



# OYAGOKORO

## The Heart of a Parent, the Heart of AMIDA BUDDHA

In May, we celebrate Mother's Day and reflect on the deep love and kindness we receive from our mothers.

In Buddhism, Amida Buddha's heart is often called *oyagokoro*—the “parental heart and mind.”

It is the wish of a parent for their child to live in peace, safety, and happiness. Just as a mother rejoices when her child is happy and feels pain when they suffer,





Amida Buddha's great vow is for all beings to be free from suffering and live in true peace.

Anyone who wishes for their child's happiness is a parent, and because Amida Buddha wishes for the happiness of all beings, we call that heart *oyagokoro*.

Shinran Shonin mentioned about this in the *Jodo Wasan*, saying Amida regards each of us "as Amida's only child." And when we think of Amida, "just as a child thinks of its mother," we are always embraced by Amida's compassion. Because of this, our path to Nirvana is assured; and we can live each day with peace, kindness, and a deep sense of safety.

There is an old story, *Toshishun*, retold by Ryunosuke Akutagawa, that expresses this kind of love and the deep bond between a mother and her child.

Toshishun (Tosh) was once a rich young man, but he lost everything. One day, a mysterious old man helped him find treasure. Tosh became rich again, then lost it again. After this cycle repeated, Tosh asked to become the old man's disciple. The old man revealed he was a wizard and agreed to train him.

To become a wizard, Tosh had to sit silently on a mountain, no matter what happened. He faced many trials: a tiger, a snake, lightning, even a warrior who killed him. He went to hell but still did not speak.

Then, ogres brought out his parents—now turned into horses—and began whipping them to make Tosh speak. He stayed silent until his mother, with her final breath, said, "Don't worry about us. As long as you're happy, that's all that matters." Hearing this, Tosh shouted, "*Okaasan!* (Mommy!)" and ran to her.

That one act of love broke the spell. Tosh awoke near his home. The wizard told him he no longer needed to become a wizard. Instead, he should live a peaceful life, remembering and honoring his mother's love.

It's said that Akutagawa changed the ending of the story. In the original Chinese version, the wizard scolds Tosh for failing a test. To become a wizard, he had to give up everything—his family, friends, and feelings.

But Akutagawa rewrote the ending. In his version, the wizard tells Tosh, "If you hadn't screamed for your mother, I would have killed you."

Some forms of Buddhism teach that we must leave the world behind to reach *Nirvana*. But in Jodo Shinshu, the Pure Land path, we don't need to reject our everyday lives. We are embraced by Amida Buddha's *oyagokoro*—a parent's heart.

We receive *oyagokoro* from our mothers. It teaches us how to care, be kind, and feel compassion. Through this, we begin to understand Amida Buddha's deep wish for us—to live with peace, ease, and true joy.

On Mother's Day, let us reflect with gratitude on the love and compassion we've received. Let us thank our mothers and also Amida Buddha by reciting the *nembutsu*.

*Namoamidabutsu*

## 親ごころ—母の日、阿弥陀さまの願い

5月の第二日曜日は母の日です。母親、または母親の役割をしてくださっている方から受けたご恩を思い出し、感謝の気持ちを表します。

浄土真宗では、阿弥陀さまの心は「親ごころ」と呼ばれるこ

とがあります。子どもが幸せで、安心して平和に生きてほしい。そんな願いを持つのが親の心です。そして阿弥陀さまは、すべてのいのちの安穩を願ってくださっているので、そのお心を「親ごころ」とたたえるのです。

＝親鸞聖人は『浄土和讃』の中で、「あらゆるものを、ひとり子のごとくに思う」のが阿弥陀さまの慈悲で、念仏を称える私たちが「子が母を思うように阿弥陀さまを思うとき」、そのお心に包まれて、必ず浄土に生まれさせていただく道が開かれ、今この世を平和に、安心して、優しさと共に生きることができると示唆してくださっています。

芥川龍之介の『杜子春（とししゅん）』という中国の昔話を題材にしたお話は、「親ごころ」と親子の絆がポイントになっているお話です。

＝杜子春という若者は、かつては裕福な暮らしをしていましたが、財産を失ってしまいます。ある日、不思議な老人に出会い、宝を見つけてまた裕福になりますが、それもまた失います。何度も同じことを繰り返した後、彼は老人に弟子入りを願い出ます。老人の正体は、実は仙人でした。

