

In Japan, August 16 marks the end of the Obon holiday—a time when many families return to their hometowns to remember and honor their ancestors. The national holiday runs from August 13 to 16, and for many, this season brings moments of reflection and connection.

In the U.S., August 16 holds a different kind of significance for music fans. It is the day Elvis Presley, the “King of Rock ’n’ Roll,” passed away in 1977. For some, it’s a time to revisit his songs and reflect on his life and legacy.

Though he was adored by millions and lived in luxury, Elvis felt deeply confined in his later years. From 1969 to 1976, he performed two dinner shows a day at the International Hotel in Las Vegas—primarily during August and December. In total, he performed over 600 shows there, all of which sold out. He

stayed in the hotel's luxurious suite, surrounded by glamorous decor, a higher floor view, and access to anything he desired. Yet despite the splendor, according to those close to him, Elvis felt like a prisoner—trapped in a golden cage.

He longed to tour internationally, but his manager never allowed him to leave the U.S. Compared to a world tour, even the most extravagant suite felt small and stifling.

This episode about Elvis reminded me of a verse (*wasan*) by Shinran Shonin:

*“They are like the prince of cakravartin king  
Who, for offenses committed  
against the king,  
Is Placed in a prison,  
Fettered in chains of gold.”*

*“People who say the Name in self-power  
All fail to entrust themselves to the  
Tathagata's Primal Vow;  
Because the offense of doubting is  
grave,  
They are chained in a prison of seven  
precious materials.”*

(HYMNS OF THE OFFENSE OF DOUBTING THE PRIMAL VOW, CWS P. 414)

In these *wasan*, Shinran Shonin speaks about the Pure Land and the danger of doubt. According to the teachings, those who doubt Amida Buddha's Primal Vow may still be born in the Pure Land—but not in its central part. Instead, they are born in what is called the “borderland” or the “womb-palace,” a kind of confinement



made of seven kinds of jewels. While it seems beautiful and comfortable, it is still a form of limitation.

The “borderland” means being on the edge of Nirvana, unable to fully experience its depth and joy. The “womb-palace” is like being in a mother's womb—safe and warm, but not where one is meant to stay. One must eventually come out and move freely.

A *sensei* once explained this using the example of a temple. Sometimes, people are physically at the temple but don't attend the service. They stay in the office, kitchen, or social hall. They're in the temple, yet not really part of the heart of the temple—the Dharma. Likewise, those in the jewel palace are in the Pure Land but cannot truly see it. In Jodo Shinshu, entrusting ourselves to Amida Buddha arises

through listening deeply to the Dharma. Without such listening, doubt remains. Shinran Shonin said that “entrusting is hearing without doubt.” Doubt means relying on our own ego and self-power, rather than fully opening ourselves to Amida's compassion.

Shinran Shonin's *wasan* is based on a passage from the Larger Sutra of Immeasurable Life, in which the Buddha says:

*“Imagine a king who owns a palace made of seven precious jewels... If young princes committed offenses, they would be confined there. Though they had every comfort—food, music, soft bedding—they still wished to escape. In the same way,*

*those who doubt the Buddha's wisdom are born in such palaces. They feel no pain, but for 500 years, they cannot see the Three Treasures—Buddha, Dharma, and Sangha. Without these, they find no true joy.”*

We may sometimes take the Three Treasures for granted, but the Buddha teaches that meeting them is a rare and precious chance. Through Shinran Shonin's guidance, we are reminded to entrust ourselves to Amida Buddha, say the *Nembutsu*, and walk the path to birth in the true Pure Land—not the jewel palace, but the realm of boundless freedom and awakening.

*Namoamidabutsu*

REV. RYUTA FURUMOTO

## エルビスと七宝の牢獄

日本では、お盆休みは8月13日から16日で、多くの人々が故郷に帰り、ご先祖さまを偲び、感謝の気持ちを表す時期です。8月16日は自分の家に帰り、仕事や学校に戻るための心の準備をします。

一方、アメリカでは8月16日は音楽ファンにとっては特別な日です。「ロックンロールの王様」エルビス・プレスリーの命日で、1977年に42歳で亡く

なりました。ファンたちは、エルビスに敬意を表し、彼の曲を聴くことでしよう。

多くの人から支持され、豪華な生活を送っていたエルビスですが、晩年は強い閉塞感を抱えていたといわれます。1969年から1976年



の間、彼はラスベガスのインターナショナルホテルで、主に8月と12月に1日2回のディナーショーを行っていました。合計600回以上の公演はすべて満席でした。豪華なスイートルームに滞在し、上層階からの眺め、豪華な調度品、必要なものはすべて揃っていたそうです。

しかし、関係者の話によると、彼はその環境を、囚われているような生活だと感じていたといえます。本当は世界中をツアーで回りたかったのに、マネージャーの方針でアメリカ国外に出ることができませんでした。どんなに贅沢な部屋であっても、自由がなければ、それはやはり閉ざされた空間だったのです。

