

## NEMBUTSU AND JAI BHIM, THE SPIRIT OF EQUALITY IN BUDDHISM

Buddhism teaches us to see the dignity in all people and to treat everyone with respect. It is a teaching of equality, reminding us that no one is above or below another. This is the spirit of Buddha.

In the story of Shakyamuni Buddha's birth, he declares, "Above the earth, below the heavens, I am the most honored one." This means that every person has the potential to become a Buddha and is equally respected.

In Jodo Shinshu, this spirit is expressed through Amida Buddha's Primal Vow. The Nembutsu, *Namo Amida Butsu*, reflects this spirit of equality. It means, "I take refuge in Amida Buddha," the great compassion embraces all beings without discrimination. When we say the Nembutsu, we

receive Amida's wish for peace and well-being for everyone. In turn, we are inspired to care for the happiness of others and to treat all people with kindness.

Over 2,500 years ago in India, Shakyamuni Buddha rejected the caste system within his Buddhist community, treating everyone as equals. It is unclear whether he wanted this idea to apply to all of society or just to the Buddhist Sangha. The caste system continued in India, but Buddha's message of equality influenced people for many centuries. But Buddhism declined and almost disappeared there around the 13th century.

In the 1950s, Dr. B.R. Ambedkar, a leader from the Dalit (formerly "untouchable") community, led a movement for equality. Born into an outcast class, he overcame many struggles and became India's first Minister of Law. He helped draft India's constitution in 1947 and worked to end the caste system. In 1950, the caste system was officially abolished, and in 1956, Dr. Ambedkar and 500,000 followers converted to Buddhism, seeing it as a path of equality and dignity. This marked the beginning of the Neo-Buddhist movement in India.

Even after Dr. Ambedkar's passing, his influence remains strong. Many Indian Buddhists greet each other with "Jai Bhim!" meaning "Victory to Bhimrao (Ambedkar)." *Jai Bhim* symbolizes the victory of equality and human dignity. For Neo-Buddhists, saying *Jai Bhim* is a way to remember Dr. Ambedkar's spirit and their ongoing efforts to create a society free from discrimination.

In the late 1960s, a Japanese monk named Rev. Shurei Sasai traveled to India. He had once struggled in life, but through Buddhism, he found a new purpose. When he arrived in India, he learned about Dr. Ambedkar and was deeply moved by his mission to create an equal society.

Inspired by this, Rev. Sasai decided to stay in India and devote his

life to spreading Buddhism among Dalit communities.

One of his most memorable moments came early in his time in India when he was invited to speak at a Buddhist gathering of 200,000 people. At the time, he could not yet speak the local language. Unsure of what to say, he simply shouted "*Jai Bhim!*" three times. At first, the audience fell silent. He wondered, *Did I say something wrong?* But then, the entire crowd responded in unison: "*Jai Bhim! Jai Bhim!*" From that moment, Rev. Sasai was embraced by the people, and he dedicated himself to supporting the Neo-Buddhist movement. Over the years, he has helped millions embrace Buddhism, spreading the message of equality and respect. Today, Rev. Sasai continues his work, encouraging people to live with equality and dignity.

The Nembutsu, *Namo Amida Butsu*, and The phrase *Jai Bhim* share a similar spirit. Both are names that express gratitude and praise—one for Amida Buddha's boundless compassion that embraces all beings equally and the other for Dr. Ambedkar's efforts to create equality.

When we say *Namo Amida Butsu*, we reflect on peace, well-being, and respect for all beings. May we carry this spirit of equality in our hearts and practice it in our daily lives.

*Namo Amida Butsu.*

## 念仏とジャイ・ビーム — 仏教の平等の精神

仏教はすべての人と尊敬し合うことを勧める教えです。それは「誰もが平等であり、上下の差はない」という仏さま方に共通する精神でもあります。

おしゃか様が誕生されたとき、「天上天下唯我独尊」と言われたと

伝えられています。これは、「すべての人は仏となる可能性を持ち、等しく尊ばれる存在である」という意味があり、ここに仏さまの平等の精神が表れています。

浄土真宗では、この精神は阿弥陀仏の本願に表されていて、それは、すべての人に平穏と安心を与えようとする願いです。「南無阿弥陀仏」は「阿弥陀仏に帰依します」という意味で、阿弥陀仏の大いなる慈悲は、すべての人を差別なく包み込んでいます。私たちが念仏を称えるとき、阿弥陀仏の願いと共に平等の精神も受け取ります。そして、自分もできるだけ他の人々を尊重しようという心が育まれるようになっていきます。

