

Learning from the Past for Our Future: Our Temple's Journey from Gakuin to Today — Senshin History (Part 2)



This year marks the 75th anniversary of our temple as an independent temple. To celebrate, we will hold special services and events on May 24 and May 31.

May 24: All Past Members Memorial Service and entertainment

May 31: 75th Anniversary Service and reception

As we prepare for these important events, this is a good time to learn more about our temple's history.

We have several historical records. One is found in the BCA 75th Anniversary book published in 1974. Another is our 50th Anniversary book published in 2001. We also have a summarized historical timeline.

This timeline is based on the BCA 75th Anniversa-

ry book and was probably written by Kanaye Saneto together with Yoshio Nishisaka, Hideyoshi Nakawatase, and Tsukasa Saneto.

One notable postwar event was the use of the temple as a hostel for families returning from the internment camps until they were able to find permanent housing. We do not have many

detailed records about this period, but in addition to Rev. Goldwater, Rev. Kanmo Imamura (who later became a Bishop of Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii) and his wife, as well as Rev. Art Takemoto, helped operate the hostel. Rev. Kyoshiro Tokunaga also managed the hostel. He first served as a teacher at Senshin Gakuin Japanese School and assisted with Dharma School, and later became a minister serving at San Jose Betsuin.

Senshin became an independent temple on May 1, 1951. Our Obutsudan and ornaments—refurbished for our 70th anniversary in 2019—were originally enshrined in 1955 in what is now the Social Hall, which at that time served as the Hondo. In 1966, the present Hondo was built when Rev. Enryo and Rev. Tetsuo Unno were our ministers.

Rev. Masao Kodani came to Senshin in 1968. The temple history describes his efforts as follows:

Rev. Kodani, attempting to make Jodo Shinshu more relevant to young people, rather than simply a carbon copy of Christianity in both form and ritual, initiated programs emphasizing sutra chanting, meditation, and cultural arts such as Gagaku, grounded in Buddhism and other Japanese traditions.

This is one reason why our chanting is longer. However, many of us truly enjoy chanting together.

In the late 1960s to early 1970s, many families began moving to suburban areas. However, members continued to feel that Senshin was their spiritual home, and they kept coming to sustain the temple. Now, more than 50 years later, we continue that same

spirit of support and participation. It is truly something special.

As written in our history:

The Seinan Area in the past decades has experienced a population shift in which the Japanese American population moved to suburbs east, west, and south to Orange County. As a result, the number of young people has declined, although temple membership has remained relatively constant. This indicates that many families, though having moved, still consider Senshin their temple and participate in programs they feel are vital to them.

CHRONOLOGICAL TIMELINE (Postwar–Early 1970s)

1945 – Postwar Reopening August 11, 1945

- Japanese Americans permitted to return to the West Coast.
- Rev. Goldwater requests to convert Senshin Gakuin into a temporary hostel for returning families.

Late 1945–1949

- Rev. Kuwatsuki temporarily oversees Senshin but is recalled to Los Angeles Betsuin due to staff shortage.
- Kyoshiro Tokunaga assumes responsibility for hostel operations and Sunday School.
- Japanese Language School reopens; private tutoring also offered.
- As hostel operations phase out, student enrollment steadily increases.
- Growing enrollment creates urgent need for additional staff.

BECOMING AN INDEPENDENT TEMPLE May 1, 1951

- Senshin officially becomes an independent temple with Betsuin approval.

- Rev. Bunpo Kuwatsuki becomes first resident minister.
- Growing Japanese population in the Seinan area supports the decision.
- Rev. Koyo Tamanaha (1952–54) and Rev. Takujo Suginari (1954–55) are assigned.

GROWTH AND EXPANSION

March 1955

- Temple sponsors Boy Scout Troop #636 to support youth development.

May 1955

- New Obutsudan enshrined.

March 1956

- Special General Meeting adopts long-range two-part plan:
- Strengthen programs for English-speaking Sangha.
- Expand facilities through Sustaining Membership Program.

1956–1957

- Three lots east of the temple purchased.

September 1957

- Rev. Taitetsu Unno appointed associate minister in charge of English and youth programs.

MINISTERIAL CHANGES & INCREASING ENROLLMENT

September 1958:

- Rev. Kuwatsuki departed for Gifu, Japan, to take over his family temple after nearly 20 years of dedicated service.
- Rev. Gibun Kimura welcomed as new minister.
- Two southern lots purchased; houses used as temporary classrooms.
- Sunday School enrollment approaches 450 students, reflecting rapid growth.