この話を聞いて思い出したのが、親鸞聖人の和讃です：

(65)「方便の浄土にとどまるのは、転輪聖王の王子が罪を犯して王から罰せられ、黄金の鎖でつながれて牢獄に閉じこめられるようなものである。」

(66)「自力の心で念仏する人は、みな阿彌陀仏の本願を信じず、疑う罪が深いので、金、銀、瑠璃(るり)、水晶、珊瑚、瑪瑙(めのう)、砗磲(



しゃこ)などの七つの宝でできた牢獄に閉じこめられる。」

(『正像末和讃』、現代語訳)

この和讃は、浄土と疑いの心について述べています。阿彌陀さまの本願を疑う者も、浄土に生まれることができるのですが、その中心では

なく、「辺地(へんち)」や「胎宮(たいぐう)」と呼ばれる場所に生まれると説かれています。そこは七つの宝でできた美しい場所ではありますが、本当の意味での自由と安らぎは得られない、とされています。

「辺地」とは涅槃の中心から離れた場所という意味で、仏さまの教えの本質を十分に感じる事ができない状態を指します。「胎宮」とは、まるで母親の胎内のように心地よく安心できる場所ですが、そこに留まっ

ていては自由に生きることができません。最終的にはそこから出て、自由に歩み出すべきなのです。ある先生は、このことをお寺にたとえて説明してくれました。お寺の建物にはいても、法要に参加せず、キッチンやオフィス、ソーシャルホールにいる人たちがいます。お寺にいながら、実は法

(ダルマ)の中心から離れているのです。これは、七宝の宮殿にいて、本当の浄土を見ていないような状態です。

浄土真宗では、阿彌陀さまにおまかせする「他力の信心」は、仏法を「聞くこと(聞法)」から始まります。親鸞聖人は、「疑いなく聞くことが信心だ」とお示しくさっています。

疑いとは、自分のエゴの力に頼ることです。

親鸞聖人の和讃は、『大無量寿経』の一節をもとにしています。その箇所には、転輪聖王の七宝の宮殿のことが書かれています。



「転輪聖王という、七宝でできた宮殿を持つ王がいた。若い王子たちが過ちを犯した時、その宮殿に閉じ込められるます。食事音楽も寝具も揃い、苦しみはないが、彼らはそこから出たいと願う。同じように、仏の智慧を疑う者はそのような宮殿に生まれる。苦しみはないが、五百年間、仏・法・僧の三宝を見る事ができず、そのため心からの喜びを得ることはできない。」

私たちは、三宝(仏・法・僧)と出遇っていることの尊さを、つい忘れてしまいがちなので、大無量寿経で、お釈迦さまはそれがどれほど貴重な縁であるかを教えてくださっているのです。

親鸞聖人の導きによって、私たちは阿彌陀さまにおまかせし、南無阿彌陀仏と称えて、真実の浄土へと向かう道を歩みます。それは、辺地や胎宮や七宝の宮殿ではなく、本当の自由と目覚めに満ちた世界への歩みです。

南無阿彌陀仏



## Monthly Memorial JULY 2025

### Shotsuki Service July 13 at 10a

Seshu (Observant)

*Deceased Relation To Obervant, Deceased*

Akahori, Julie <i>Uncle Uyetake, Keiso</i>	Kunitake, Kimiyo <i>Mother-in-law Kunitake, Shizue</i>	Shigaki Family <i>Mother Shigaki, Doris</i>
Fujimoto, Noriko <i>Husband Fujimoto, Hisashi</i>	Kunitake, Kimiyo <i>Mother Yamada, Eiko</i>	Shirasago, Paula <i>Mother Shimada, Mae Satsuki</i>
Hashimoto Family <i>Uncle Hashimoto, Harry</i>	Maeshiro Family <i>Fujimoto, Susan</i>	Sugano, Michiko <i>Mother Yoshimoto, Sayo</i>
Hashimoto Family <i>Grandfather Nishimura, Kanichi</i>	Matsubayashi, Kazuo <i>Mother Matsubayashi, Atsuko</i>	Takashima, Iris <i>Uncle Yasuda, Minoru</i>
Hiramoto, John <i>Grandmother Kanegawa, Mitsuru</i>	Meigneux, Kate & Meigneux, Emma & Teia <i>Husband/Father Meigneux, Patrice</i>	Takemoto, Jon <i>Father Takemoto, Ben</i>
Hosokawa, Gloria <i>Grandmother Maruichi, Hatsu</i>	Miyata, Satoshi <i>Wife Miyata, Sue</i>	Takeyama, Yo <i>Husband Takeyama, Ray</i>
Huey, Celia <i>Grandmother Kanegawa, Mitsuru</i>	Mori, Wendy <i>Mother Sahara, Chiyo</i>	Terrell, Jackie <i>Mother Howard, Marty</i>
Imamura Family <i>Grandmother Yoshimura, Hisa</i>	Murakami, Eugene <i>Father Murakami, Kazuo</i>	Toyama, Beverly <i>Aunt Murata, Hatsuye</i>
Ito, Maryann <i>Father Ito, Tokuo</i>	Nagano, Lance <i>Wife Nagano, Julia</i>	Toyama, Beverly <i>Uncle Murata, Kenji</i>
Kitano, Gerald <i>Father Kitano, Melvin</i>	Oda, Cindy <i>Uncle Tomita, Akira</i>	Toyama, Tory <i>Spouse Guerrero, Chase</i>
Kitano, Jane <i>Mother Otamura, Sumiko</i>	Okazaki, James <i>Uncle Okazaki, Tasuku</i>	Wakinaka, Bernice <i>Sister-in-law Nagaoka, Meta</i>
Kojima, Chikako <i>Daughter Kojima, Noreen</i>	Saneto Family <i>Grandmother Saneto, Koima</i>	Yamashita, Betty <i>Grandmother Ito, Toku</i>
Kok, Richard <i>Mother Yoke, Toh Siew</i>	Sato Family <i>Grandmother Sato, Kogimi</i>	Yokoyama, Arlene <i>Sister Yamada, Ellen</i>
	Segawa Family <i>Segawa/Kawamoto Families</i>	Yokoyama, Arlene <i>Mother Yamada, Thelma</i>
		Yoshimura, Evelyn <i>Father Yoshimura, Dan</i>