約2500年前、お釈迦さまの教団では、カースト制度をなくしました。お釈迦さまは皆が平等なコミュニティを教団の中だけでなく社会全体にも広げられることを望んでいたのかどうかは分かりません。インドで仏教が盛んになっても社会ではカースト制度が続きましたが、お釈迦さまの平等の精神は何世紀にもわたって人々に影響を与えました。けれども、13世紀頃に仏教がインドで衰退するころには、その影響は薄れたようです。

1950年代、ダリット出身の指導者であるB.R.アンベードカル博士は、平等を求める運動を率いました。彼はカースト制度の最下層に生まれ、多くの苦難を乗り越えてインド初の法務大臣となりました。1947年にはインド憲法の草案作成に携わり、カースト制度の廃止に尽力しました。そして1950年、カースト制度は公式に廃止されました。1956年、アンベードカル博士は50万人の支持者とともに仏教に改宗し、仏教を平等と尊厳への道としまし

た。これがインドにおける新仏教運動(ネオ・ブディズム)の始まりでした。

アンベードカル博士が亡くなった後も、その影響は強く残っています。インドの多くの仏教徒は、「ジャイ・ビーム」(「ビームラーオ・アンベードカル万歳」という挨拶を交わします。この言葉は、平等と人間の尊厳の勝利を象徴しています。ネオブディストにとって、「ジャイ・ビーム」と唱えることは、アンベードカル博士の精神を思い出し、差別のない社会を築く努力を続けることを意味しています。

1960年代後半、日本の僧侶である佐々井秀嶺師はインドへ渡りました。彼はかつて人生に苦しみましたが、仏教によって新たな生き方を見出しました。インドに着いたとき、アンベードカル博士のことを知り、平等な社会を作るといふ彼の使命に深く感動しました。そして、佐々井師はインドに留まり、ダリットの人々に仏教を広めることを決意しました。

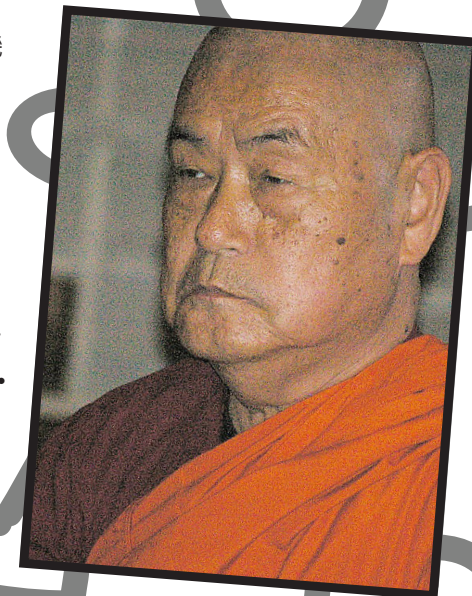
インドでの活動を始めたばかりの頃、佐々井師はある仏教集会で話す機会を得ました。しかし、当時は現地の言葉が話せず、何を言えばよいか分からなかったため、自分が知っている言葉、「ジャイ・ビーム」と言おうと決めました。20万人の群衆を目の前にして、佐々井師は「ジャイ・ビーム!」と三回叫びました。最初、会場は静まり返りました。しかし、次の瞬間、20万人の人々が「ジャイ・ビーム! ジャイ・ビーム!」と大きな声で応えました。その瞬間から、佐々井師は人々に受け入れられ、ネオブディスト運動の支援に生涯を捧げることになりました。何年にもわたり、数百万人に仏教を伝え、平等と尊敬の精

神を広め続けてきました。現在も佐々井師は活動を続けておられます。

「南無阿弥陀仏」と「ジャイ・ビーム」には共通する精神があります。両方とも平等を伝える言葉です。「南無阿弥陀仏」は、阿弥陀仏の限りない慈悲がすべての人を平等に包み込むことを表現し、「ジャイ・ビーム」も、アンベードカル博士が築いた平等の精神を表現しています。

私たちが「南無阿弥陀仏」と称えるとき、すべての人の平和と安心を願う心を阿弥陀さまからいただいています。この平等の精神を心に抱き、日々の生活の中でできるだけ実践していきましょう。