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過去に学び、未来へつなぐ 学院から今日までの歩み — 洗心の歴史(第2回)

今年、洗心仏教会が独立寺院となってから75周年を迎える年です。これを記念して、5月24日と5月31日に記念法要および行事を予定しています。

5月24日には、先亡者追悼法要とエンターテインメント、5月31日には、75周年記念法要と祝賀会を行います。

これらの大切な行事を前に、先月に引き続き、お寺の歴史を振り返ってみまし 実藤協さん、西坂芳雄さん、中渡瀬秀義さん、実藤司さんらによってまとめられたものです。今回の年表は、第二次世界大戦後から1974年までの出来事を記しています。

戦後の特筆すべき出来事の一つは、収容所からLAの西南地区に戻ってきた人たちが住まいを見つけるまでの間、寺院を一時宿泊所(ホテル)として提供したことです。この時期の詳細な記録は多く残っていませんが、LA別院のゴールドウォーター師に加え、後にハワイ本派本願寺派の総長となられた今村寛猛師ご夫妻、竹本アーサー師、徳永京四郎師らがホステルの運営にあたりました。徳永師は当初、洗心学院(日本語学校)の教師および日曜学校の補佐を務め、その後僧侶となり、サンノゼ別院に勤められました。

洗心は1951年5月1日に別院の承認を得て独立寺院となりました。1955年に当時本堂として使用していた現在のソーシャルホールに新しいお仏壇や荘厳具を安置しました。1966年には、海野円了師、徹雄師が親子で駐在されていた時に現在の本堂が建立されました。

1968年に小谷政雄師が着任され、寺史には次のように記されています。

「小谷師は、形式や儀礼の面でキリスト教の模倣となるのではなく、若者にとってより意味ある浄土真宗を目指し、読経・瞑想・雅楽など、仏教に根ざした文化活動を重視するプログラムを開始した。」

洗心のサービスで、読経の時間がやや長い理由の一つはここにあります。けれどもマス先生の45年以上にわたるご指導のおかげで、多くの方は楽しんで、お経をとらえていて、お寺の素晴らしい伝統になっ

ていると思います。

1960年代後半から70年代初めにかけて、多くの方々がLAの郊外へ移り住みました。けれども、メンバーの方々は、洗心を心のふるさと感じ続け、お寺にお参りし、支え続けてくださいました。それから50年以上が経った今も、その支え合いの精神は受け継がれています。まことにありがたいことです。

寺史には次のように記されています。

過去数十年の間に、西南地区では日系人口の郊外(東西およびオレンジ郡方面)への転居が進んだ。その結果、若年層の数は減少したが、寺院の会員数は比較的安定している。これは、転居した多くの家族が依然として洗心を自らの寺と考え、大切に感じ、お寺のさまざまな活動に参加している。

年代順年表(戦後～1970年代初頭)

1945年 — 戦後再開

1945年8月11日

- 日系人の西海岸帰還が許可される。
- ゴールドウォーター師、洗心学院を帰還家族のための一時宿泊所に転用することを要請

1945年後半～1949年

- 桑月師が一時的に洗心を担当するも、人手不足によりロサンゼルス別院へ戻る。
- 徳永京四郎師がホステル運営および日曜学校を担当。
- 日本語学校再開、個別指導も実施。
- ホステル終了後、生徒数が着実に増加。
- 増加に伴い、教職員の追加が急務となる。

独立寺院となる

1951年5月1日

- 別院の承認を得て正式に独立寺院となる。
- 桑月文方師が初代開教使に就任。
- 西南地区の日系人口増加が独立

を後押し。

• 玉那覇晃洋師(52年から52年)と杉形卓浄師(54年から55年)が駐在。

発展と拡充

1955年3月

- ボーイスカウト第636団をスポンサーし、青少年育成を支援。

1955年5月

- 新しい御仏壇を安置。

1956年3月

- 特別総会にて長期二部計画を採択:

1. 英語話者門徒へのプログラム強化
2. 護持会員制度による施設拡張

1956–1957年

- 寺院東側3区画を購入。

1957年9月

- 海野大徹師が英語・青少年担当として着任。

開教使交代と生徒増加

1958年9月

- 桑月師、約20年の奉職を経て岐阜のご実家の寺院を継ぐため帰国。
- 木村義文師を主任開教使として迎える。
- 南側2区画購入、住宅を仮教室として活用。
- 日曜学校生徒数約450名に達する。

再編成

1960年7月

- 非営利宗教法人「洗心仏教会」として再法人化。
- 連邦税免除申請。

1960年8月

- 木村師、フレズノ別院へ輪番として異動となる。
- 海野円了師が主任開教使として着任。

1962年4月

- 海野大徹師、学業継続のため辞任。

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Monthly Memorial MARCH 2026

Shotsuki Service March 1, 2026 at 10a

Seshu (Observant)

