

"That Could Also Be Me"



In the middle of August, I visited Denver for *Fuken*, a meeting and study session for BCA ministers. The Denver Buddhist Temple is very close to Coors Field, only about a five-minute walk. Fortunately, the Dodgers were playing in Denver during *Fuken*, so some of the ministers went to the game together. Shohei Ohtani hit his 30th home run of the season, so the other ministers and I, who are all Shohei Ohtani fans, were very happy.

Speaking of Shohei Ohtani, I recently read a surprising story from Japan. It was about a romance scam involving someone pretending to be Shohei Ohtani.

A Japanese woman in her fifties belonged to an online Shohei Ohtani fan group on Facebook. One day, she received a direct message from someone claiming to be Shohei Ohtani. The scammer wrote, "Hello, I am Shohei Ohtani." She was a big fan, so she was very happy. After they exchanged messages for a while, the fake Shohei told her, "I hit my 30th home run in Denver for you." She was delighted.

Later, the scammer asked her to send him fifty dollars. He said that he needed to change his phone plan. He did not ask her to send cash. Instead, he asked her to buy an Apple gift card and send him a photo of the card. She believed that the message really came from Shohei Ohtani, so she bought the card and sent the photo.

Fortunately, a family member discovered what was happening and told her that it was a scam. Therefore, she did not send the fake Shohei any more money.

When we hear this story, we may think, “That is ridiculous. How could anyone believe it?” Shohei Ohtani earns millions of dollars. Why would he ask a fan to send him fifty dollars? We may also think, “That would never happen to me.”

However, people who strongly believe that they would never be deceived can also become victims of scams. Kind people may be especially vulnerable because scammers take advantage of their kindness.

Scammers do not take advantage only of greed. They may also take advantage of our love, kindness, trust, and fear.

For example, scammers may take advantage of our desire to help our family. They may say, “Your grandson has been arrested and needs money immediately.”

They may take advantage of our desire not to trouble others. They may say, “Do not tell your family. You can solve this problem quietly.”

They may take advantage of our trust in authority by pretending to be a police officer, a bank employee, or even a minister.

They may also take advantage of our desire to escape fear. They may say, “Pay today, or you will be arrested,” or, “Pay now, or your electricity will be disconnected.”

Love for our family, the desire not to trouble others, trust in people, and fear are all natural human feelings. Scammers know how to use those feelings. For this reason, we should not simply ask a victim, “How could you be deceived?” Any one of us could become a victim under certain conditions.

In the thirteenth chapter of the **Tannishō**, we find a conversation between Shinran Shōnin and his disciple Yuien.

Shinran Shōnin asked Yuien, “Will

you do whatever I tell you to do?”

Yuien answered, “Yes.” Then Shinran Shōnin said, “Kill one thousand people, and you will certainly attain birth in the Pure Land.” Yuien answered, “I cannot kill even one person.”

Shinran Shōnin then explained, “The reason you cannot kill anyone is not because your heart is especially good. It is because you do not have the karmic conditions that would lead you to kill even one person.”

Even when we do not want to harm anyone, certain causes and conditions may lead us to do things that we believe we could never do. In the same way, even when we want to do something, we may find that we cannot do it. Most of us believe that we would never kill another person. But if we were sent to war, we might be placed in a situation in which we had to kill.

“Under different conditions, we do not know what we might do.” This teaching also helps us think about scams. Love for our family, fear, loneliness, or a sense of urgency may cloud our judgment. Under those conditions, we may believe something that is not true.

Therefore, we cannot divide people into those who are deceived and those who believe they could never be deceived. Instead, we recognize, “That could also be me.” This is what it means to recognize ourselves as *bonbu*. *Bonbu* means an ordinary being filled with ego-centered passions. Our thoughts and judgment are influenced by our feelings and circumstances. Shinran Shonin reminded us that “*Bonbu*” is none other than ourselves.

The Primal Vow of Amida Buddha was established for such beings as us. Amida Buddha does not abandon us even when we make a mistake or are deceived. Therefore, we do not need to hide our shame or suffer alone. We can ask someone we trust for help. In Jōdo Shinshū, we learn that Amida Buddha embraces all of us. This understanding helps us see others on the same level and not look down on them.