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.

Yoshimura, Brett & Susan  
*Grandfather Yoshimura, Dan*

Yoshimura, Evelyn  
*Stepmother Yoshimura, Kay*

## Monthly Memorial AUGUST 2025

### Shotsuki Service July 13 at 10a

Seshu (Observant)

*Deceased Relation To Obervant, Deceased*

Akahori, Julie <i>Grandfather Uyetake, Senichi</i>	Kodama, Nancy <i>Husband Kodama, Malcolm</i>	Nakawatase, Richard <i>Grandfather Nakawatase, Suyekichi</i>
Domoto Family <i>Domoto, Eiichi</i>	Kojima, Chikako <i>Mother-in-law Kojima, Natalia</i>	Nakawatase, Richard <i>Aunt Inahara, Toshiko Lily</i>
Ebata, Donna <i>Mother-in-law Ebata, Emiko</i>	Kojima, Chikako <i>Aunt Kojima, Bonnie</i>	Nakawatase, Terry <i>Husband Nakawatase, Roy</i>
Higa, Dorothy <i>Father Kuwaki, Masao</i>	Kuwata, Tom <i>Grandmother Kuwata, Kogiku</i>	Okita Family <i>Father Okita, Kiyoshi</i>
Ishizuka, Karen <i>Brother Ishizuka, Tadao Kirk</i>	Marubayashi, Roy <i>Mother Marubayashi, Setsuko</i>	Ono, David <i>Father Ono, Akira</i>
Isomoto, Glen <i>Grandmother Isomoto, Sakuyo</i>	Matsumura, Henry <i>Grandfather Matsumura, Kunishiro</i>	Sakakura, Michiko <i>Father Sakakura, Kotaro</i>
Isomoto, Glen <i>Grandfather Isomoto, Ikusuke</i>	Matsumura, Henry <i>Uncle Matsumura, Kuniyoshi</i>	Shirasago, Paula <i>Father Shimada, Saburo</i>
Kanda, Lynn <i>Father</i> Gleeson, David <i>Father-in-law</i> Gleeson, Paiton, Emery, Montgomery <i>Grandfather</i> Kanda, Mamoru	Minami, Jean <i>Father Yokomi, Itsuto</i>	Takashima, Wilbur <i>Uncle Taniguchi, Mitsuo</i>
Kiriyama, Iku <i>Husband Kiriyama, George</i>	Mori, Johnny <i>Grandmother Ishigaki, Tane</i>	Tanaka, Lillian <i>Father Shiosaki, Rodney</i>
Kitano, Jane <i>Father Otamura, Masao</i>	Murakami, Eugene <i>Grandfather Inouye, Kenso</i>	Tanezaki, Barbara <i>Mother Kakita, Hisako</i>
	Murakami, Eugene <i>Grandmother Inouye, Komina</i>	Toji, Suzanne <i>Husband Toji, Robert</i>
	Nakashima, Jean <i>Mother Shigeyasu, Emiko</i>	Torio, Taye <i>Father Sugimoto, Heiji</i>
		Toyama, John <i>Brother Toyama, George</i>
		Wakinaka, Bernice <i>Sister Yamada, Chiyoye</i>
		Yamashita, Betty <i>Mother Takahashi, Nancy</i>

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# Senshin 2025

## Senshin Bukkyo Gakuin Class Jr. YBA Japan Trip Class

Rev. Ryuta Furumoto

Wednesdays, online, 6:30 to 7:15p

July 2 & 9

This class is for Jr. YBA members going on the Japan trip at the end of July. Students will learn about the places they'll visit, including our mother temple, Hongwanji in Kyoto, as well as temples in Nara and Kamakura. The class will also cover topics like Shinran Shonin, Gion Matsuri, *Mingei* (folk craft), and fun cultural highlights like Japanese shaved ice.