Deceased Relation To Obervant, Deceased

Akahori, Julie
Uncle Kawaye, Harry

Domoto Family
Father Domoto, Toshihiro

Fujimoto, Miki
Sister Fujimoto, Yuki

Hashimoto Family
Grandmother
Nishimura, Tsuruyo

Iriye, Joji
Mother Sakai, Mitsue

Iriye, Joji
Nephew Sakai, Daniel

Isomoto, Glen
Stepmother Isomoto, Kiyoko

Kato, Douglas
Mother Kato, Jessie

Kodani, Richard
Mother Kodani, Motome

Kojima, Chikako
Husband Kojima, George

Kojima, Chikako
Grandfather Takaki, Teruji

Kojima, Chikako
Uncle Kojima, Fred

Lugo, Alyssa
Father Lugo, Peter

Matsuda, Michael
Aunt Fujikawa, Sachi

Matsuda Family
Brother
Matsuda, Manabu Ronnie

Matsumura, Henry
Aunt Nakano, Kimiko

Miyamoto, Dennis
Grandmother Kawai, Yuri

Nishida Family
Mother Nishida, Kikuko

Nishida Family
Grandmother Nishida, Yasuye

Nishikawa, Kelvin
Grandmother Nishikawa, Sekiyo

Nishiyama, Dexter
Mother-in-law
Matayoshi, Yoneko

Ogawa, Jerry
Aunt Kikunaga, Shizue

Ogawa, Jerry
Aunt Nagata, Kiyomi

Omori, Sue
Husband Omori, Henry Keisuke

Sato Family
Mother Sato, Terry

Shimohara, Ellen
Father Shinoda, Michio

Sunday, Reiko
Grandfather Nimi, Kamezo

Sugano, Michiko
Father-in-law Sugano, Takuya

Sugano, Michiko
Grandmother-in-law
Sugano, Tsugi

Takashima, Iris
Grandmother Yasuda, Shige

Takashima, Iris
Grandmother Takemoto, Jon
Mother Takemoto, Chiyo

Takemoto, Jon
Grandmother Fujiura, Osano

Tanezaki, Barbara
Husband Tanezaki, Takashi

Toji, Suzanne
Father Totsubo, Jack Muneo

Umemoto, Marty & Kathie
Brother
Matsuda, Manabu Ronnie

Ushirogata, Yukie
Father Matsushita, Ichitaro

Usui Family
Sister Usui, Gina

Wakinaka, Bernice
Son Wakinaka, Mike

Yoneda, Kiyoko
Mother Nakamura, Itono

Yoneda, Kiyoko
Sister Iwasaki, Hatsuye

Senshin Spring Ohigan Seminar, Sat March 14 and Ohigan Service, Sun March 15

Senshin Bukkyo Gakuin (SBG) Chanting, Ritual and Buddhist Etiquette in Jodo Shinshu Learning from Senshin Service Book

Wednesdays,
March 4, 11 & 18
6:30 - 7:15pm
(Zoom)

This is a wonderful opportunity to deepen your understanding of Jodo Shinshu. New participants are warmly welcome to join us.

Currently, we are learning how to chant the *Nembutsu* and *Wasan*, as well as studying the meaning of the *Wasan*.

Our Spring Ohigan (equinox) Seminar will take place on Saturday March 15 and Ohigan service will be on Sunday, March 16. The guest speaker will be Rev. Jon Turner, the resident minister of Orange County Buddhist Church.

Ohigan Seminar Saturday, March 14, 10:00am to 12:30pm.

"*Buddhas Everywhere: Formless Reality Manifesting Form*"

Join us for an insightful tour of Buddhist images that engage viewers not just visually, but spiritually as well. We will explore how images can serve as powerful tools to connect emotionally with Buddhism.

Ohigan Service Sunday, March 15, 10am

春のお彼岸セミナー並びにお彼岸法要のご案内
3月14日(土)にお彼岸セミナーを行います。セミナーのご講師はオレンジカウンティ仏教会のターナー・ジョン開教使です。15日(日)はお彼岸法要です。みなさま、お誘い合わせの上ぜひお参り下さい。

4月5日は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。

Hatsumairi Infant Presentation Ceremony Sunday May 3, 2026

We will hold *Hatsumairi* (the Infant Presentation Ceremony) on Sunday May 3, 2026. 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

初参りのおしらせ

2026年の初参りを5月3日(日)に行います。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。

Butsuren Hanamatsuri Service Sunday, April 5, 2026, at 1:00pm Nishi Betsuin

The Los Angeles Buddhist Temple Federation (Butsuren) will hold its annual Hanamatsuri Service on Sunday, April 5, 2025, at 1:00 PM at Nishi Betsuin.

This year's guest speaker will be Rev. Masao Kodani. His talk is titled: "*From Past to Future: The Evolving Role of Japanese American Temples 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 Honganji, Senshin Buddhist Temple, Sozenji (Soto Zen), Zenshuji

We warmly invite you to join this special gathering as we celebrate the birth of the Buddha together.

Please also mark your calendar for Senshin's Hanamatsuri, on Sunday, April 12.

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.

過去に学び...

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1962年後半

- ・海野徹雄師が着任し、英語・青少年活動を継続。

新寺院複合施設

1963年9月21日

- ・特別総会にて25万ドル規模の宗教教育複合施設および開教使用住宅建設の5か年計画を採択。
- ・追加区画購入、合計10区画に拡張。

1965年3月10日

- ・起工式(約700名参列)。

1966年5月1日

- ・新寺院複合施設落慶。
- ・新本堂、外陣に300席と100席分のクライングループ、納骨堂
- ・7つの教室を持つ教育棟
- ・75台分の駐車場

1960年代半ばまでに:

- ・日曜学校生徒数が約500名
- ・日本語学校生徒数が約150名
- ・約300家族が所属

1960年代後半の開教使

1968年8月

- ・海野徹雄師、進学のため辞任。
- ・小谷政雄師が着任。

1970年8月

- ・海野円了師、10年の奉職を経て退任。

1970年11月

- ・藤門芳信師が主任開教使として着任。

独立20周年

1971年8月8日

- ・独立20周年記念法要。
- ・寺院複合施設完済を記念する口一焼却式。
- ・25万ドルの財団(基金)設立。
- ・歴代開教使および80歳以上の一世27名を顕彰。

1970年代初頭

- ・一世から二世への世代交代。
- ・財団設立により財政基盤強化。
- ・英語法要・青少年活動拡充。
- ・月例ファミリー法要開始。
- ・元旦・花まつり・お盆で日英合同法要実施。
- ・初盆法要とお盆踊りで、千灯荘蔵を開始。
- ・伝えられた。

南無阿弥陀仏

LEARNING...