There is one more difficult point.

The working of Amida Buddha’s compassion is not limited to victims. Even those who deceive others are not outside the working of the Primal Vow.

Some deeply devoted followers of Jōdo Shinshū are known as *myokonin*. Myokonin may think, “If I were in the same situation, I might become a scammer too.” Therefore, they do not simply blame the scammer or look down on that person. They may think, “Maybe this person really needs money.” Some *myokonin* might even know that they are being deceived but still give money to the scammer. This does not mean that scamming is acceptable or that Jōdo Shinshū teaches us to give money to scammers. It was their personal response, based on their deep understanding of themselves as *bonbu*.

We must stop the scam and protect the victim. The offender must also take responsibility. At the same time, we remember that both the victim and the offender are human beings living within many karmic conditions. The victim may be influenced by love, trust, or fear, while the offender may be influenced by greed, fear, or desperation. The Primal Vow of Amida Buddha reaches both the victim and the offender, for both are *bonbu*. Not all Jōdo Shinshū followers respond in the same way as *myokonin*. However, their response shows us what it means to recognize, “Under different conditions, that could also be me.” This understanding does not excuse harmful behavior. It helps us stop looking down on other people.

The *Nembutsu*, Namo Amida Butsu, is the voice of boundless wisdom and compassion calling to us as we are. Embraced by the same Primal Vow, no one stands above or below another. Being embraced by this boundless compassion.

NAMO AMIDA BUTSU

「私もそうなるかもしれない」

八月中旬に、BCA開教使の研修会「布研」に参加するため、デンバーを訪れました。デンバー仏教会はクアーズ・フィールドから歩いて五分ほどの場所にあり、ます。ちょうどドジャースの試合が行われていたので、何人かの先生方と観戦に行きました。その試合で大谷翔平選手が今季三十号のホームランを打ち、大谷選手のファンである私たちは大いに喜びました。

大谷選手といえば、先日、大谷選手を装った口マンス詐欺の記事を読みました。

日本に住む大谷選手のファンの五十代の女性が、ある日、大谷選手を名乗る人物から、フェイスブックで「こんにちは、大谷翔平です」というメッセージを受け取りました。大ファンだった女性は大喜びしました。しばらくやり取りを続けた後、偽の大谷選手は、「デンバーで打った三十号ホームランは、あなたのために打ちました」と伝えました。女性はすっかり感激しました。

その後、相手は「携帯電話のプランを変える必要があるので、五十ドル送ってください」と要求しました。現金ではなく、アップルのギフトカードを購入し、カードの写真を送るよう指示したのです。女性は本当に大谷選手からのメッセージだと信じ、カードの写真を送りました。幸い、家族が詐欺に気づいたため、それ以上のお金を送らずに済みました。

この話を聞くと、私たちは「どうしてそんな話を信じたのだろう」と思うかもしれません。「何百万ドルも稼いでいる大谷選手が、ファンに五十ドルを頼むはずがない。」「自分なら絶対に騙されない」と考える人もいます。

しかし、「自分は絶対に大丈夫」と思っている人も、詐欺の被害者になる可能性があり、また、優しい人ほど、その優しさにつけ込まれることがあるとよく言われます。

詐欺師が利用するのは、人間の欲だけではありません。家族を愛する心、人に迷惑をかけたくない気持ち、権威ある人への信頼、不安や恐怖から早く逃れたい気持ちも利用します。

「あなたの孫が逮捕されました。すぐにお金が必要です」「迷惑がかかるので、家族や会社には言わないでください」「今日中に払わなければ電気が止まります」などと言い、冷静に考える時間や、誰かに相談する機会を奪うのです。

家族への愛情、他人への遠慮、人を信頼する心、不安や恐怖は、どれも自然な人間の感情です。ですから、被害者に「どうして騙されたのですか」と簡単に言うことはできません。状況が整えば、誰でも