＝仙人になるための修行は、何があっても一言もしゃべらないというものでした。山の中で、虎や大蛇に襲われ、雷に打たれ、剣士に斬られるといった恐ろしい試練を受けても、杜子春は沈黙を守り続けました。地獄に落ちてもおな、声を発しませんでした。

ところが、地獄の鬼たちが馬に姿を変えた両親を連れてきて、むちで打ち始めます。杜子春はそれでも黙ったままでしたが、痛めつけられ息も切れ切れになった母親が「私たちのことは気にしないで。あなたが幸せになれるのなら、それでいいのよ。」と言ったとき、彼は思わず「お母さん!」と叫んで母に駆け寄りました。

その瞬間、仙術が解け、彼はふと気がつく故郷の近くにいました。仙人は「仙人なんてならなくていい。お母さんを思うその人間らしい心を持つことが大切なのだ」とのことを伝えた、というお話です。

芥川龍之介は物語の結末を変えたと言われています。元の中国の話では、仙人は試練に失敗した杜子春を叱っているそうです。仙人になるには、世俗の価値観や、家族や友人とのつながりを断つ必要があります。

しかし、芥川の書いた話では、仙人は杜子春に「もしあの時お母さんを助けようとして叫ばなかったら、お前を殺していた。」と言っています。

芥川は、母親への恩を忘れないことが人間らしく、意味のあることだと思ったのかもしれませんが。仏教の中にも、世俗とのつながりを断ち切ってこそ涅槃に至るという教えもあります。しかし、浄土真宗では、日常生活を捨てる仏道ではなく、日々の世俗の生活の中で、阿弥陀仏の「親ごころ」に目覚め、涅槃に至る道を歩むという教えです。

私たちは、母親から「親ごころ」を受け取ります。その心から、思いやりや優しさ、慈しみを学びます。その経験を通して、阿弥陀さまのたいなる慈悲と願いがどのようなものであるかを知ることとなるのではないのでしょうか。

母の日には母親に感謝を表しましょう。また阿弥陀さまに感謝し、念仏を称えましょう。

南無阿弥陀仏

南  
無  
阿  
弥  
陀  
仏



## Monthly Memorial May 2025

Shotsuki Service, May 4 at 10a

Seshu (Observant)