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REORGANIZATION

July 1960

- ・ Senshin re-incorporates as Senshin Buddhist Church (non-profit religious corporation).
- ・ Application submitted for federal tax-exempt status.

August 1960

- ・ Rev. Kimura departs to serve as Rimban of Fresno Betsuin.
- ・ Rev. Enryo Unno arrives as resident minister.

April 1962

- ・ Rev. Taitetsu Unno resigns to continue his studies.

Late 1962

- ・ Rev. Tetsuo Unno arrives to continue youth and English programs.

NEW TEMPLE COMPLEX

September 21, 1963

- ・ Special General Meeting adopts Five-Year Plan for \$250,000 religious-educational complex and new minister's residence.
- ・ Additional lots purchased, expanding property to 10 lots total.

March 10, 1965

- ・ Groundbreaking Ceremony held (700 attendees).

May 1, 1966

- ・ Dedication Ceremony of new temple complex.
- ・ New facilities include:
- ・ Hondo seating 300
- ・ "Crying Rooms", located in Hondo (100 seats total)
- ・ *Nokotsudo* (Side of the *Onaijin* Area)

- ・ Educational Building with 7 classrooms
- ・ Parking for 75 cars

By mid-1960

- ・ Sunday School enrollment reaches 500 students.
- ・ Japanese Language School (Gakuin) enrollment reaches 150 students.
- ・ Temple serves approximately 300 family members.



LATE 1960S MINISTERIAL TRANSITIONS

August 1968

- ・ Rev. Tetsuo Unno resigns to pursue higher education.

- ・ Rev. Masao Kodani arrives.

August 1970

- ・ Rev. Enryo Unno retires after 10 years of service.

November 1970

- ・ Rev. Hoshin Fujikado succeeds him as resident minister.

20TH ANNIVERSARY OF INDEPENDENCE

August 8, 1971

- ・ 20th Anniversary celebrated.
- ・ "Mortgage Burning ceremony" held, marking full payment of temple complex.
- ・ \$250,000 Trust Fund (*Zaidan*) established for long-term financial stability.
- ・ Past ministers and 27 Issei pioneers (age 80+) honored.

EARLY 1970S – LOOKING FORWARD

- ・ Leadership transitions from Issei to Nisei generation.
- ・ Financial foundation strengthened through Trust Fund.
- ・ English-language services and youth programs expanded.
- ・ Monthly Family Services established.
- ・ Joint Japanese-English services held for New Year, Hanamatsuri, and Obon.
- ・ Obon observance includes *Sen-to Shogon*, candle lighting, and large Bon Odori participation with neighboring temples.

JANUARY DONATIONS

Catherine Hisamune
50th cycle memorial service for Katsujiro Fujita
Glenn & Donna Hiraga
In memory of
Ted & Sayko Nishisaka
Doug Matsuda

In memory of Grandfather
Junchi Akamichi

Bruce Hirayama Dana

Jon & Lynnette Takemoto
Nokotsudo/Dana

Ana Maria Herrera Murray
In memory of
Alan Terakawa

Mika Toyoura Onenshi
Nancy & Zen Sekizawa
Nokotsudo

Masao Kodani Dana

Catherine Hisamune
Happy New Year

Glen & Joyce Isomoto
Wednesday Study Class

Anonymous Dana

Vicki Nakawatase-Shimaji
Dana

James & Karen Harada
Nokotsudo

Eugene & Elaine Murakami
Dana

Koichi & Linda Uyemura
Dana

Nancy & Eileen Kodama
In memory of
Malcolm Kodama

Miki Fujimoto
In memory of
Rev. Art Takemoto

Miki Fujimoto
Book Study Group

Dennie & Celia Huey Dana

Robert Hori Dana

Richard Nakawatase
New Year's

Michael Matsuda Dana

Susan Ogawa
Donation

Susan Bottari Dana

13th cycle memorial service for
Fumie Shimabukuro:

Keith Shimabukuro &
Marilyn Shimabukuro

Marilyn Shimabukuro &
Gilbert Leong

Keith Shimabukuro

Edmond & Susan Young
Elaine & Harry Higa

Ann Higa

Janice Shigaki

Keith Sawada Nokotsudo

Peggy Okuda Dana

Yonsei Basketball
Association Use of hall

Terri Yoshihata
Memorial for
Grace Harada

Jean Minami
In memory of Hiroshi Ota

Marc & Lisa Warshal
New Year's

Terri Nakawatase
New Year's

Terri Nakawatase Nokotsudo

Yukie Ushirogata
3rd cycle for
Mutsuo Ushirogata

Munekata Family
In memory of
Yooko Munekata

James & Karen Harada
25th cycle Memorial
Service for Grace Harada

Marsha Watanabe Nokotsudo
Shelly Okamura Nokotsudo

Dale Shirasago Dana

Mayumi Kodani Dana

Vickie Wakinaka

In memory of Father,
Fred Wakinaka

JANUARY FLOWER DONATION

Julie Akahori

James & Karen Harada

Sumi Hayamizu

Catherine Hisamune

Kathy Ikari

Glen & Joyce Isomoto

Emi Kamikawa

Glenn & Harumi Kawaguchi

Denise & Richard Kodani

Chikako Kojima

Doug Matsuda

Jean Minami

Craig & Cindy Ogawa

Ann & Dana Saneto

Marilyn Shimabukuro

Paula Shirasago

Mark & Reiko Sunday

Michiko Sugano

Marty & Kathie Umemoto

Carole Yokota

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) 994-1627 or Marilyn Shimabukuro (818) 681-3837.