被害者になる可能性があります。

『歎異抄』第十三条には、親鸞聖人と弟子の唯円との会話が記されています。

親鸞聖人が「私の言うことに従いますか」と尋ねると、唯円は「はい」と答えました。そこで親鸞聖人は、「それでは、千人の人を殺さない。そうすれば、浄土への往生は間違いありません」と言われました。けれども唯円は、「私には一人さえ殺すことはできません」と答えます。

すると親鸞聖人は、唯円が人を殺さないのは、心が特別に善いからではなく、人を殺す業縁がないからだと言明されました。人を傷つけたくないと思っても、縁が整えば、思いもよらない行動をすることがあるのです。反対に、したいと思っても、縁がなければできないこともあります。

私たちは、「人を殺すことなど絶対に」と思っています。しかし、戦争へ送られれば、人を殺さなければならない状況に置かれるかもしれません。

「異なる状況に置かれれば、自分が何をするかは分からない」という教えは、詐欺について考えるときにも大切です。家族への愛情、恐怖、孤独、焦りなどによって、私たちの判断は曇ります。そして、普段なら信じないことを信じてしまうことがあります。

ですから、人間を「騙される人」と「絶対に騙されない人」に分けることはできません。「私もそうなるかもしれない」と受け止めることが大切です。

それが、自分自身を凡夫と知ることです。凡夫とは、自己中心的な煩惱を抱えて生きる普通の人間です。私たちの考えや判断は、感情や置かれた状況に大きく左右されます。親鸞聖人は、凡夫とは他の誰かではなく、私たち自身のことであると教えられました。

阿弥陀仏の本願は、そのような私たちのために建てられました。たとえ間違っても、騙されても、阿弥陀さまは私たちを見捨てません。恥ずかしさのために一人で苦しむ必要はありません。信頼できる人に相談し、助けを求めることができます。

浄土真宗では、すべての人に阿弥陀さ

まの本願の力が届いていると聞かせていただきます。だからこそ、他人を上から見下すのではなく、同じ立場にいる者として受け止めていくのです。

ここには、もう一つ難しい問題があります。阿弥陀さまの慈悲のはたらきは、被害者だけに向けられているわけではありません。人を騙す者もまた、本願のはたらきを受けています。妙好人と言われるような念仏者には、「自分が同じ状況に置かれていたら、自分も人を騙していたかもしれない」と考える方もおられます。詐欺師でさえも責めたり、見下したりせず、「この人も、本当にお金に困っているのかもしれない。私も彼と同じ状況なら、人を騙すかもしれない。」と同情し、騙されていると分かっている、お金を渡す人さえいます。もちろん、これは詐欺をしてもよいという意味ではありません。また、浄土真宗が詐欺をはたらく人にお金を渡すように教えているわけでもありません。自らを凡夫と深く知ると、どのような人にも同情し、思いやりを持つ方もおられる、ということです。

私たちは詐欺を止め、被害者を守らなければならないかもしれません。加害者にも責任を取ってもらう必要があります。その一方で、被害者も加害者も、さまざまな業縁の中に生きる人間であることを忘れてはなりません。被害者は愛情や信頼、恐怖によって判断を失い、加害者は欲や恐怖、生活の困窮などに影響されているのかもしれない。そういう凡夫が本願の救いを受けているのです。

この理解は、加害行為を正当化するものではありません。しかし、「状況が違えば、それは私であったかもしれない」と気づくことで、他人を見下す心から離れさせていただきます。

お念仏「南無阿弥陀仏」は、ありのままの私たちに呼びかける、限りない智慧と慈悲の声です。同じ本願に抱かれている私たちの間に、上も下もありません。できるだけ他人を簡単に裁かず、互いに助け合って生きていきましょう。

南無阿弥陀仏

Monthly Memorial OCTOBER 2026

Shotsuki Service Sunday, October 4 at 10a

Seshu (Observant)