Anyone interested is welcome to join the class, but please note: participation in the class does not mean you can join the trip.

## Senshinji Kangi-e Obon Service

Sunday, July 20, 2025

In Jodo Shinshu, *Obon* is called *Kangi-e*, meaning "The Gathering of Joy." It is one of the most important services in our Buddhist calendar.

*Obon* is a time to remember and express gratitude to our ancestors and all those who have passed before us. Through this service, we reflect on the lives that have shaped ours and reaffirm the preciousness of all life.

**10a Kangi-e Obon Service** with Guest Speaker: Rev. Mas Kodani

Following the service, *Otoki* by BWA

Please join us for this special service of remembrance and gratitude.

**SENSHIN  
BON ODORI  
SAT 5 JULY 2025**



**4:30pm**  
Hatsubon  
Private Service

**7pm**  
Bon Odori  
Raffle drawing  
after intermission

**9pm**  
Omairi  
in Hondo  
Sento Shogen  
1,000 oil lamps

**9:30pm**  
Otoki and  
Horaku  
Kinnara Taiko  
and guest  
performers

SENSHIN BUDDHIST TEMPLE • [www.senshintemple.org](http://www.senshintemple.org)  
1311 West 37th Street • Los Angeles, CA 90007 • 323.731.4617



## Gagaku Retreat

Saturday, August 23, 2025

10a – 4p at Senshin Buddhist Temple

We invite you to a special **Gagaku Retreat**—a day of music, learning, and community. Gagaku is Japan's oldest continuing form of orchestral music, with a history going back over 1,400 years.

This retreat is sponsored by the BCA Music Committee, with participants from Seattle Betsuin and Berkeley Buddhist Temple joining us for a day of practice and sharing.

If you're curious about Gagaku, want to listen, or are interested in joining the Kinnara Gagaku group at Senshin, this is a great opportunity to begin. No experience needed—just interest and an open heart!

To sign up or learn more, please contact: [senshintemple@gmail.com](mailto:senshintemple@gmail.com)

## Ojo Raisan Chanting Session

Saturday, August 23, 2025

5p, following the Gagaku Retreat

In the evening, we will hold an *Ojo Raisan* Chanting Session with the Gagaku retreat attendees and chanting specialists.

*Ojo Raisan* was composed by the Chinese Pure Land Master Shantao in the 7th century and became a widely chanted text during Japan's Kamakura period (12th–13th century).

Let us gather to chant together and bring a peaceful close to the summer season.

This session is sponsored by the Southern District Buddhist Education Committee (BEC).

Dinner will follow in the Social Hall.

To participate, please contact: [senshintemple@gmail.com](mailto:senshintemple@gmail.com)

## Gagaku Performance

Sunday, August 24, 2025

1p, Senshin Buddhist Temple

Please join us for a special Gagaku performance, featuring traditional Japanese court music passed down for over a thousand years. The program will include well-known pieces such as:

*Etenraku*

*Goshoraku*

*Bairo*

*Bairo* is especially unique—it was introduced to Japan in the 8th century by the Vietnamese monk Buttetsu and is known as a "victory-inviting" tune. In ancient times, samurai would listen to it seven times before battle. After the seventh repetition, they would wait to hear the mysterious "*Shamo no oto*" (sound of victory)—and legend says they never lost.

At this performance, our musicians will play *Bairo* seven times.

Those hoping for victory—whether in life, sports, or for your favorite team (Dodgers fans, take note!)—are warmly invited.

(Disclaimer: We cannot guarantee you'll hear the sound)

Come enjoy this rare and joyful cultural event!



**MAY DONATION**

Anonymous *Donation*  
 Chris Burtis *Nokotsudo*  
 Lynn Kanda & David Gleeson  
*In Memory of Susan Kanda*  
 Debra Nishida & Neil Hurley  
*In Memory of Gwen Nishida*  
 Russell Nishida  
*In Memory of Gwen Nishida*  
 Robert Nishida  
*In Memory of Gwen Nishida*  
 Michael Nishida  
*In Memory of Gwen Nishida*  
 Wada Family  
*Gayle Wada Makuragyo*  
 Glenn & Harumi Kawaguchi  
*Nokotsudo Motoko Saneto*  
 Michiko Sugano *Nokotsudo*  
 Kathy Masaoka *Dana*  
 Dennis & Celia Huey *Dana*  
 Marty & Kathie Umemoto  
*Hatsumairi for Hudson Umemoto*  
 Marty & Kathie Umemoto  
*Hatsumairi for Sophie Umemoto*  
 Wilbur & Iris Takashima  
*Hatsumairi for Kenzo Takashima Knight*  
 Iwanaga & Aihara Families  
*49 day service for Mary Iwanaga*  
 Peggy Okuda *Hatsumairi*  
 Nick & Wendy Nagatani  
*Nokotsudo*  
 Shelly Okamura *Nokotsudo*  
 Dana & Ann Saneto  
*Nokotsudo Motoko Saneto*  
 Ellen Shimohara  
*Celebrate 2nd Birthday of 2nd Grandson*  
 Rose Hom *Donation*  
 Dennis & Marilyn Miyamoto  
*Nokotsudo*  
 James Tanaka  
*In honor of Lilian Tanaka*  
 Dennis & Celia Huey *Dana*