Senshin ABA's Baked Char Siu Bao Sale

We are now taking pre-orders for our Annual Char Siu Bao Sale!!! Each bag contains four (4) YUMMY bao for \$12 per bag

Last date for preordering is April 5, 2026 and pick up is April 12, 2026 after Hanamatsuri Service between 11:30 am and 12:30 pm.

Please contact Glen Isomoto at giso549@gmail.com for questions or to place your orders. If ordering by email you can pay at pick up. If you are ordering by US mail, please mail in your order form (below) with payment so that your order is received by April 5, 2026. Send to Senshin Buddhist Temple 1311 W 37th St LA 90007. Make check payable to "Senshin ABA"

WE ARE ACCEPTING PREORDERS ONLY

Each bag contains 4 Bao for \$12

Pre-order deadline: Sunday, April 5, 2026

Pick up date: Sunday April 12, 2026 between 11:30 am to 12:30 pm

Number of bags _____ X \$12 = \$ _____

Name: _____

Phone number: _____

Please make check payable to "Senshin ABA"

Thank you for your support!!!

Updates

& ANNOUNCEMENTS!

Message from the Board

It's already March, and we've had a wonderful start to the year with several inspiring guest speakers joining us. It is always refreshing to hear new perspectives and insights, and we are grateful for the opportunity to learn from ministers who share their experiences and understanding of the Dharma in different and meaningful ways.

I would like to extend our sincere appreciation to Rev. Kuwahara from Berkeley Buddhist Temple, Rev. Mas Kodani, and Rev. Ken Tanaka for taking the time to visit and share their teachings with our Sangha. Your outlooks and reflections have given us much to think about and have enriched our understanding of the Nembutsu path. We are truly thankful for your guidance and for the spirit in which you shared your messages.

Also a quick reminder on what's on the horizon – **Chicken Teriyaki Fundraiser on April 28** and our big **75th Anniversary celebration on May 31**. Hope to see everyone there.

In Gassho,
STAN FUKAWA

BWA

It feels like Spring, with Daylight Savings, *Hinamatsuri*, and Spring *Ohigan* on the horizon. The BWA enjoyed helping the Dharma school with the *Hinamatsuri* event by helping with the yogurt self-serving station. The BWA will participate with the Sangha in *Osoji*-temple cleanup at the end of this month, after which some members will go with ABA to Kei Ai for the

bingo activity. Help bring a smile to the seniors' faces there, contact Edna Horiuchi to participate.

If you would like to be a part of a great sisterhood and a lot of fun, the BWA is accepting membership dues for 2026 – \$20 in cash or check (made out to Senshin BWA) and sent to the Temple or placed in the BWA mailbox in the office.

We would like to thank the following for their generous donations:

- Fujie & Ron Ohata *in memory of* Bev Rogers & Kiyome Hirayama
- Keith Sawada *in memory of* Nell Sawada
- Amy Yukawa *orei for hip surgery omimai*
- Ikuko Matsubayashi *special*
- Sumiko Hayamizu *special*
- Deb & John Hiramoto *in memory of* Nell Sawada

Sign-up for Senshin Chicken Teriyaki on April 26!

Throw on your apron and join the fun at the Senshin Chicken Teriyaki Cookout. Whether you're a BBQ veteran, newbie, or it's been a while, we invite you to come out and enjoy the experience. Don't just stop by to pick-up your delicious teriyaki order, pull up your sleeves and spend some time with "Da Family." The Sign-Up List for the Senshin Chicken Teriyaki Cookout is on the bulletin board outside of the office. For more information, questions or suggestions, please email koichiuyemura@yahoo.com.

- Deb & John Hiramoto *in memory of* Elso Kanagawa
- Munekata Family *in memory of* Yooko Munekata
- Toshiko Yamaguchi *special*
- Chikako Kojima *special*
- Lori Nishida *special*
- Donna Ebata *special*
- Debra Fukawa *special*

ABA

The New Year was welcomed in by ABA at a luncheon celebrated at Gold Hibachi Buffet Restaurant in Alhambra on February 28th. As always, the food was top notch along with all the carousing and talking everybody was doing (it was good that we were seated in the back dining room of the restaurant!). All our thanks to Joyce and Glen Isomoto for arranging the fun games, plus more thanks to Chikako Kojima, Shelly Okamura, Edna Horiuchi, Glen & Joyce Isomoto, and James & Karen Harada for the gracious prize donations. Our special guests were Yoriyo & Rev. Furumoto, along with Debbi & Stan Fukawa. And we totally thank Greg Yee for coordinating such a great time together. Good job everybody!!