南無阿弥陀仏



## Monthly Memorial April 2025 Shotsuki Service, April 6 at 10a

Seshu (Observant)  
Deceased Relation To Obervant, Deceased

|  |   |
|--|---|
| Gleeson, David & Lynn<br><i>Daughter</i> Gleeson, Paige,<br>Kiyoko, Kathleen | Nakashima, Jean<br><i>Father</i> Shigeyasu, George  |
| Hashimoto Family<br><i>Grandmother</i><br>Hashimoto, Tatsuyo                 | Nakashita, Arthur<br><i>Mother</i> Nakashita, Yoshiko                                       |
| Imamura Family<br><i>Father</i> Imamura, Dick                                | Nakawatase, Richard<br><i>Uncle</i> Nakawatase, Hideo                                       |
| Inatomi Family<br><i>Sister</i> Inatomi-Howard, Linda                        | Nishida Family<br><i>Grandfather</i> Nishida, Joe   |
| Kammerer, Michelle<br><i>Mother</i><br>Kammerer, Julia Lundquist             | Nishida Family,<br>Yamaguchi Toshiko<br><i>Grandmother/Mother-in-law</i><br>Yamaguchi, Misa |
| Kojima, Chikako<br><i>Brother-in-law</i> Kojima, Mike                        | Nishida, Lori<br><i>Father</i> Nishisaka, Harry   |
| Komai, JoAnn<br><i>Father</i> Yamada, Yoshito                                | Nishikawa, Kelvin<br><i>Father</i> Nishikawa, George  |
| Kuwata, Tom<br><i>Grandfather</i> Yamada, Takeo                              | Nishikawa, Kelvin<br><i>Grandfather</i><br>Nishikawa, Wasaku                                |
| Matsumura, Henry<br><i>Uncle</i> Tsubaki, Hideo                              | Ogawa, Jerry<br><i>Grandfather</i> Ogawa, Konai   |
| Minami, Jean<br><i>Father-in-law</i><br>Minami, Kichitaro                    | Okazaki, James<br><i>Mother</i> Okazaki, Akiko  |
| Miyamoto, Dennis<br><i>Grandfather</i> Kawai, Sosuke                         | Onishi, Randy & Susan<br><i>Mother</i> Onishi, Mitsume                                      |
| Motokane, Eddie<br><i>Father</i> Motokane, Keiso                             | Rogers, Beverly<br><i>Grandfather</i> Aramaki, Chido  |
| Munekata, Yooko<br><i>Mother</i> Matsubayashi, Ayako                         | Sakakura, Michiko<br><i>Mother</i> Sakakura, Chizu  |
| Nagano, Lance<br><i>Mother</i> Nagano, Mary                                  | Saneto Family<br><i>Father</i> Saneto, Tsukasa  |

The monthly memorial service is usually held on the first Sunday of each month in memory of those who have passed away in that month. At the service, the list of names of the deceased, the person observing the memorial and the person's relation to the deceased is read. The Monthly Memorial List is also published in the Prajna newsletter. To have a name entered into the Monthly Memorial List, please call the office as names may not automatically be entered after a funeral.

# Senshin 2025 Senshin Spring Senshin-ji Hanamatsuri Service

**Senshin  
Bukkyo Gakuin Class  
Basic Buddhism**  
Wednesdays, April, 2, 9, & 16, 6:30  
– 7:15 pm (On-line)  
Sunday, April 13, after service  
(in-person) **Rev. Ryuta Furumoto**

This will be a Basic Buddhism Class where you can learn the fundamental thoughts and concepts of Buddhism, including the **life of Shakyamuni Buddha, the Four Noble Truths, the Six Paramitas,** and more. It's an easy and relaxed class with no homework required. This class is also beneficial for those who want to review the basics of Buddhism.

The classes are online and those who have not attended previous sessions are welcomed to join this session. If you have not signed up for this program before, please contact the temple. Those who took previous sessions will receive the link to join the classes.

## Saishin Dōjō (西心道場) Dharma School Program

Los Angeles Nishi Hongwanji Betsuin and Senshin Buddhist Temple will host the 36th annual Saishin Dōjō Dharma School program from Monday, June 16, to Friday, July 11, 2025.

This program is open to children entering 1st–6th grade in Fall 2025, whose parents or guardians are registered temple members.

The registration form is now available. To register or for more information, please contact the temple by phone or email. (323) 731-4617 senshintemple@gmail.com

**Combined with the April Shotsuki Service  
Sunday, April 6, 10a**

We will observe *Hanamatsuri*, the birthday of **Siddhartha Gautama**, an Indian prince who became **Shakyamuni Buddha**, the Awakened One. In the Japanese Buddhist tradition, this auspicious occasion is celebrated on April 8.

*Hanamatsuri*, meaning “Festival of Flowers,” commemorates the moment of Prince Siddhartha's birth, when flowers were said to have bloomed everywhere and even fallen from the sky.

Our **guest speaker** for the service will be **Rev. Mas Kodani**. This year, the *Hanamatsuri* Service will be **combined with the April Shotsuki Service**.

Following the service, **BWA will serve chirashi as Otoki**. We invite you to join us for this special observance.