Deceased Relation To Obervant, Deceased

Akahori, Julie <i>Grandmother</i> Akahori, Umeji	Matsubara, Tammy <i>Uncle</i> Kiyohara, Ronnie	Sakakura, Michiko <i>Husband</i> Sakakura, Joe
Family and Friends for Sharon Koga, Sharon	Matsumura, Henry <i>Mother</i> Matsumura, Laura	Shirasago, Paula <i>Brother</i> Shimada, Stanley
Hashimoto Family <i>Father</i> Hashimoto, Henry	Motokane, Eddie <i>Father</i> Motokane, Edward Yoshiaki	Sonday, Reiko <i>Mother</i> Nimi, Kiyoko
Hiramoto, John & Paul <i>Mother</i> Hiramoto, Sumiko	Nakawatase, Richard <i>Grandmother</i> Nakawatase, Kise	Sugano, Michiko <i>Grandfather-in-law</i> Sugano, Tomikichi
Ikari, Kathy <i>Father</i> Tsuboi, Don	Nakashima, Jean <i>Husband</i> Nakashima, Howard	Takashima, Iris <i>Mother</i> Jinde, Peggy
Ishizuka, Karen <i>Father</i> Ishizuka, Tadashi George	Nishisaka, Merrie Nishisaka, Scott <i>Sister</i> Nishisaka, Mary Ann	Takashima, Wilbur <i>Grandfather</i> Takashima, Katsue
Kunitake, Kimiyo <i>Aunt</i> Wada, Masako	Nishisaka, Merrie Nishisaka, Scott <i>Uncle</i> Sanada, Masami	Yamashita, Betty <i>Grandfather</i> Ito, Yetsusaburo
Kuwata, Tom <i>Mother</i> Kuwata, Yuriko Lillian	Okazaki, James <i>Father</i> Okazaki, Takashi	Yokoyama, Arlene <i>Husband</i> Yokoyama, Stan
Matsubara, Tammy <i>Grandmother</i> Kiyohara, Chiyeko	Rogers, Aki <i>Mother</i> Rogers, Beverly	Yoshida, Miyeko <i>Mother</i> Aizawa, Ume
	Sakakura, Michiko <i>Father</i> Sakakura, Motoji	Yukawa, Amy <i>Husband</i> Yukawa, Joe

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 2026

Eshinni, Kakushinni, Lady Kujo and Senshin BWA Memorial Service

On Sunday, October 11, at 10:00 a.m., we will hold a joint memorial service honoring Eshinni, Kakushinni, Lady Kujo, and the late members of the Senshin Fujinkai (BWA).

Eshinni was the wife of Shinran Shonin. Their daughter, Kakushinni, laid the foundation for what later became the Hongwanji. Lady Kujo, a daughter of the 21st Monshu, played an important role in establishing the Fujinkai in 1904. Our guest speaker will be Rev. Mayuki Nagamine of Higashi Honganji Buddhist Temple.

10月11日、日曜日午前10時に、恵信尼さま、覚信尼さま及び九条武子夫人の記念法要とともに、当洗心寺の婦人会会員で亡くなられた方々の追悼法要を行恵信尼さまは親鸞聖人の奥方で、ご息女、覚信尼さまは本願寺のもととなる親鸞聖人のご廟所を建てられた方です。九条武子夫人は仏教婦人会の創設者として知られています。ゲストスピーカーは東本願寺口サンゼルス別院の長峯真如開教使です。

Senshin Bukkyo Gakuin (SBG)

Wednesdays, October 7, 14 & 21

6:30 - 7:15pm (Zoom)

Chanting, Ritual and Buddhist Etiquette in Jodo Shinshu

Learning from Senshin Service Book

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

If you would like to join the class, please contact the temple. You may also simply join using the same Zoom link that we use for our Sunday services.

AUGUST DONATION

Roy Natividad
In memory of
Jerry Ogawa

Ken Matsumoto
In memory of
Jerry Ogawa

Takeshi Matsumoto
In memory of
Jerry Ogawa

Naomi Laub
In memory of
Jerry Ogawa

Tammy & Dale Matsubara
Special Donation

Rickey Ono
In memory of
Bryan Keith Ono

Katherine Hayashi
In memory of Father
Tsugio John Takeuchi,
Mother
Haruye Lillian Takeuchi,
Sister Lily Yuriko Enfield