Wasabi Kai

As we approach the temple's 75th anniversary, I thought a brief history of WasabiKai could be of interest. Rev. Mas has always had an interest in pottery. He lived next door to Leo Sugano, a potter and Temple member, who after a trip to India was inspired to throw a thousand small lanterns that are featured as part of *Obon*. I was



inspired by Leo's gift. As I approached retirement I joined a small studio to resume my interest in pottery after a thirty-five year absence. I decided to throw 300 teacups as a way back and gave them to the Temple.

Saishin Dojo had a ceramic component and I began to help with firing their work, which led to buying a larger kiln and the idea of starting a ceram-



ic program. Rev. Mas provided access to a classroom upstairs that became a temporary studio that I had to vacate each summer while Saishin Dojo was in session.

In 2013 we had our first pottery class, attended by 17 members and taught by four of my pottery friends. It was an ambitious effort for me, as I had no formal training in pottery (no YouTube in the 70's... a book, potter's wheel, self taught). I needed to learn to teach others and myself. My journey was just beginning. To be continued...



Senshin Karate Class

Friday evenings (tentative). Open to all ages and genders. For members, their families and friends.

Contact us if you are interested: senshintemple@gmail.com

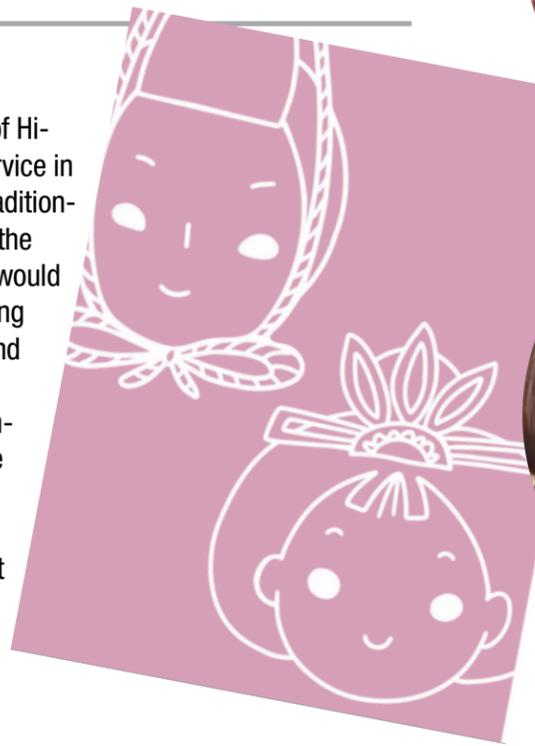


Hinamatsuri

Join us Sunday, March 1 for a celebration of Hinamatsuri (Girl's Day) immediately after service in the Social Hall. There will be a display of traditional and not-so traditional dolls representing the Heian Imperial Court. If you have dolls you would like to include in our display, feel free to bring them. There will be a spring craft activity and some yummy refreshments.

This event is free, but we are asking families to please register so that we can make sure to have enough supplies and refreshments.

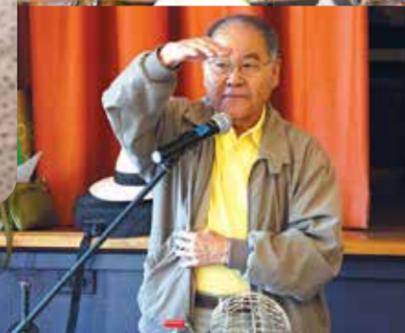
For more information and to rsvp contact Jana Yokoyama, scoutthesprout@gmail.com, or Chris Aihara, aihara.chris@gmail.com.



NEMBUTSU RETREAT & NIRVANA DAY



B W A NEW YEAR PARTY



HISTORICAL
MEMORIES

For the 75th anniversary of
Senshin Buddhist Temple,
we are sharing
a series of stories covering a
bit of history of the temple.

“HISTORICAL MEMORIES”
are presented by longtime
members of Senshin.
We hope you enjoy them.

Imagine just one building
where everyone gathered and where everything took place.
**Memories of Senshin’s
old Hondo/Social Hall/Education Building.**

Nowadays on Sunday mornings, we bow to the *Mon* as we enter the courtyard surrounded by the Hondo, the classroom building and the social hall. When I first attended Sunday service at Senshin almost 70 years ago, there was only one building and there was no courtyard.

The entrance to Senshin was on W 36th Place. Upon entering the large doorway, straight ahead was the minister’s office. The kitchen was next to the office, and 5 classrooms lined the north wall. To the left was the door to the social hall. In those days, the social hall’s main role was to serve as the Hondo. The stage became the altar (*Naijin*) where the ministers conducted Sunday services, funeral services and memorial services.

Many weddings took place in the social hall/Hondo as well. Guests lined up on the building’s front steps on 36th Place to enter, sign the guest book, and then were ushered into the Hondo. Classroom #2 (which now houses racks of folding chairs and tables) was the bride’s dressing room.

As Mrs. Yoshimura played the familiar wedding march on the piano, the bride entered the Hondo from the classroom and walked down the aisle to meet the groom. They then walked up the steps to the altar to meet the Reverend. Following the ceremony, guests gathered in front of the entrance to the building, where the bride tossed her bouquet, and the couple were showered with rice as they started their new life together.

Since that time, many changes and improvements have taken place at Senshin; and they will continue. But I recall the simpler days when, with a minimum of space, Senshin was vibrant with many activities taking place in the old Hondo/social hall/education building, such as *ikebana* classes, study classes, organization meetings, Dharma school classes, weekly cooking classes in the kitchen, and Saturday Japanese school. There was an abundance of participation and energy. May they continue today and in the future.