Michael Tsutsui *Nokotsudo*  
 Russell & Lori Nishida  
*Memorial Day Evergreen and Rosedale*  
 Dale Shirasago *Dana*  
 Grace Uyeshima  
*In memory of Masuo Tanaka - the Tanaka Family*  
 Mayumi Kodani *Dana*  
 Senshin Jr. YBA *Oseibo*  
 Don & Lynn Akamine  
*Costs of Printing Raffle Tickets*  
**HANAMATSURI**  
 Sachie Oda  
 Ellen Shimohara  
 Qris Yamashita  
**HATSUMAIRI**  
 Christine Aihara  
 Ellen Shimohara  
 Arlene Yokoyama  
 Craig & Cindy Ogawa  
 Megan & Daryl Ogawa

**MAY FLOWER DONATION**

Kathie & Marty Umemoto  
 John & Debbie Hiramoto  
 Dexter Nishiyama  
 Michiko Sugano  
 Julie Akahori  
 Kelvin & Yoko Nishikawa  
 Sumi Hayamizu  
 Merrie Nishisaka  
 Glenn & Harumi Kawaguchi  
 Dana & Ann Saneto  
 Nishida Family  
 Marilyn Shimabukuro  
 Lori & Russell Nishida

**MAY SHOTSUKI HOYO**

Observant  
*In Memory Of*  
 Madalyn K. Adams  
 Kijiro Kuwata  
 Julie Akahori  
 Akahori & Uyetake  
 Donna Ebata  
*Husband Duane Ebata*  
 May Sugano Egner  
 Leo Masanobu Sugano  
 James & Karen Harada  
 Nancy Matsumura  
 James & Karen Harada  
 Fujiko Yamaguchi  
 Lisa Hashimoto-Elardo  
*Sister Janice Hashimoto*  
 Sumiko Hayamizu  
 Hashigoro Nakashima  
 Deborah & John Hiramoto  
 George Hiramoto  
 Paul Hiramoto  
*Father George Hiramoto*  
 Robert Hori  
 Takashi Hori  
 Glenn & Harumi Kawaguchi  
*Mother Motoko Saneto*  
 Neil & JoAnn Komai  
 Alice Yamada  
 Lisa Ann Maeda  
 Lily Domoto  
 Yoshio & Lillie Miyagishima  
 Yoshimi Miyagishima  
 Lori Nishida  
 Yoshio Nishisaka  
 Merrie Nishisaka  
 Yoshio Nishisaka  
 Dexter Nishiyama  
 Connie Matayoshi  
 Nishiyama  
 Ron & Fujie Ohata  
*Brother Kevin Ohata*  
 Tom, Denise & Fujiyo Okabe  
 Lily Domoto  
 Peggy Okuda  
 Mother Saeko Imoto  
 Dana & Ann Saneto  
 Motoko Saneto  
 Satomi Saneto  
 Motoko Saneto  
 Keith Shimabukuro  
 Uncle Al Shigaki

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 remains 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.



Marilyn Shimabukuro & Gilbert Leong  
*Uncle Al Shigaki*  
 Michiko Sugano  
 Leo Sugano  
 Wilbur & Iris Takashima  
 Katsumi J. Takashima, Tsune Takashima  
 Maya & Ron Takemoto  
*Mother Kazumi Takemoto*  
 Kathie & Marty Umemoto  
 Misao Matsuda  
 Kathie & Marty Umemoto  
*Mother Mitsuko Umemoto*  
 Kathie & Marty Umemoto  
*Grandson Jayden Ito*  
 Yukie Ushirogata  
*Mother Tsune Matsushita*  
 Betty Yamashita  
*Father Tokuso Takahashi*  
 Amy Yukawa  
 Ben S. Sugeta

**GOTANYE - MAY 2025**

Anonymous  
 Julie Akahori  
 Don & Lynn Akamine  
 Jane Asahi  
 James & Karen Harada  
 Kenneth Hatai  
 Sumiko Hayamizu  
 Bert & Dorothy Higa  
 Deb & John Hiramoto  
 Paul Hiramoto  
 Catherine Hisamune  
 Patti Honkawa  
 Robert Hori  
 Edna Horiuchi  
 Janis Ishitani  
 Cathy Iyemura  
 Emi Kamikawa  
 Ruby Kiyohara  
 Chikako Kojima  
 June Kondo  
 Tammy & Dale Matsubara  
 Doug Matsuda  
 Jean Minami  
 Lillie Miyagishima  
 Marilyn & Dennis  
 Miyamoto