Deceased Relation To Obervant, Deceased

Akahori, Julie  
Aunt Akahori, Betty

Akahori, Julie  
Aunt Akahori, Helen

Akahori, Julie  
Uncle Uyetake, Kenji

Arita Family  
Mother Arita, Yoshi

Burtis, Chris  
Wife Nishida, Gwen

Domoto Family  
Mother Domoto, Lily

Ebata, Donna  
Husband Ebata, Duane

Hashimoto Family  
Sister Hashimoto, Janice Miyo

Higa, Stephanie  
Father Takamoto Robert

Hayamizu, Sumiko  
Father Nakashima, Hashigoro

Hiramoto, John  
Father Hiramoto, George

Hori, Robert  
Father Hori, Takashi

Iriye, Kenny  
Mother Iriye, Midori

Kanda, Lynn  
Mother Kanda, Susan

Gleeson, David  
Mother-in-law Kanda, Susan

Gleeson,  
Paiton, Emery, Montgomery  
Grandmother Kanda, Susan

Komai, JoAnn  
Mother Yamada, Alice

Koyanagi, Katherine  
Mother Koyanagi, Miyoko

Kuwata, Tom  
Father Kuwata, Kijiro

Kuwata, Tom  
Uncle Kuwata, Kiemon

Kuwata, Tom  
Aunt Ogura, Toyoko

Miyagishima, Lily  
Husband Miyagishima, Yoshimi

Murakami, Eugene  
Father-in-law Tamura, Jimmy

Murakami, Eugene  
Grandmother Inouye, Hisako

Matsumura, Henry  
Grandmother Yamaguchi, Fujiko

Nakano Family  
Father Frank Nakano

Nakagawa, Fred  
Father Nakagawa, Motoharu

Nakawatase Family  
Mother Nakawatase, Kazuko

Nishida, Lori  
Grandfather Nishisaka, Yoshio

Nishida, Russell  
Sister Nishida, Gwen

Nishisaka, Merrie, Nishisaka Scott  
Grandfather Nishisaka, Yoshio

Nishikawa, Yoko  
Grandmother Uyemura, Minoe

Nishikawa, Yoko  
Mother Uyemura, Chizuko

Nishiyama, Dexter  
Wife Matayoshi, Connie

Ohata, Ron  
Brother Ohata, Kevin

Okazaki, James  
Mother Kuroi, Osae

Okuda, Peggy  
Mother Imoto, Saeko

Rogers, Beverly  
Grandmother Tokaji, Masano

Rogers, Beverly  
Step-Grandfather  
Tokaji, Kaname

Saiki, Yumi  
Mother Yoshida, Toshiko

Saneto Family  
Mother Saneto, Motoko

Sato Family  
Grandfather Kishaba, Uichi

Segawa, James  
Wife Segawa, Yuriko

Shigaki Family  
Father Shigaki, Al

Sugano, Michiko  
Husband Sugano, Leo

Takashima, Wilbur  
Grandmother Takashima, Tsume

Takashima, Wilbur  
Father Takashima, Katsumi

Takemoto, Ron  
Mother Takemoto, Kazumi

Terrell, Jackie  
Mother-in-law Fukumoto, Tomiko

Toji, Suzanne  
Father-in-law  
Toji, Mamoru

Torio, Taye  
Mother Sugimoto, Shizue

Toyama, John  
Father Toyama, Seikichi

Tsuji, Hisako  
Husband Tsuji, Shoichi

Umemoto, Marty & Kathie  
Grandson Ito, Jayden

Umemoto Marty  
Mother Umemoto, Mitsuko

Ushirogata, Yukie  
Mother Matsushita, Tsune

Uyemura, Koichi  
Grandmother Uyemura, Minoe

Uyemura, Koichi  
Mother Uyemura, Chizuko

Yamashita, Betty  
Father Takahashi, Tokuso

Yoshida, Miyeko  
Father Suzuki, Urao

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

## Gotan-ye and Hatsumairi (Infant Presentation Ceremony) Sunday, May 18

We will observe **Gotan-ye**, the celebration of Shinran Shonin's birth, on **Sunday, May 18, at 10 am**. 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, senshintemple@gmail.com

### 降誕会および初参りのおしらせ

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。

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

Los Angeles Nishi Hongwanji Betsuin and Senshin Buddhist Temple will host the 36th annual Saishin Dojo 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, (323) 731-4617 or email, senshintemple@gmail.com

## Senshin Bukkyo Gakuin Class Basic Buddhism Wednesdays, May 7, 14 and 21 6:30 – 7:15p (On-line) Sunday, May 25, 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.



MARCH DONATIONS

Kathie & Marty Umemoto  
*Birth of Grandson*  
Hudson Kazuyoshi Umemoto  
Dennis & Celia Huey *Dana*  
Lynn Kanda & David Gleeson  
*In memory of*  
Mary Kathleen Gleeson  
Suzanne Toji *Nokotsudo*  
Sachi Oda *Nokotsudo*  
Shelly Okamura *Nokotsudo*  
Eugene Murakami *Dana*  
Toshiko Yamaguchi  
*Hinamatsuri*  
Iwanaga & Aihara Families  
*Makurakyo*  
Iwanaga & Aihara Families  
*Makurakyo*  
Douglas Kato  
*Nokotsudo for Jessie Kato*  
Miki Fujimoto  
*3rd cycle for*  
Crystine Yuki Fujimoto  
Douglas Kato  
*Nokotsudo for Kay Kato*  
Peggy Okuda  
*49th day service for*  
Hiroshi Imoto  
USC Nikkei Student Union  
*Spring Banquet*  
Charities Aid Foundtion  
America  
*Donation*  
Yonsei Basketball Association  
*Hall use for meeting*  
Edmond & Susan Young  
*In memory of Doris Shigaki*  
Janice Shigaki  
*In memory of Doris Shigaki*  
Dale Shirasago *Dana*  
Mayumi Kodani *Dana*  
Johnny Mori *Car Donation*  
Keith Shimabukuro  
*Car Donation*  
Michael & Carol Okuda  
*Bukkyo Gakuin*  
Glen & Joyce Isomoto  
*Wed Night Study Class*