SENSHIN-JI 2026 MARCH 2569

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

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8:30a BWA <i>Reikai</i> (in person & zoom) 9:45a Japanese <i>Howa</i> 10a Monthly Memorial Service <i>(Shotsuki Hoyo)</i> and Sunday Service Following Service Donuts; Dharma School Event, <i>Hinamatsuri</i>		10:30-2p WasabiKai Open Studio	10a-2p Hongwanji Place 6:30-7:15p Senshin Bukkyo Gakuin (SBG): Chanting, Ritual & Buddhist Etiquette in Jodo Shinshu (Zoom) Rev. Furumoto	10:30a-2p WasabiKai Open Studio 7-9p Kinnara Taiko		
8 Daylight Savings begins (Spring Forward)	9	10	11	12	13	14
8:30a Board Meeting 10a Family Service 11a Sangha Teens Meeting Following service: Meetings: Jr. YBA, Sangha teens, ABA		10:30-2p WasabiKai Open Studio	10a-2p Hongwanji Place 6:30-7:15p SBG: Chanting, Ritual & Buddhist Etiquette in Jodo Shinshu (Zoom) Rev. Furumoto	10:30a-2p WasabiKai Open Studio 7-9p Kinnara Taiko		9a <i>Nokotsudo</i> Clean-Up 10a Spring <i>Ohigan</i> Seminar: Rev. Jon Turner, OCBC <i>"Buddhas Everywhere: Formless Reality Manifesting Form"</i>
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
10a Spring <i>Ohigan</i> Service - Guest Speaker: Rev. Jon Turner, OCBC Following Service <i>Otoki</i> by Senshin ABA, <i>Botamoch</i>		10:30-2p WasabiKai Open Studio	10a-2p Hongwanji Place 6:30-7:15p SBG: Chanting, Ritual & Buddhist Etiquette in Jodo Shinshu (Zoom) Rev. Furumoto	10:30a-2p WasabiKai Open Studio 7-9p Kinnara Taiko		
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
10a Family Service. Speaker: Rev. Mas Kodani Following Service Kinnara Kids Taiko		10:30-2p WasabiKai Open Studio	10a-2p Hongwanji Place	10:30a-2p WasabiKai Open Studio 7-9p Kinnara Taiko		SDBWA Meeting (Zoom) - Senshin Toban
29 Osoji: Temple Clean Up	30	31	April 1	2	3	4
9:30-11:30a Osoji, Temple Clean up. No Service 1:30p ABA/BWA KaiAi Bingo		10:30-2p WasabiKai Open Studio	MARCH Hondo Toban Doug Matsuda James Okazaki Nick Nagatani Wendy Nagatani	MARCH ONAIJIN Flower Arrangement 7 Marilyn Miyamoto 13 (Fri) Denise/Richard Kodani (Spring Ohigan) 21 Sheri Lovell 28 Robert Hori/Richard Kok April 4 Paige Morikawa <i>(Note: If you are unable to fulfill the week you are scheduled, please contact Iris at (310) 951-0160</i>	APRIL Upcoming Events 5 Butsuren <i>Hanamatsuri</i> Service - Nishi Betsuin 12 <i>Hanamatsuri</i> Service 26 Chicken Teriyaki Sale, BWA White Elephant, Craft & Bake Sale	

MARCH SERVICE Toban: A B A Monthly Toban group responsible for:

- **Weekly** Chair Sunday Service
- **March 1** Provide donuts/beverages following monthly memorial service
- **March 8** Provide/serve snacks and beverages for Temple Board Meeting

HINAMATSURI (DOLL FESTIVAL) C E L E B R A T I O N

SUNDAY
MARCH 1, 2026

Immediately After
Service

Senshin Social Hall



Traditional Japanese Doll Display

Snacks

Crafts

Traditionally in Japan on March 3, Hinamatsuri is observed. The Doll Festival, also known as Girl's Day, is an observance dating back centuries when traditional Japanese dolls depicting the Heian Imperial Court are displayed. We are very fortunate that our members have Girl's Day dolls that they will share with our Sangha.

Join us in celebration.

For more information, contact Chris Aihara, aihara.chris@gmail.com or Jana Yokoyama scoutthesprout@gmail.com



SENSHIN
B U D D H I S T T E M P L E
 1 9 5 1 **75** 2 0 2 6

Please join us on this special day to celebrate 75 years as an independent temple, honor our esteemed 80 years and older members, and express our gratitude to all who pioneered Senshin Buddhist Temple. We hope you and your friends and family will be a part of this very special milestone celebration!

Date: Sunday, May 31, 2026,
Locations: Senshin Buddhist Temple and the USC Hotel

Schedule:

9:00a: Refreshments followed by Group Portrait, Chigo Parade, Service and Keiro Kai at Senshin Buddhist Temple

1:30p: Luncheon:

USC Hotel 3540 S. Figueroa St, LA, CA 90007

Registration Fee

Adults: \$50

Children (under 12): \$25

Keiro kai Honorees (80 years and older at time of event): FREE

Keiro kai Honoree group photo FREE to Honorees

Optional 8x10 entire Sangha Group Portrait by Toyo Miyatake \$20 each

Contact name and cell or email

.....