Eugene & Elaine Murakami  
 Richard & Helen Nakawatase  
 Russell & Lori Nishida  
 Kelvin & Yoko Nishikawa  
 Merrie Nishisaka  
 Ron & Fujie Ohata  
 Shelly Okamura  
 Michael & Carol Okuda  
 Susan Oda Omori  
 Michiko & Richard Sakakura  
 Ellen Shimohara  
 Marilyn Shimabukuro & Gilbert Leong  
 Mark & Reiko Sunday  
 Wilbur & Iris Takashima  
 Suzanne Toji  
 Mika Toyoura  
 Kathy & Marty Umemoto  
 Bernice Wakinaka  
 Vickie Wakinaka  
 Toshiko Yamaguchi  
 Betty & Tak Yamashita  
 Qris Yamashita & Chris Komai  
 Michael & Lily Yanagita  
 Arlene Yokoyama  
 Amy Yukawa

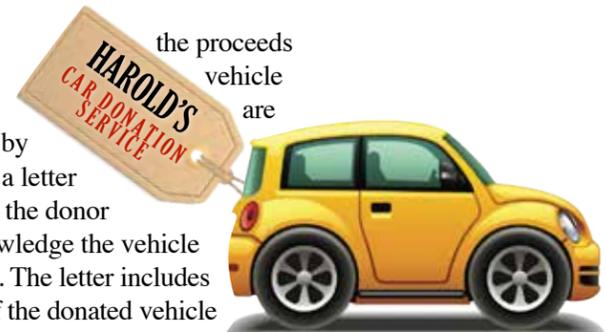
**Vehicle Donation**

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 re-furnished as necessary to bring in the highest sale amount for the donated vehicle.

Once from the donation 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.



**Social Media**

**Instagram:** Users are now able to not only follow accounts, but hashtags. You can follow **#SenshinEverything** and also tag your posts of Senshin with the hashtag if you'd like others to see solely your Senshin pics. **That's #SENSHINEVERYTHING.**

You can now view the **Senshin Google Calendar here: <https://bit.ly/2Gbhc27>**

If you would like to add the Senshin Calendar to your iPhone or iPad:

1. Launch the Settings app on your iPhone or iPad.
2. Tap on Mail, Contacts, Calendars.
3. Tap on Add Account...under the Mail section.
4. Tap on Other.

5. Tap on Add Subscribed Calendar under the Other section
6. Enter or copy in the following link: <https://calendar.google.com/calendar/ical/jr9b2e26vovo0a0rhht9kt6i0k%40group.calendar.google.com/public/basic.ics>



# Updates

## & ANNOUNCEMENTS!

### Message from the Board

Big news! You might have noticed our new and improved main parking lot. The board approved a new coating to repair the cracks and also re-stripping the lot for a better flow. "Obon Alley" also got a new concrete walkway just in time for Obon. These improvements are brought to you by the many generous donations from our sangha through the Anitya Fund, so thank you! Phase 5 is also being proposed so more to come on that.

The month of June brought in another session of Saishin Dojo and planning committees have been busy gearing up for summer activities such as Obon and the Senshin Picnic (I hope to see you there!). We are also planning for our big 75th anniversary and Southern District conference coming in 2026. If you would like to be a part of these events please reach out to me or anyone on the board.

*In Gassho,*  
STAN FUKAWA

### BWA

It's hard to believe it's summer and the Obon 2025 season is here! So many will come together for this year's Senshin Obon to honor those that have passed away, to enjoy the dancing, the music, and the Senshin community. The BWA will have spam musubi and cookies for sale at the BWA booth. Suzanne Toji and Deb Nishida will be spearheading the spam musubi making. Thank you to them and to all the

volunteers that will help in the kitchen and in the booth that evening. And thank you to Deb Hiramoto for or-



dering the banner for the BWA booth. Later in the month, we will prepare chirashi for otoki after the Kangi-e service on July 20th. The team of JoAnn Komai, Linda Uyemura, and Donna Ebata will lead the chirashi preparation and serving. Thank you to the team and to all the volunteers who will come out to help. August is the month off for harvesting, but the Senshin community will come together for the Senshin picnic. The BWA will participate with other organizations by conducting a game for all to enjoy.

- We would like to thank the following for their generous donations:
- Reiko Sunday *13th yr. memorial for mother Kiyoko Nimi*
  - Iris & Wilbur Takashima *Hatsumairi for grandson Kenzo*
  - Kathie & Marty Umemoto *Hatsumairi for grandson Hudson*

- Kathie & Marty Umemoto *Hatsumairi for granddaughter Sophie*
- Arlene Yokoyama *Hatsumairi for grandson Jaxen*
- Ellen Shimohara *Hatsumairi/2nd birthday for grandson*

### ABA

ABA and friends had a luncheon get together at The Proud Bird. Thank you all who were able to join. Everyone had a fun time!

### Jr YBA

In June, Jr. YBA hosted the Parent's Day breakfast to celebrate Father's Day, where we served breakfast to those who came before service. It was a special time to honor parents and bring the community together. Some Jr's also participated in seminar 3 in San Fernando Valley where they connected with other Jr's. As July approaches, we have begun preparing for Obon, and several Jr's will be volunteering at Saishin Dojo. We are also getting ready for our Japan trip at the end of July.