### 花祭りのおしらせ

4月6日(日)午前10時より、お釈迦様の誕生をお祝いする花祭りの法要をおつとめします。みなさまお誘い合わせの上、どうぞお参りください。

## Butsuren Hanamatsuri Service Sunday, April 6, at 1p Nishi Betsuin

The Los Angeles Buddhist Temple Federation (Butsuren) will hold its annual Hanamatsuri Service on Sunday, April 6, 2025, at 1pm at Nishi Betsuin.

This year's guest speaker will be Dr. Ron Kurashige (USC), who will present on the topic: “One Hundred Years of the Buddha's Birthday in Los Angeles.”

- Butsuren is a federation of eight Buddhist temples dedicated to sharing the Buddha's timeless teachings. The member temples include: Higashi Honganji, Jodo Shu, Koyasan (Shingon), Nichiren Shu (Nichiren), Nishi Hongwanji, Senshin Buddhist Temple, Sozenji (Soto Zen), Zenshuji

We invite you to join this special gathering to celebrate the Buddha's birth.

4月6日の洗心寺での花まつりののち、ロサンゼルス仏教連合の花まつりが西別院で営まれます。時間は午後1時00分からです。お参りされたい方でご質問がある方はお寺に連絡してください。(323) 731-4617 senshintemple@gmail.com



Listed are donations handled by the Regular Treasurer: **Special:** donation received with no specific reason given **Orei:** donation for use of temple facilities, equipment, etc.

**Nokotsudo:** donation by families who have family cremains in the **Nokotsudo** (columbarium)

The Regular Treasurer is required to send receipts for donations of \$250.00 and over. Receipts for all other donations will not be sent unless requested by the donor.