Dennis & Celia Huey *Dana*

AUGUST SHOTSUKI HOYO

Observant

In Memory of

Kathy & Craig Bohannon
Kiyoto, Haruyo & Tony
Shinmoto

Glen & Joyce Isomoto
Ikusuke & Sakuyo
Isomoto

Ruby Kiyohara
Suyekichi Nakawatase

Tammy & Dale Matsubara
Suyekichi Nakawatase

John & Wendy Mori
Tane Ishigaki

Arthur Nakashita
Clark Nakashita

Michiko Sakakura
Kotaru Sakakura

Paula Shirasago
Saburo Shimada

Wilbur & Iris Takashima
Mitsuo Taniguchi

Suzanne Toji
Marcus & Erin Toji
Bob Toji, 11th Memorial

Donation College Savings 529 Plan

Senshin has a College Savings 529 Plan to help with the costs of higher education for our minister's family.

Contributing to this fund will provide tax-free income for the minister's children when they are college age. In eight years at 7%, monies put in today could almost double by the time they are ready to go to college.

If you would like to contribute, you have two options:

1. Write a check out to Senshin Buddhist Temple along with a memo or note indicating you would like to contribute to the 529 account.
2. You can write a check out to MESP (Michigan Education Savings Program) and mail it directly to PO Box 55925, Boston, MA 02205-5925. Be sure to send a note indicating the contribution is to go to the Senshin Buddhist Temple, Account #9393725.

If you write a check to Senshin, there is no minimum. If you write a check to MESP, the check must be \$25 or more.

Owned by the temple, the intention of the fund is to provide additional support to its minister and family.

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.



COVID-19 UPDATE

And Free Covid Home Test Kit For Los Angeles County Residents

According to the Calif. Dept. of Public Health (CDPH), cases of Covid-19 have been on the rise since this July. If you are 65 yrs or older, it is recommended that you get the 2026-2027 updated Covid-19 vaccine (provided you haven't had a Covid vaccination in the last 3 months). And it is probably a good idea to start wearing masks again with the start of flu/RSV season also coming soon.

Did you know as a resident of Los Angeles County, you are entitled to a free Covid home antigen test kit (containing 2 tests)? You can have it mailed to you or if you need a kit immediately, you can locate a Los Angeles County Health Station near you.

• **TO HAVE A FREE COVID HOME ANTIGEN TEST KIT MAILED TO YOU**, type in this secure web address in your browser: <https://form.jotform.com/251175071932151>. To be eligible, you need to be at least 65 years of age; or unable to leave your residence. I answered I am at least 65 years old and am able to leave my residence, and was deemed eligible. You will need to submit your name, address, and a telephone number.

• **LA COUNTY COMMUNITY HEALTH STATIONS - FREE COVID HOME ANTIGEN TEST KITS:** Use a search engine (like Google search) and type in "la county free covid test kits", press "return". The "AI Overview" result screen should show a paragraph describing how to find the kits. Click on the underlined link "LA County Community Health Stations Map". You will be directed to the LA County Public Health website (ph.lacounty.gov). You will get a message that you are going to an "unsecured" site, click "Continue". It is unusual that a ".gov" website is unsecured but you will only be typing in your zip code to find the nearest Health Station (no personal information needed). The Health Station will be located at a county health facility and looks like a giant blue vending machine. I went to the Health Station in Whittier and the machine was situated near the facility entrance. There is a small touch screen on the front of the machine, touch it to start your transaction to get a free covid test kit by placing it in your "shopping cart." You will need to answer several questions, most of which you can answer as "prefer not to answer." Once you click "Submit," the machine will dispense the test kit. You can do this more than once if you need more than 1 kit. Be aware that there may be operating hours for the facility and the machine.

2ND ANNUAL BINGO FUNDRAISER FOR WEEMES

ALL PROCEEDS BENEFIT THE WEEMES SCHOOL KIDS

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 2026, 12 PM SENSHIN SOCIAL HALL

10 BINGO GAMES \$35, GRAND PRIZE \$250 BLACK OUT

OPTIONAL CHICKEN OBENTO \$15 BY PREORDER 11/1

PLEASE MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO "SENSHIN ABA"

RSVP DEBHIRAMOTO@GMAIL.COM



Senshin Jr.YBA FUNDRAISER 2026

SCRIP ORDER FORM

Send to:

Stephanie Higa1755 Santa Fe Avenue, Torrance, CA 90501, (213)700-1042

Or: drop off in Jr YBA mail slot at Temple OR email to Senshinscripsale@gmail.com

Zelle payment:senshintemplejryba@gmail.com

Delivery of Scrip: PICK UP at Senshin Buddhist Temple.

