Toyokichi Iguchi
The Iguchi & Sasaki
Family
Eki Mineishi
The Mineishi Family
Yojiro Watanabe</p> | <p>28 Rokusuke Yanagihara
The Yanagihara Family
Iwakichi Matsuda
The Toichi Funamoto
Family</p> | |
| <p>8 Tadaichi Aoki
The Aoki Family
Kojiro Okamoto
The Okamoto &
Nakamoto Family
Shigekichi Yoshizaki
The Yoshizaki Family
Naotaka Hayashi
Misue Imamoto
Ronald Yoshio Takara
Masamitsu Nakano</p> | <p>19 Jun Kunihiro
The Kunihiro Family</p> | | |
| <p>9 Shizuko Hironaka
The Hironaka & Ishimoto
Family
Fumie Iwasaki
Tokio Nishikawa</p> | | | |
| <p>10 Tomi Arakawa
Matsuji Yamamoto</p> | | | |

[9:30am Morning Service](#) [Everyday](#)
 Note: Time may change due to
 Schedule

April 2025

Jodo Mission of Hawaii
 Phone: (808) 949-3995
 Website: www.jodo.us
www.hawaiijodo.net

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fre	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6 9:30 HBC Buddha Day Service at Soto Mission	7	8	9	10	11	12
10:00 Opening Ceremony Koinobori Celebration	14	15	16	17	18 Good Friday	19 1:00—3:00 pm HCJM Laypersons & Rengo Fujinkai Zoom Meeting
20 8:30 Board Meeting 10:00 Sunay Service Guest speaker: Master Grant Murata Okinawan Classical Music & Sanshin	21	22	23	24	25	26
27 10:00 Sunday Service Kyudo (Japanese Archery)	28	29	30			

COMING EVENTS:

Apr 13-May17 **Koinobori Display on Jodo Mission lawn**
 April 13 @ 10 am Koinobori Opening Ceremony on front lawn
 April 20 @ 10 am Guest Speaker: Sensei Grant “Sandaa” Murata
 April 27 @ 10 am Guest Speaker: Hawaii Kyudokai Group, Kyudo
 May 4 @ 10 am Guest Speaker: Sensei Chris Goodin, Kendo
 May 11 @ 10 am Mother’s Day: Nate Gyotoku, Pres, JCCH
 May 24 Lei Making Project on for Punchbowl graves
 June 15 @10 am Father’s Day/ **5pm-7pm Pan-Pacific Parade**
 July 6 Ooba Set Up & General Cleaning
 July 7 to 10 Private Otoba Services
 July 11, 12, 13: O-Bon Services at Jodo Mission
 August 16 Jodo Mission Bon Dance (Saturday)

Jodo Shu Calendar for April 2025: Talking to someone for the first time takes courage, but can also be the beginning of a good relationship.

Sunday School
 Encouraged to attend HBC Buddha Day Service on 4/6 at Soto Mission

No Meetings in April
 Fujinkai, YBA

Sewing Circle
 Saturday 3/26
 8:00—12 noon

Bazaar Donations will be accepted. Kindly call temple office, if you have donations. Thank you.

Membership Dues (Gojikai) REMINDER: Please pay your membership dues (\$80) for this year and if you did not pay for 2024, we would appreciate you doing so by making your check payable to **Jodo Mission of Hawaii** (mail to 1429 Makiki Street, Honolulu, HI 96814). You may also include any niche maintenance. *Thank you.*