#### FEBRUARY DONATIONS

Yonsei Basketball  
*Use of facility*

Diane Kawaguchi  
*Nokotsudo*

Craig Wong Memorial  
*service for Gayle Wong*

Senshin Jr. YBA  
*Donation - Mochitsuki*

EJL Entertainment, Inc  
*Donation - Yama Sushi*

Dennis and Celia Huey  
*Dana*

Nick & Wendy Nagatani  
*Nokotsudo*

Craig Wong  
*In memory of Gayle Wong*

Oris Yamashita  
*In memory of Gayle Wong*

Kelvin & Yoko Nishikawa  
*Use of copy machine*

Julie Akahori  
*1st year memorial - Ted Akahori*

Eugene & Elaine Murakami  
*Dana*

Shelly Okamura  
*Nokotsudo*

Christopher & Linda Wolff  
*Nokotsudo - Marie Sugita*

Chikako Kojima  
*Nokotsudo*

Ushirogata Family  
*1st year memorial - Mutsuo Ushirogata*

PayPal Giving Fund  
*Donation*

Diane Trihey  
*Dana*

Diane Trihey  
*In memory of Lily & Koyohiko Inatomi*

Dale Shirasago  
*Dana*

Kenneth Hatai  
*Dana*

Mayumi Kodani  
*Dana*

Don Akamine  
*Ho-onko*

Paul Hiramoto  
*Ho-onko*

Richard & Helen  
*Nakawatase Ho-onko*

Ellen Shimohara  
*Ho-onko*

Ellen Shimohara  
*Joya-E*

Julie Akahori  
*Nirvana Day*

Richard & Denise Kodani  
*Nirvana Day*

Shelley Okamura  
*Nirvana Day*

Julie Akahori  
*Nirvana Day*

Julie Akahori  
*Nirvana Day*

Julie Akahori  
*Nirvana Day*

Julie Akahori  
*Nirvana Day*

Julie Akahori  
*Nirvana Day*

Chikako Kojima  
*Miyo Takaki*

Doug Matsuda  
*Mother Misao Matsuda*

Wendy Mori  
*Brother Fred Sahara*

Nanette & Danny Nakamichi  
*Ted Akahori*

Arthur Nakashita  
*Teruo Ben Nakashita*

Wendy & Nick Nagatani  
*Roy Rentaro Yoshitomi*

Richard & Helen  
*Nakawatase*

Richard & Helen  
*Nakawatase*

Kelvin & Yoko Nishikawa  
*Edith Nishikawa*

Kelvin & Yoko Nishikawa  
*Sekiyo Nishiyama*

Merrie Nishisaka  
*Yuri Nishisaka*

Dexter Nishiyama  
*Takeo Matayoshi*

Cindy & Kenij Oda  
*Natsu Tomita*

Marilyn Shimabukuro & Gilbert Leong  
*Father Shigeichi Shimabukuro*

Wilbur & Iris Takashima  
*Bunshiro Takashima & Kisouyemon Sato*

Wilbur & Iris Takashima  
*Bunshiro Takashima & Kisouyemon Sato*

Suzanne Toji  
*Kazue Totsubo*

Yukie Ushirogata  
*Mitsuo Ushirogata*

Bernice Wakinaka  
*Chiyono Nagaoka, Dick Nagaoka*

Bernice Wakinaka  
*Asa & Fred Wakinaka*

Vickie Wakinaka  
*Fred Wakinaka*

Carole Yokota  
*Sanaye Yokota*

Carole Yokota  
*Sanaye Yokota*

Carole Yokota  
*Sanaye Yokota*

#### FEBRUARY FLOWER DONATIONS

Julie Akahori

Chikako Kojima

Doug Matsuda

Kelvin & Yoko Nishikawa

Merrie Nishisaka

Dexter Nishiyama

Shelly Okamura

Marilyn Shimabukuro

Carole Yokota

Glen & Joyce Isomoto

Peggy Okuda

#### WILDFIRE RELIEF FUND

Oris Yamashita & Chris Komai

Vickie Wakinaka

Eugene & Elaine Murakami

Masao Kodani

Kelvin & Yoko Nishikawa

Amy Yukawa

Wilbur & Iris Takashima

Stanley Fukawa

Alice Yokota

Kenneth Hatai

Sandra Aguilar

Kelly Nakawatase

Karen Harada

Carole Yokota

Stephanie Mizutani

Patty Yamano

Catherine Hisamune

Richard Nakawatase

Ellen Shimohara

Janis Ishitani

Richard & Denise Kodani

Yoshiyuki & Juriko Yamada

Miki Fujimoto

Russell & Lori Nishida

Edna Horiuchi

Marilyn Shimabukuro & Gilbert Leong

Stanley Fukawa

Keith Sawada

Carol Yonemura

## Gotan-ye and Hatsumairi (Infant Presentation Ceremony)

Sunday, May 18, 10a

We will observe *Gotan-ye*, the celebration of *Shinran Shonin's birth*, on Sunday, May 18, at 10a. Our guest speaker will be *Rev. Mas Kodani*.

*Gotan-ye* commemorates the birth of *Shinran Shonin*, who was born on *May 21, 1173*. *Gotan* means "birth," and *ye* means "gathering."

In conjunction with *Gotan-ye*, we are also planning to hold *Hatsumairi* (the Infant Presentation Ceremony). If you would like your children or grandchildren to participate, please call or email the temple. We also welcome children and babies who were unable to participate in *Hatsumairi* last year or in previous years.

To ensure we have enough Senshin *Hatsumairi Teddy Bears* for the participants, please contact the temple if you plan to bring your children or grandchildren. (323) 731-4617 or [senshintemple@gmail.com](mailto:senshintemple@gmail.com)

#### 降誕会および初参りのお知らせ

2025年の降誕会法要および初参りを5月18日(日)10時から行います。降誕会は親鸞聖人の誕生をお祝いする法要です。(ゲストスピーカーは名誉開教使の小谷政雄先生です。)

降誕会に併せて初参りも開催する予定です。新しく生まれたお子さんやお孫さんが初参りに参加されるようでしたら、お寺に電話してください。

## Vehicle Donation

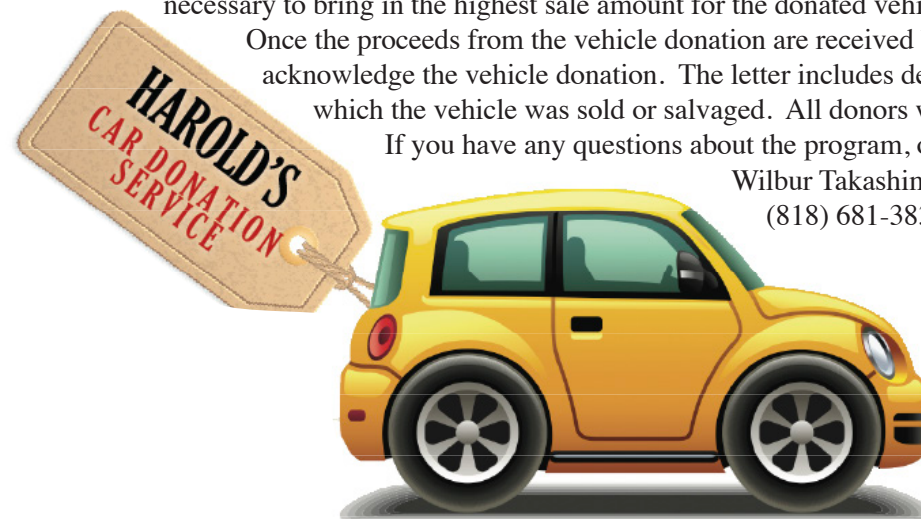
This is a reminder that Senshin will take any vehicle (car, pickup, truck, motorcycle, and even boat) as a donation to the temple. Donor can report the full amount of funds received from the vehicle donation as a deduction on their tax returns.