Please contact us for alternate arrangement.

Name

Order Date

Address

Phone Number.

Email Address

Clothing & Accessories

QTY

Total

Home Goods

\$25

\$100

\$

Kohl's

\$25

\$100

\$

Macy's

\$25

\$100

\$

Nordstrom

\$25

\$100

\$

Old Navy

\$25

\$

TJMaxx/Marshalls

\$25

\$100

\$

Dining - Casual

QTY

Total

California Pizza Kitchen

\$25

\$

Chipotle Mexican Grill

\$10

\$25

\$

Coffee Bean & Tea Leaf

\$25

\$

Crumbl

\$10

\$25

\$

Dutch Bros.

\$10

\$25

\$

El Pollo Loco

\$10

\$

I HOP

\$25

\$

Islands

\$25

\$

Jersey Mikes

\$25

\$

Olive Garden

\$25

\$

Panda Express

\$25

\$

Panera Bread

\$10

\$25

\$

Starbucks

\$10

\$25

\$50

\$

Subway Restaurants

\$10

\$

Taco Bell

\$5

\$10

\$

Discount Store & Outlets

QTY

Total

Sam's Club

\$25

\$50

\$100

\$

Target

\$25

\$50

\$100

\$

Walmart

\$25

\$100

\$

Electronics & Office

QTY

Total

Best Buy

\$25

\$100

\$

Staples

\$25

\$100

\$

Entertainment

QTY

Total

AMC Theatres

\$25

\$

Barnes & Noble

\$10

\$25

\$

Fandango

\$25

\$

Regal

\$25

\$

Gas & Auto

QTY

Total

76 Gas

\$25

\$100

\$

ARCO

\$50

\$100

\$

Chevron CA

\$50

\$

Jiffy Lube

\$30

\$

Mobil

\$50

\$

Shell

\$50

\$100

\$

Grocery

QTY

Total

Albertsons/Pavillions/Vons

\$25

\$100

Smart & Final

\$25

\$50

\$100

\$

Sprouts Farmers Market

\$25

\$50

\$100

\$

Health & Beauty

QTY

Total

Bath & Body Works

\$10

\$25

\$

CVS Pharmacy

\$25

\$100

\$

Sephora

\$25

\$

ULTA

\$25

\$

Walgreens

\$25

\$100

\$

Home Improvement

QTY

Total

Ace Hardware

\$25

\$100

\$

Lowe's

\$25

\$100

\$

The Home Depot®

\$25

\$100

\$

Online Shopping

QTY

Total

Amazon.com

\$25

\$100

\$

Apple Store

\$15

\$25

\$100

\$

Door Dash

\$25

\$100

\$

Uber Eats

\$25

\$100

\$

Specialty Retailer

QTY

Total

Container Store

\$25

\$100

\$

Michaels

\$25

\$

PetSmart

\$25

\$

See's Candies

\$25

\$

Sporting Goods & Outdoors

QTY

Total

Dick's Sporting Goods

\$25

\$100

\$

Nike

\$25

\$

REI

\$25

\$

Universal Prepaid

QTY

Total

VisaGiftCd No Activation Fee

\$50

\$

VisaGiftCd No Activation Fee

\$100

\$

Please see www.RiseRight.com for more businesses with available gift cards. Family Enrollment #C2861D4362L25



2026 SENSHIN MOCHITSUKI

Saturday, December 12, 7am until completion

Please join us in one of our annual get-together / work-together activities and in continuing a Senshin tradition. Remember, the Mochitsuki is a temple activitiy and is one of the few activities that brings together all age groups. It is the closeness that Mochitsuki and other temple activities foster that has kept our temple so strong and centered. So come out and spend the day with friends making our own “certified pounded” mochi. As always, lunch will be served.