Keith Shimabukuro  
*Feb Shotsuki Hoyo in*  
*memory of*  
Shigeichi Shimabukuro

MARCH FLOWER DONATIONS

Kelvin & Yoko Nishikawa  
Doug Matsuda  
Julie Akahori  
Kathie & Marty Umemoto  
Chikako Kojima  
Michiko Sugano  
Sue Omori  
Dexter Nishiyama  
Toshiko Yamaguchi  
Peggy Okuda  
Ellen Shimohara  
Glen Isomoto

WILDFIRE RELIEF FUND

Sheri Lovall  
Keiko Ogawa  
Don Akamine  
Keith Sawada  
Stephanie Higa

MARCH SHOTSUKI HOYO

Julie Akahori  
Harry Kawaye  
Christine & Christopher  
Burtis  
Kik Nishida  
Stacey Camara  
Hana Unno  
May Sugano Egner  
Takuya Sugano,  
Tsugi Sugano  
Glen & Joyce Isomoto  
Kiyoko Isomoto  
Douglas Kato  
Jessie Kato  
Chikako Kojima  
George Kojima, Fred  
Kojima, Teruji Takaki  
Dexter Nishiyama  
Yoneo Matayoshi  
Ronald & Fujie Ohata  
Uncle Ichiro Uyeno  
Sue Omori  
Henry Keisuke Omori

Ellen Shimohara  
*Father* Michio Shinoda  
Michiko Sugano  
Takuya Sugano &  
Tsugi Sugano  
Suzanne Toji  
*Father* Jack Totsubo  
*25th Year*  
Yukie Ushirogata  
Ichitaro Matsushita  
Bernice Wakinaka  
Mike Wakinaka  
Qris Yamashita &  
Chris Komai  
Ronnie Matsuda  
Kiyoko Yoneda  
Hatsue Iwasaki &  
Itono Nakamura

OHIGAN, MARCH 2025

Anonymous  
Anonymous  
Chris Aihara  
Don Akamine  
Jane Asahi  
Donna Ebata  
Stan & Deb Fukawa  
James & Karen Harada  
Kenneth Hatai  
Sumiko Hayamizu  
Paul Hiramoto  
Deb & John Hiramoto  
Jane & Keith Hirayama  
Catherine Hisamune  
Edna Horiuchi  
Denise Ishitani  
Janis Ishitani  
Cathy Iyemura  
Emi Kamikawa  
Jill & Fred Katsuda  
Ruby Kiyohara  
Chikako Kojima  
Richard Kok  
June Kondo  
Tammy & Dale Matsubara  
Kazuo & Ikuko  
Matsubayashi  
Douglas Matsuda  
Natsuko Masushige  
Joy Middo

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.

MARCH 2025 ANITYA DONORS

Donna Ebata  
Paul Hiramoto  
*In memory of*  
Keith Kiyohara  
Garren & Stephanie  
Mizutani  
Eugene Murakami  
Carol Okuda  
Wilbur & Iris Takashima  
Marty & Kathie Umemoto  
Alice Yokota &  
Rodney Cooley



Anitya Update May 2025

I continue to be encouraged and grateful for the generosity and support of the Senshin Sangha. Your donations have reached nearly \$150K. We are making good progress on the repairs and renewals and expect to have the East (Raymond) parking lot repaired and resurfaced before Obon. We have received bids from three paving contractors and are refining the scope of the job before we award the contract.  
Thank you all again for your support.  
*Gassho,*  
NEIL KOMAI  
Anitya Fundraising Chairman

Obon Raffle, July 5

On Saturday July 5, Senshin will hold its annual Raffle during Bon Odori intermission. The Obon Raffle is one of our temple’s major fundraisers to support religious programs as well as our special 75th Anniversary Celebration coming up in 2026. We will be sending out raffle tickets in late May and ask that if you are able to support the fundraiser, please send back the ticket stubs and donation check so they are received by Tuesday, July 1. Winners will be drawn just after Bon Odori intermission. This year our suggested donation for each ticket is increasing to \$5 per ticket or \$50 per book. A free ticket can

be obtained at the temple office. Winners need not be present.  
We are also requesting your help with prize donations. We appreciate and welcome any prize donation you can give and hope this extra request will not be a hardship. We are grateful for your ongoing support and look forward to seeing you at Bon Odori! If you have any questions, please contact Debbie Hiramoto at (626) 232-4736 or debhiramoto@gmail.com.