We work with Harold's Car Donation Service (HCDS) to have vehicles picked up, processed and refurbished as necessary to bring in the highest sale amount for the donated vehicle.

Once the proceeds from the vehicle donation are received by Senshin, a letter is sent to the donor to acknowledge the vehicle donation. The letter includes details of the donated vehicle and the amount for which the vehicle was sold or salvaged. All donors will be acknowledged in the *Prajna*.

If you have any questions about the program, or wish to donate a vehicle, please contact either

Wilbur Takashima (310) 398-9558 or Marilyn Shimabukuro (818) 681-3837.



# Updates

## & ANNOUNCEMENTS!

### From the Board

April is here, and the year is already off to a fast start! With so many events on the horizon, we are gearing up for Chicken Teriyaki, Obon and our 75th Anniversary in 2026—just to name a few. These events embody what Senshin does best: coming together as a community to lend a helping hand and volunteer. Our success is possible because of you and the entire Sangha, working together to create something truly special. Thank you for being part of this incredible community and for always stepping up to help whenever and wherever you can.

Also, I wanted to take a moment to thank everyone for their generosity in contributing to the wildfire donation fund. We will be donating a portion to the Pasadena Buddhist temple, and the rest will go to one of our Sangha members who was directly affected. Your support makes a real difference, and we truly appreciate it!

*In Gassho,*  
STAN FUKAWA

### BWA

Last month, the BWA supported Dharma School's Hinamatsuri event by making 162 musubi for the children to decorate and for all to enjoy. Thank you Team Musubi: Fujie, Jana, Amy, & Suzanne, and all those who came out early to make musubis. Thank you Suzanne and Reiko for setting up the display of dolls. And thank you to

those who assisted at the craft tables. The temple appreciated the Spring Ohigan guest speaker Rev. Henry Adams and after service, enjoyed delicious Botamochi prepared by Yoriyo and a team of volunteers. The significance of Botamochi during Ohigan is tied to Buddhist traditions and beliefs. The round shape of Botamochi symbolizes the cycle of life and death, and its association with the changing seasons reflects the transient nature of life. The BWA participated in the temple-wide Osoji and afterwards, BWA and ABA volunteers went to Kei Ai Nursing Home for the first Bingo of 2025 with the residents.

This month we will prepare the always popular Chirashi for otoki after the Hanamatsuri service, coordinated by Deb Nishida and Fujie Ohata. The BWA will also support the temple's annual Chicken Teriyaki event by preparing the green beans; conducting the White Elephant sale under Wendy Mori's lead; a craft sale led by Reiko Sunday; and a bake sale; and also providing lunch for all that come out to work.

The BWA welcomes new member, Peggy Okuda. If you would like to join in on the fun, contact someone or just come out to help.

We thank the following for their generous donations:

- JoAnn Komai *special*
- JoAnn Komai *New Year*
- Donna Ebata *special*
- Ikuko Matsubayashi *New Year*

- Sumiko Hayamizu *special*
- Toshiko Yamaguchi *special*
- Kathie/Marty Umemoto *birth of grandson, Hudson*

### ABA

If you ordered char siu bao, please pick up your order on April 6th after Hanamatsuri service between 11:30a and 12:30 p. Thank you for supporting ABA!

Thank you John and Debbie for purchasing the Kei-Ai bingo prize donations with BWA.

Thank you Debbie for your generous ABA donation!

### Jr YBA

Jr. YBA has a busy month ahead. We will be having a Bake Sale at the Hanamatsuri service on April 6th so come around and check out our treats! April is our Toban month so we will be chairing Sunday services. We also look forward to helping with Chicken Teriyaki at the end of the month.

If you have any questions or are interested in joining Jr. YBA, please contact Juriko Yamada at [afstue@gmail.com](mailto:afstue@gmail.com) or (310) 569-9052.

### Senshin Nembutsu Retreat

Our 2025 Senshin Nembutsu Retreat was held February 8 & 9 at the Palm Garden Hotel in Thousand Oaks. Our guest sensei was Rev. Nobuko Miyoshi of West Covina Buddhist Temple who spoke to us about "Shinran's Understanding of Other Power and Self Power" and how to think about these concepts in a larger context. The retreat enjoyed a large attendance from Senshin, West Covina BT, West LA, Oxnard and OCBC. The consensus was that it was an excellent weekend of sharing the Dharma and friendship. A number of the first-timers said that they planned to attend again next year.