ONLINE ORDER

IMPORTANT DATES

QUESTIONS? CONTACT



Wednesday, December 9, 7pm

Join us to wash the rice

Sunday, December 13, 9-11am

Please pick up your orders at the temple and join us for osoji (temple cleanup)

senshinmochitsuki@gmail.com



2026 SENSHIN MOCHITSUKI ORDER FORM

Payment Options

Check:
Payable to: Senshin Jr YBA, mail to Mochitsuki c/o Senshin Buddhist Temple
1311 W 37th St. Los Angeles, CA 90007

Zelle:
senshintemplejryba@gmail.com



zelle

ABSOLUTE DEADLINE FOR ALL ORDERS SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 22

Quantities are limited and filled on a first-come, first-served basis, so please order early.

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____ Zip Code: _____

PHONE: (circle one: cell/home) () - EMAIL: _____

I would like to order:

_____ pound(s) of komochi @ \$8.00 per pound \$ _____

(LIMIT OF 20 POUNDS; approx. 10 mochi per pound)

_____ pound(s) of yomogi @ \$9.00 per pound \$ _____

_____ set(s) of Kasane @ \$10.00 per set \$ _____

TOTAL \$ _____

Updates

& ANNOUNCEMENTS!

Message from the Board

It's been so hot lately that it was difficult to think about writing a fall newsletter article! It's hard to believe that we are already heading toward the end of the year. It seems like just yesterday we were welcoming the New Year, and now we are already in October.

October is always a fun month at the Temple, especially with **Day of the Gaki** coming up. I'm looking forward to seeing all of the kids dressed up, enjoying the activities, and bringing so much energy and laughter to the Temple. It's wonderful to see these traditions continue and to have our younger generations take part in the life of our Sangha.

As we begin to move toward the end of the year, we still have plenty happening at the Temple. I hope everyone will continue to join us, participate, and support the many activities that bring our Sangha together.

In Gassho,

STAN FUKAWA

B W A

On Oct. 2-4, 13 members of the Senshin BWA attended the **FBWA conference in San Diego**. A nice time meeting and interacting with over 300 delegates from across the country was had by all who attended.

On October 11th, the Senshin BWA will hold the **Lady Eshinni, Lady Kakushinni, Lady Kujo and BWA Memorial Service** to honor women who were important to Jodo Shinshu Buddhism and to remember our sisters

that have passed away. Guest speaker will be Rev. Mayuki Nagamine of Higashi Honganji Buddhist Temple. Along with Shinran Shonin, these women played crucial roles in making Jodo Shinshu Buddhism inspirational. **Lady Eshinni** was the wife of Shinran Shonin and provided him with emotional and financial support so he could spread the Dharma. **Lady Kakushinni** was the youngest daughter of Eshinni and Shinran Shonin and cared for her father during his final years. She was also instrumental in the organization that became the Hongwanji. **Lady Kujo** was one of the founders of the BWA in 1905 and wrote the lyrics to the gatha *Seiya*. A luncheon following the service will be held offsite at **Thai by Trio**. Contact Donna Ebata if you are interested in joining us for lunch.

At the end of the month, members of the BWA will help at **Dharma School's Day of the Gaki** event by handing out treats. It's always a delight to see the kids dressed in their costumes and to see their smiling faces as they receive the goodies.

Coming up in November, BWA will support the **ABA Bingo Fundraiser** by making desserts for the event. Proceeds will go to Weemes Elementary School.

Thank you to the following for your generous donations:

- Sumiko Hayamizu
thank you for 100th birthday flowers
- Celia Huey
thank you for chirashi otoki
- Nancy Usui
thank you for chirashi otoki

- Deb/John Hiramoto
in memory of Sumiko Hiramoto
- Deb/John Hiramoto
Eshinni/Kakushinni Memorial
- Vicki Wakinaka
thank you for chirashi otoki for Bernice Wakinaka.