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. Donors 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

In April we observed *Hanamatsuri*, the birthday of Siddhartha Gautama, an Indian prince who became Shakyamuni Buddha, the Awakened One. I always look forward to seeing the *Hanamido* at Temple on this day. It's decorated so beautifully with flowers the day before by volunteers and the kids, and as Rev. Mas says "it is the best one around!" Following service, we were treated to *Otoki* by the BWA. They served delicious *chirashi sushi*, which is also something I look forward to! I think it's more delicious knowing the time and effort that the BWA puts into the careful preparation of these amazing dishes.

We also started to plan for our big 75th anniversary party next year, thanks to Debbie Hiramoto and the committee. Stay tuned for more information.

Our Sangha thrives because of the compassion we extend to those who want to help, and, of course, thanks to the support of our members. We are always looking for volunteers to assist with our activities, as well as individuals interested in serving as Committee Chairs. Please contact any of the board members if you are interested. .

*In Gassho,*  
STAN FUKAWA

### B W A

Did you hear the laughter and feel the sisterhood going on last month when the BWA was in the kitchen? We prepared another wonderful *otoki* of *chirashi* and desserts for *Hanamatsuri*. Thank you to Debra Nishida and Fujie Ohata for heading the *chirashi* committee, the volunteers who came out to help on both Saturday and Sunday, to those who made desserts, and to those that delivered 17 plates of *chirashi* to our homebound seniors.

Everyone geared up to support the long-time temple tradition of Chicken Teriyaki. Thank you to Debra Nishida and Kathie Umemoto for leading the preparation of string beans. Thank you to all the volunteers that came out to help with the beans and oranges, and the plating of the chicken dinners. Thank you to Fujie Ohata and a committee of volunteers for preparing an enjoyable lunch of hot dogs, chili, and tacos with all the fixings for the Sangha and friends who worked tirelessly that day.

Also many thanks to: Wendy Mori for heading the White Elephant Sale; Ann Saneto, Tammy Matsubara and Donna Ebata for heading the Bake Sale; all of the bakers; and to Reiko Sondag for the Craft Sale. All events were very successful.

Coming up in May, the BWA is supporting the screening of Tad Nakamura's film *Third Act* at the Aratani Theater on May 3rd at 6pm. Also in May is *Gotany* Service to celebrate the birth of Shinran Shonin

and *Hatsumairi* to present infants to Amida Buddha and to the Sangha for the first time. Bags of *arare* will be distributed after service.

We thank the following for their generous donations:

- Betty Yamashita *BWA New Year*
- Senshin Jr YBA *Special*
- Ann Ogawa Gee *Special*
- Vickie Wakinaka *Thank you for Hanamatsuri Otoki*
- Ikuko & Kazuo Matsubayashi *Ohigan*

### A B A

Many thanks to everyone who supported our annual *char siu bao* fundraiser. Thank you to Glen & Joyce Isomoto and John Hiramoto for organizing and pick-up. Also, thanks to all the ABA, BWA, and temple members who helped bag the *char siu bao*.

Japanese Heritage Night with the Dodgers was attended by Senshin members. Fun times and stories to share! Thank you to Debbie Hiramoto for coordinating the tickets. Thank you to Dana and Ann Saneto for your generous donation.



### Jr Y B A

Jr. YBA hosted a Bake Sale after *Hanamatsuri* Service in order to pay for the SD Endowment Fund. Jrs also helped out at the annual Chicken Teriyaki Event on April 26. There was also a SD Jr. YBA Basketball Tournament on April 26 hosted by OCBC. While being busy with all of their events, the Jrs are also planning for their Japan trip in July.

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.