### Sangha Teens

Sangha Teens enjoyed service and the meeting today! Upon arriving at the temple courtyard, we observed the beautiful pink cherry blossom trees along the side wall. Sensei's message connected these cherry blossoms to the fragility and impermanence of life. He explained how one must savor each day because days can pass as easily as cherry blossoms fall. Sensei also told a story of two birds who would procrastinate and then suffer the consequences the following night. This related to the philosophy that stressed the importance of enjoying each moment while also working to make sure that moments ahead would also be as pleasant. We hope that everyone will have a fun month ahead! To the right is a picture of cherry blossoms that we took.



## WasabiKai

The response to the Japanese Dinnerware and Plating class was amazing. After the announcement, the sign up sheet was filled quickly and I had to take it down. Due to the size of the studio, we could only accommodate six. Temple members have first priority and friends of the Temple are welcome if there is room.

Over the years many members have taken the class and "friends" too. It's always surprising when an unexpected "friend" signs up. I have a neighbor Carmen Stewart who was excited to hear that Harold Kodani AKA Rev. Mas would be introducing the class. They attended Centennial High School together and hadn't crossed paths since. A wonderful reunion and Carmen loved the experience. It's always nice to have new friends come to participate in Temple activities and I am glad WasabiKai is able to welcome them.

**Unfortunately**, I need to reschedule the April class. I emailed those who were the first six to let them know and will post new dates when I have them. I apologize for the change and hopefully the new dates will work for those who signed up.

The Temple has provided WasabiKai with a wonderful space which over the past 11 years held classes and open studio time to members. I encourage you to stop by the studio and peek in and see what is going on. Regular studio hours are Tuesday / Thursday 10:30a-2:30p or whenever the door is open. Questions? Bob Miyamoto 323-791-2719



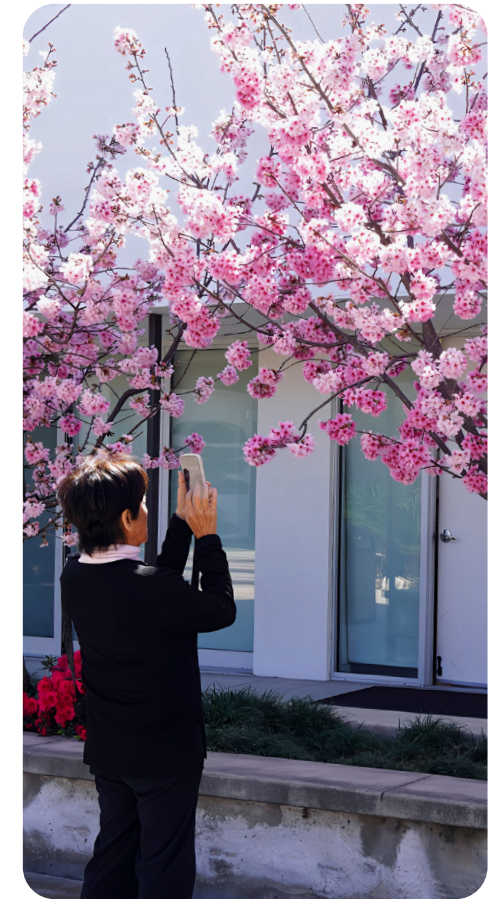
## Upcoming Family Activities

*Hinamatsuri* Celebration on March 3 was a fun event for everyone. Our sakura trees were in bloom providing a great photo opp. Several of our members shared their Girl's Day dolls, including a Mickey & Minnie Mouse. There were fun crafts and lots of musubi to enjoy and decorate.

### Coming up:

- **Decorating the Hanamido, April 5, 4p** Bring the children and grandchildren to the temple to help decorate our elephant in preparation for *Hinamatsuri*. All ages welcome and refreshments provided after we finish decorating.
- **Children's Day (Kodomo-no-hi) Celebration, May 4, after service**  
We fly our *koi nobori* (carp streamers) in celebration of Children's Day. Join us for crafts, games and refreshments. All ages welcome.

For more information and to let us know that you're coming, contact Jana Yokoyama, [scoutthesprout@gmail.com](mailto:scoutthesprout@gmail.com) or Chris Aihara, [aihara.chris@gmail.com](mailto:aihara.chris@gmail.com)