75th Anniversary Celebration and Keiro kai

Keiro Kai Honoree(s)

Name	Sangha Portrait	Choice of one(1):		
		Chicken	Beef	Veg
.....				
.....				
.....				

Regular registration (non-Keiro Kai honoree)

Name	Adult (A) or Child (C)	Sangha Portrait	Choice of one(1):		
			Chicken	Beef	Veg
.....					
.....					
.....					
.....					
.....					

Total Adults X \$50 =

Total Children X \$25 =
 (children's menu: chicken fingers meal)

Total Sangha Portraits X \$20 =

Total Amount Included:

Request seating with other attendees and we will do our best to accommodate everyone's requests. 10 seats per table.

Please seat me/us at the same table or near to:

- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5

Registration Information

Mail-In Registration:

Payment by check payable to **Senshin Buddhist Temple** and write **75th Anniversary** in memo. Please mail check and completed registration form to Senshin Buddhist Temple 1311 W 37th St LA, 90007

Payment by Zelle (Ron Ohata): ☎ 703-887-9570

Please include in the Zelle memo: **75th Anniversary** and Your Name and remember to mail in your completed registration form to:

Senshin Buddhist Temple 1311 W 37th St LA, 90007

RSVP Deadline: May 10, 2026 or when capacity of 280 people is met.

If you have any questions, please contact:
 Iris Takashima at Senshin75th@aol.com



SENSHIN BUDDHIST TEMPLE

1311 WEST 17TH STREET . LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90007
(323) 731-4617 | senshintemple@gmail.com | senshintemple.org

2026 Senshin Buddhist Temple MEMBERSHIP FORM

Please check one: **New Member** **Renewal**

Primary Member's Name: _____ Date of Birth _____
Last Name First Name

Email Address: _____ Cell Phone: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Spouse/Partner's Name: _____ Date of Birth _____

Spouse/Partner's Email Address: _____ Cell phone: _____

Child's Name, if applicable: _____ Date of Birth _____

Child's Name, if applicable: _____ Date of Birth _____

Child's Name, if applicable: _____ Date of Birth _____

Home Phone: _____

Dear Temple Members and Friends:

We hope your New Year is off to a good start and you will consider joining or renewing your membership.

The features to our Membership Program include:

- As a member, you will receive the Prajna monthly newsletter and temple calendar that will keep you in the loop on temple services (in person and on zoom), temple events such as special holiday services, study classes, picnics, retreats, summer camps, and other temple activities!
- You can share a Senshin Membership with family or friend with “gift” a membership;
- A low cost membership category, “College Student” at \$20 a year;
- A convenient online membership form <https://senshintemple.org/temple-membership/>

There are two ways to make a payment:

1. **By Check:** Please return the hard copy form with a check made payable to **Senshin Buddhist Temple**, Attn: Membership Committee, Mail to: Senshin Buddhist Temple, 1311 W. 37th Street, Los Angeles, California 90007
2. **By Credit Card:** Return the paper form to **Senshin Buddhist Temple**, Attn: Membership Committee. Go to <https://senshintemple.org/temple-membership/> then click **donate** at the bottom of the page; then use PayPal or **debit/credit card** to pay. Please include **Membership for [first name last name]** after clicking the + sign next to “This is for...” and enter the primary member’s name.

Your Annual Membership Dues generate the funds that enable us to enjoy Senshin Temple program activities and services (including a full-time minister), as well as maintain the temple grounds and facilities. The Senshin Membership Dues include the BCA Assessment paid for each Senshin Temple member.

If you have any questions or wish to make special payment arrangements, please use the following e-mail address: senshintemplemembership@gmail.com, or, you can leave a message on the temple voice mail at 323-731-4617.

Your commitment to Senshin Buddhist Temple is appreciated. Thank you for your continued support of Senshin Buddhist Temple.

In Gassho,

SENSHIN MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

	Temple Support Category	Paid By check	Paid by Credit Card
<input type="checkbox"/>	Couple/Family with BCA Membership*(includes children up to 18 years of age	\$450	\$460
<input type="checkbox"/>	Individual with BCA Membership*	\$250	\$260
<input type="checkbox"/>	Senshin Senior only** – (over 80 years old)	Dana Amount	Dana Amount
<input type="checkbox"/>	Senshin Senior (over 80 years old with BCA membership)	\$170	\$180
<input type="checkbox"/>	Friend/Supporter	Dana Amount	Dana Amount
<input type="checkbox"/>	College Student	\$25	\$27
<input type="checkbox"/>	Gift Membership: Indicate Temple support Category from above categories. Please complete a separate form for each gift and enter the recipient’s name and other information. Senshin will send a note to your gift recipient(s) notifying them of your gift.		
	TOTAL AMOUNT SUBMITTED:		

*BCA (Buddhist Churches of America) is the national organization of the 60 Temples and fellowships in the continental USA, of which Senshin is a member. Your BCA membership entitles you to receive the Wheel of Dharma monthly newsletter.

** For couples, if there is one qualifying senior, we ask the non-qualifying senior to pay an individual membership.

OFFICE USE ONLY _____	AMOUNT: _____
Payment type: <input type="checkbox"/> Check Check No. _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Credit Card
Date Received: _____	Date Processed: _____ Initials: _____