### Sangha Teens

April was a fun and engaging month for Sangha Teens! We took a field trip to Koyasan Buddhist Temple in Little Tokyo after a lovely service with Furumoto Sensei. Sensei recounted how different cultures see the moon and that the Buddha's compassion towards us is irrefragible and can inspire us to be just as benevolent. Following this, we all went to Little Tokyo and met up at Fugetsu-Do. We walked to Marukai and enjoyed *bento* along with rainbow, peanut butter, and chocolate mochi! After lunch, we went to Koyasan Buddhist Temple, which was founded in 1912 and relocated to Little Tokyo in 1940. It is associated with the Kōngōbuji Temple in Kōya, Wakayama, Japan. We were welcomed by Reverend Mori who moved to the US just three months ago from Osaka, Japan! He gave us a brief lesson on the temple's history, noting that just a year after Koyasan was established at the current location, all Japanese-Americans in the West were discriminatorily displaced and incarcerated because of WWII. He detailed that the temple served as a storage place for families; their possessions

## Obon 2025 Volunteers needed for Yagura and Lantern Set up

Senshin's Obon will be held on Saturday, July 5, 2025. We are requesting volunteers to help make Senshin Temple's Obon a successful, fun and safe event.

In 2024, over 600 guests entered the Senshin Mon (gate) to participate in all things Obon at Senshin Temple. It takes many individuals to ensure that all our guests and Sangha members have a great experience. All the supporting organizations provide volunteers to staff the Obon as well as general Sangha members.

Most importantly, however, is that it is only a Senshin Obon if the Yagura is erected and the lanterns are strung and lit. These traditions have continued for over 70 years at our temple. We are grateful for the knowledge transfer handed down orally by the Temple elders. We now need more people to learn these important traditions and to continue this knowledge transfer. There are just a few Sangha members with the necessary knowledge on erecting the yagura and stringing and lighting the lanterns. We ask that you join the yagura and lantern set up teams to gain this knowledge. This will ensure that Senshin will be able to continue these very important religious and cultural traditions for many years to come.

Our Sangha families and guests will be thankful and grateful to you. Please join us on Saturday, July 5 at 8:00 am in the corner parking lot.

If you are interested in joining the yagura and lantern teams, please contact Fujie Ohata at [fujie2va@gmail.com](mailto:fujie2va@gmail.com) or call at 703-887-4025.

Also, there is a need for help with various other tasks that are critical to making our Obon a joyous occasion. Those who have helped in the past can attest to the joy, fun and satisfaction attained by being part of Senshin's Obon. If you have not participated in previous years, please consider joining in and being part of this wonderful annual summer tradition.





remained untouched through the multiple years they were imprisoned because of the insurance company who took care of the temple. Koyasan Temple also functioned as a temporary home for many after the war. Reverend Mori then shared about Koyasan *Shingon* Buddhism. Different from our Jodo Shinshu sect, *Shingon* Buddhism was founded by Kobo Daishi (Kukai), thus nembutsu is said *Namu daishi kenjō kōngō*. Ōshōkō at Koyasan is also done with incense sticks rather than *ōkō*. As a parting gift, Reverend Mori gave us *ōmikuji*, or written fortunes which can vary from bad luck to great good luck. It was fascinating to see the differences between our faction of Buddhism and *Shingon* Buddhism! Thank you to Reverend Mori for giving us a lesson on Koyasan Temple's history and *Shingon* Buddhism!



## Gardening Workshop

A dozen Senshin Sangha members gathered on Sat., March 12 for a gardening workshop led by Tadahide Kawahira, the sole gardener maintaining the grounds of the Higashi Temple downtown. He demonstrated how we should trim and prune our trees every March or April. Start by thinning out 50-60% or more of the needles and rounding the top of the tree, and then work downward. It is important to know where the tree will be viewed from, and that viewpoint is returned to often during pruning and shaping.

Once the greenery and candles are thinned out, the trunk and main branches are more visible. They are important to the basic elegance of the tree. Careful trimming of candles, or the use of wire or staking can encourage growth in the direction needed. The wire and stakes must be removed or replaced every year. We ended the workshop by enjoying a picnic under our blooming cherry trees. At the last *Osoji*, participants were more confident about how to prune our trees.



The Temple has provided WasabiKai with a wonderful space for over 11 years to hold classes and open studio time to members. You might wonder, "What goes on at Open Studio?"