# SENSHIN-JI 2025 APRIL 2568

1311 W. 37TH STREET, LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90007 ☎ 323 731 4617 ✨ SENSHINTEMPLE@GMAIL.COM 🌐 SENSHINTEMPLE.ORG

| SUNDAY   | MONDAY    | TUESDAY  | WEDNESDAY   | THURSDAY   | FRIDAY    | SATURDAY                 |
|--|-----------|--|---|--|-----------|--------------------------|
|  |           | <b>1</b>   | <b>2</b>  | <b>3</b>   | <b>4</b>  | <b>5</b>                 |
|  |           | <b>10:30a-2p</b> WasabiKai<br>Open Studio                                | <b>10a-2p</b> Hongwanji Place<br><b>6:30-7:15p</b> Senshin Bukkyo Gakuin:<br>Basic Buddhism class (zoom)<br>Rev. Furumoto | <b>10:30a-2p</b> WasabiKai<br>Open Studio<br><b>7-9p</b> Kinnara Taiko |           | <b>4p</b> Hanamido Setup |
| <b>6 Hanamatsuri</b>   | <b>7</b>  | <b>8</b>   | <b>9</b>  | <b>10</b>  | <b>11</b> | <b>12</b>                |
| <b>9:45a</b> Japanese <i>Howa</i><br><b>10a</b> Hanamatsuri Service and Monthly<br>Memorial Service ( <i>Shotsuki Hōyō</i> ) Rev. Mas Kodani<br><b>12noon</b> <i>Otoki</i> served by BWA-Chirashi,<br>ABA Char Siu Bao Sale, Jr. YBA Bake Sale<br><b>1p</b> Butsuren Hanamatsuri @ Nishi |           | <b>10:30a-2p</b> WasabiKai<br>Open Studio<br><b>7p</b> BWA Reikai (Zoom) | <b>10a-2p</b> Hongwanji Place<br><b>6:30-7:15p</b> Senshin Bukkyo Gakuin:<br>Basic Buddhism class (zoom)<br>Rev. Furumoto | <b>10:30a-2p</b> WasabiKai<br>Open Studio<br><b>7-9p</b> Kinnara Taiko |           |                          |
| <b>13</b>  | <b>14</b> | <b>15</b>  | <b>16</b>   | <b>17</b>  | <b>18</b> | <b>19</b>                |
| <b>8:30a</b> Board Meeting<br><b>10a</b> Sunday Service<br><b>11a</b> Jr. YBA Meeting, Sangha Teens Meeting,<br>Senshin Bukkyo Gakuin: "Basic Buddhism" in-<br>person Rev. Furumoto<br><b>11:30a</b> ABA Meeting   |           | <b>10:30a-2p</b> WasabiKai<br>Open Studio                                | <b>10a-2p</b> Hongwanji Place<br><b>6:30-7:15p</b> Senshin Bukkyo Gakuin:<br>Basic Buddhism class (zoom)<br>Rev. Furumoto | <b>10:30a-2p</b> WasabiKai<br>Open Studio<br><b>7-9p</b> Kinnara Taiko |           |                          |
| <b>20</b>  | <b>21</b> | <b>22</b>  | <b>23</b>   | <b>24</b>  | <b>25</b> | <b>26</b>                |
| <b>10a</b> Sunday Service<br><b>11a</b> Youth Kinnara Taiko  |           | <b>10:30a-2p</b> WasabiKai<br>Open Studio                                | <b>10a-2p</b> Hongwanji Place   | <b>10:30a-2p</b> WasabiKai<br>Open Studio<br><b>7-9p</b> Kinnara Taiko |           |                          |
| <b>27 Chicken Teriyaki</b>   | <b>28</b> | <b>29</b>  | <b>30</b>   |  |           |                          |
| <b>7a</b> Chicken Teriyaki Fundraiser, BWA White<br>Elephant, Craft, and Bake Sale<br><b>10a</b> Sunday Service  |           | <b>10:30a-2p</b> WasabiKai<br>Open Studio                                | <b>10a-2p</b> Hongwanji Place   |  |           |                          |

## APRIL SERVICE TOBAN: JR. YBA

### Monthly Toban group responsible for:

- **Weekly** Chair Sunday Service
- **Apr 6** Provide osonae (altar offering) for Hanamatsuri Service  
Provide donuts / beverages following monthly memorial service
- **Apr 13** Provide / serve snacks and beverage for Temple Board Meeting

**Hondo Toban** Doug Matsuda, James Okazaki, Nick Nagatani, Wendy Nagatani

## APRIL ONAIJIN Flower Arrangement

- Apr 5** Hanamatsuri - Marilyn Miyamoto
  - Apr 12** Yoko/Kelvin Nishikawa
  - Apr 19** Denise/Richard Kodani
  - Apr 26** Sheri Lovall
- (Note: If you are unable to fulfill the week you are scheduled, please contact Iris at (310) 951-0160

## MAY Upcoming Events

- May 4** Children's Day (Kodomo-no-hi) Celebration, after service
- May 18** Gōtan-ye (Shinran Shōnin's Birthday), Hatsumairi Infant Presentation