If you have any questions or would like to join Jr. YBA, don't hesitate to reach out to our parent advisor, Mrs. Juriko Yamada at: [afstue@gmail.com](mailto:afstue@gmail.com).

### Sangha Teens

Congratulations to the Sangha teens who culminated from Middle School in June: Emi, Ishin, Jared, Jayce, Key-lana, Khloe, Koji, and Lee. They are excited to start high school and Junior YBA in the Fall!



## PARENTS DAY BREAKFAST 2025



# SENSHIN-JI 2025 JULY 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>
		10:30-2p WasabiKai Open Studio	10a-2p Hongwanji Place 6:30-7:15p Senshin Bukkyo Gakuin for Jr. YBA Japan trip (Zoom) 7p Obon Odori practice	10:30a-2p WasabiKai Open Studio 7-9p Kinnara Taiko		4:30p Senshinji <i>Hatsubon</i> Service 7p Senshinji Bon Odori 9p <i>Omairi</i> in Hondō, <i>Sentō Shōgon</i> (1000 oil lamps) 9:30p <i>Horaku</i> , Kinnara Taiko
<b>6</b> No Service	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>
		10:30-2p WasabiKai Open Studio	10a-2p Hongwanji Place 6:30-7:15p Senshin Bukkyo Gakuin for Jr. YBA Japan trip (Zoom)	10:30a-2p WasabiKai Open Studio 7-9p Kinnara Taiko		
<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>
8:30a Board Meeting 9:45a Japanese <i>Howa</i> 10a July/August Monthly Memorial Service ( <i>Shotsuki Hoyo</i> ) and Family Service After service Donuts. Meetings: Jr. YBA, Sangha teens, ABA July 13-17 Saishin Dojo SLO Camp		10:30-2p WasabiKai Open Studio	10a-2p Hongwanji Place	10:30a-2p WasabiKai Open Studio 7-9p Kinnara Taiko		
<b>20</b> Obon Kangi-e Service	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>
10a Obon Kangi-e Service Rev. Mas Kodani After service <i>Otoki</i> by BWA: Chirashi		10:30-2p WasabiKai Open Studio	10a-2p Hongwanji Place	10:30a-2p WasabiKai Open Studio 7-9p Kinnara Taiko		
<b>27</b> No Service	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>	Aug 1	Aug 2
		10:30-2p WasabiKai Open Studio		10:30a-2p WasabiKai Open Studio 7-9p Kinnara Taiko		

## JULY SERVICE Toban: Dharma School

### Monthly Toban group responsible for:

- Weekly Chair July Sunday Service
- July 13 Provide donuts/beverages following monthly memorial service
- July 20 Provide *osonae* (altar offering) for *Kangi-e* Service.  
Provide/serve snacks and beverages for Temple Board Meeting

## JULY Hondo Toban

Wilbur Takashima  
Iris Takashima  
Glen Isomoto  
Joyce Isomoto

## JULY ONAIJIN Flower Arrangement

July 5 (Hatsubon) Marilyn Shimabukuro / Gilbert Leong  
July 11, Fri (Saishin Dojo Culmination) Joyce/Glen Isomoto  
July 19 (Obon *Kangi-e*) Shelly Okamura/Karen Harada  
July 26 Mika Toyoura/Karen Kimura Joo  
Aug 2 Sandra Aguilar

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

## AUGUST Upcoming Events

No Services  
Sun Aug 17 Senshin Picnic

# SENSHIN-JI 2025 AUGUST 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 No Service</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>
		10:30-2p WasabiKai Open Studio	10a-2p Hongwanji Place	10:30a-2p WasabiKai Open Studio 7-9p Kinnara Taiko		
<b>10 No Service</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>
		10:30-2p WasabiKai Open Studio	10a-2p Hongwanji Place	10:30a-2p WasabiKai Open Studio 7-9p Kinnara Taiko		
<b>17 No Service</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>
10a-3p Senshin-ji Picnic Kenneth Hahn Park		10:30-2p WasabiKai Open Studio	10a-2p Hongwanji Place	10:30a-2p WasabiKai Open Studio 7-9p Kinnara Taiko		10a-4p BCA Music Committee sponsored, Gagaku retreat @ Senshin 5p <i>Ojo Raisan</i> Chanting Session
		August 19 THRU 21 KAIKYOSHI FUKEN @ LODI				
<b>24 No Service</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>
1p BCA Music Committee sponsored, Gagaku performance		10:30-2p WasabiKai Open Studio		10:30a-2p WasabiKai Open Studio 7-9p Kinnara Taiko		

## 31 No Service

No AUGUST SERVICE Toban

No AUGUST HONDO Toban

AUGUST ONAIJIN Flower Arrangement

Aug 2 Sandra Aguilar  
 Aug 9 JoAnn Komai/Lynn Akamine  
 Aug 16 Linda/Koichi Uyemura  
 Aug 23 Suzanne Toji  
 Aug 30 Cathy Iyemura  
 Sept 6 Wendy/Johnny Mori

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

## SEPTEMBER Upcoming Events

Sun Sept 14 Osoji, Temple Cleanup  
 ABA/BWA Keiro Bingo  
 Sat Sept 20 Fall Higan Seminar  
 Sun Sept 21 Fall Higan Service



# SENSHIN-JI PICNIC 2025



# SUNDAY AUGUST 17

**KENNETH HAHN PARK** 4100 S. La Cienega Blvd, Los Angeles, 90056

- Reservation at **Burke Roche Point** located at the top of the hill inside the park  
**\$7 PER CAR ENTRANCE FEE.** Limited parking at Burke Roche Point, but plenty of parking along the road leading up to the picnic area.