We have Open Studio every Tuesday and Thursday, 10:30am – 2:30pm, or whenever the door is open. This is a time when potters work on individual projects that strike their fancy and creative spirit. A great deal of teaching and learning also goes on, both from our instructor Bob Miyamoto, and our peers. Bob has trained us on how to run the kiln to bisque fire and glaze fire; how to purchase, use and maintain all the studio equipment; select, purchase and mix glazes and clays; pottery making techniques, and so much more.

A great deal of peer learning goes on every day, as we all share in our pottery adventures, and learn and support one another. We break for a potluck lunch with more sharing of yummy dishes and conversation. You're all welcome to stop by the studio, peek in, and see what's going on!

For information or questions regarding classes contact Bob at: [1bobmiyamoto@gmail.com](mailto:1bobmiyamoto@gmail.com) or 323 791-2719.





# SENSHIN-JI 2025 MAY 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>
				10:30a-2p WasabiKai Open Studio 7-9p Kinnara Taiko		
<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>
8:30a BWA Reikai 9:40a Japanese <i>Howa</i> 10a Monthly Memorial Service ( <i>Shotsuki Hoyo</i> ) and Family Service 11a Donuts; Dharma School <i>Kodomo-no-hi</i> event; Obon Meeting		10:30-2p WasabiKai Open Studio	10a-2p Hongwanji Place 6:30-7:15p Senshin Bukkyo Gakuin: Basic Buddhism (zoom) Rev. Furumoto	10:30a-2p WasabiKai Open Studio 7-9p Kinnara Taiko	7p So. District BCA Council Meeting (Zoom only)	
<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>
8:30a Board Meeting 10a Service 11a Meetings: Jr. YBA, Sangha Teens	7:30p ABA meeting (Zoom only)	10:30-2p WasabiKai Open Studio	10a-2p Hongwanji Place 6:30-7:15p Senshin Bukkyo Gakuin: Basic Buddhism (zoom) Rev. Furumoto	10:30a-2p WasabiKai Open Studio 7-9p Kinnara Taiko		9:30a <i>Nokotsu-</i> <i>do</i> cleanup
<b>18</b> <i>Gotanye / Hatsumairi</i>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>
10a <i>Gōtanye</i> Service (Shinran Shōnin's Birthday); <i>Hatsumairi</i> Infant Presentation - Rev. Mas Kodani 11a Youth Kinnara Taiko Class		10:30-2p WasabiKai Open Studio	10a-2p Hongwanji Place 6:30-7:15p Senshin Bukkyo Gakuin: Basic Buddhism (zoom) Rev. Furumoto	10:30a-2p WasabiKai Open Studio 7-9p Kinnara Taiko		
<b>25</b>	<b>26</b> Memorial Day	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>
10a Service <i>Following Service:</i> - Study Class (In person): Basic Buddhism, Rev. Furumoto - Youth Kinnara Taiko Class 11:30a ABA/BWA KeiAi Bingo	8a-12p Memorial Day <i>Nokotsudo</i> visitation 11:30a Rosedale, Memorial Day services at cemeteries	10:30-2p WasabiKai Open Studio	10a-2p Hongwanji Place	10:30a-2p WasabiKai Open Studio 7-9p Kinnara Taiko		

## MAY SERVICE TOBAN: Dharma School

### Monthly Toban group responsible for:

- **Weekly** Chair May Sunday Service
- **May 4** Provide donuts/beverages following monthly memorial service
- **May 11** Provide/serve snacks and beverages for Temple Board Meeting
- **May 18** Provide *osonae* (altar offering) for *Gotanye* Service

## MAY Hondo Toban

Koichi Uyemura  
Dale Matsubara  
Tammy Matsubara  
Amy Yukawa

## MAY ONAIJIN Flower Arrangement

**May 3** Qris Yamashita  
**May 10** Robert Hori/Richard Kok  
**May 17** *Gotanye* Paige Morikawa  
**May 24** Patti Honkawa  
**May 31** Sue Omori/Chris Aihara  
**June 7** Debra Nishida/Lori Nishida

(Note: If you are unable  
to fulfill the week you are  
scheduled, please contact  
Iris at (310) 951-0160

## JUNE Upcoming Events

**June 15**  
Jr. YBA Parents' Day Breakfast  
**June 16**  
First Day of Saishin Dojo