**PICNIC STARTS 10:00 AM**  
**SERVICE 10:30 AM**  
**POTLUCK LUNCH 11:00 AM**  
**GROUP PHOTO 12:15 PM**  
**GAMES 12:30 PM**  
**PICNIC ENDS 3:00 PM**

### POTLUCK ASSIGNMENTS

(Any person age 80 or older do not have to bring any potluck dish to the picnic.)

Last names starting with:

- A thru K: Main Dish**
- L thru O: Vegetable/Salad & Rice**
- P thru Z: Main Dish**

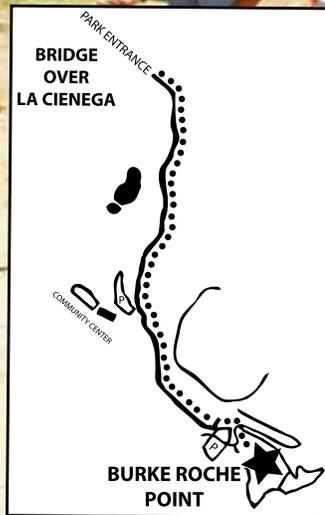
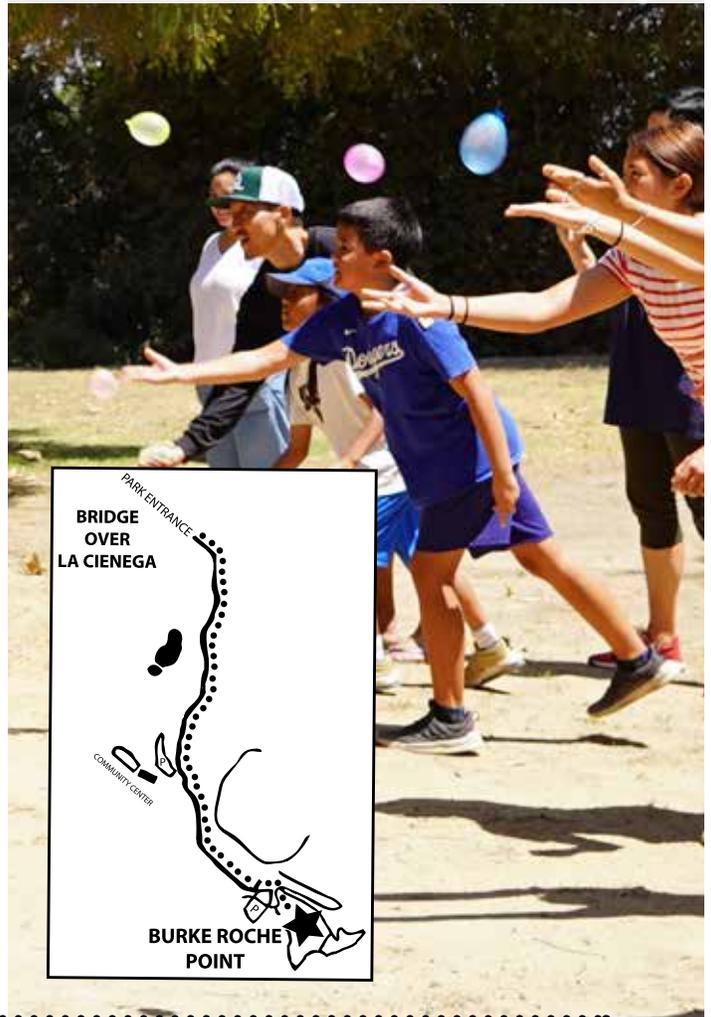
- Temple to provide desserts, EZ Pop up tents, water, utensils, paper goods, ice, and hot tea. No alcohol is permitted at the park.

- Please bring beach chairs or mats, if desired. There are picnic tables & benches at the park.

### GAMES

We are planning a variety of adult games but also games for children of all ages! There will also be a play area for children.

**QUESTIONS:** Contact Kelvin Nishikawa  
 818-510-1634 or kelvinenishikawa@gmail.com



### RSVP FORM

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_ # of people \_\_\_\_\_

Age(s) of Child \_\_\_\_\_

Phone # \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

SEND COMPLETED FORM TO:

**SENSHIN BUDDHIST TEMPLE Attn: "Picnic"**, 1311 West 37th Street, Los Angeles, CA 90007  
 or place it in the Temple mail slot labeled "Picnic"

**PLEASE RSVP BY AUGUST 3<sup>RD</sup> 2025**