A B A

Thank you very much to all our ABA members that helped with the prepping, serving, and clean-up for *Ohigan Otoki*. Everyone enjoyed the simple but scrumptious menu that was planned. Special shout outs to Chikako, John, Greg, Edna, Paula, and Cathy for purchasing the tofu, shumai, fruit, kimchee, salad, and condiments. *Okagesamade!*

Special Thank You's to Mrs. Sumi Hayamizu & Family, and Ron and Fujie Ohata for very gracious donations to ABA. *Arigatogozaimasu!*

Jr Y B A

This month, the Juniors are chairing service and will assist with the **Day of the Gaki** event. They will help run the games and activities while everyone has fun.

If you would like any information on the Jr. YBA, please contact the lead advisor Thai Checel (thaichecel@gmail.com).

Wasabikai

Togei: Japanese Ceramics

In August, Wasabikai traveled to the **American Museum of Ceramic Arts (AMOCA)** in Pomona to see the exhibit "Togei: Contemporary Japanese Ceramics." The gallery was closed to the general public as we received both a private tour of the exhibit and the entire facility. Every one of us was awestruck by both!

The Togei exhibit recognizes ancient traditional ceramics that evolved



out of the *mingei* movement, while showcasing its evolution into modern day sculptural works.

The founders of the *mingei* movement were steeped in Buddhism, seamlessly in both their lives and their

art. They recognized the beauty and artistry of the many unnamed potters from the rural countryside who made their creations not for display as art for art's sake, but for use in everyday life.

Their aesthetic was *shibui*, *wabi sabi*, and communal, as family lineages of style developed from specific ancient pottery villages.

A parallel development among the upper classes emerged in connection to the practice of various arts, such as *chanoyu* commission ceramicists to develop dishware to complement the season and enhance their food. The

many foreign collectors have also influenced changes in the artistry of Japanese ceramics.

We saw 80 beautiful works at **Togei**, many of which left us wondering how in the world the artists were able to accomplish these incredibly creative, but difficult and sometimes gravity defying works. Some were intensely beautiful, others whimsical, and still others head scratching. The exhibit ends on May 30, 2027, and we would encourage anyone interested to check it out.

We ended our adventure with a delicious lunch at a nearby Chinese restaurant, and were joined by some of our AMOCA friends.

While our little Wasabikai studio is no AMOCA, we hold precious seeds in our hands: to pursue the traditional Japanese aesthetic and Buddhist foundation in our pottery. We nurture these seeds, stumbling along the way and admiring the beautiful.

Remember the open studio Tuesdays/Thursdays welcomes any temple member who has previously taken a class. Will post new class dates as they become available.



SENSHIN CAMERA CLUB

Even though many of our minds are getting a bit fuzzy, we managed to get former members of the Senshin Camera Club to drub up some fond memories of their involvement. Lucky for us, Satoshi Miyata and Glen Isomoto cleared the cob-webs in order to share some of these highlights!

The Camera Club existed in the 1960's.

The club had meetings at the temple where club members' photos were on display throughout the meeting room. They would meet a couple of times a month and occasionally on the weekends when they

would go out as a group to shoot photos. There were around a dozen men in the club. They even set up a dark room on the first floor of the Education Building where club members could develop black and white photos.

Satoshi was involved from the start and remembers Tom Harada as being instrumental to the club. Photography was a hobby for Tom and he was very knowledgeable and experienced with cameras. He

taught everyone how to use a camera, how to use the various settings (aperture, lighting, etc.), how to take the same photo with different settings to change

the look of the photo, and elements of composing a good photo. Satoshi's favorite photo that he took was of boats in the marina. He took the photo from a boat that he owned before he got married. Satoshi said he used a popular Japanese brand, single lens reflex camera back then.

Glen was involved with the club for about a year (1968-69) during his college years. His Uncle, Mits Suehiro, brought him into the club when he was about 19-20 years old. Initially, Glen

thought it was funny that he was hanging out with this group of *Nisei* men that

were all his Dad's age. But he enjoyed the Camera Club, the camaraderie, and learning how to use the camera settings. He enjoyed the club outings to shoot photos in various areas of LA: the Bradbury Building, Little Tokyo, Venice Beach, and Santa Monica Beach. The Camera Club even took a weekend trip to shoot photos in the Sequoias! Glen's first ever camera was a Mamiya and that was the camera he used while in the club.

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, presented by longtime members of Senshin. We hope you enjoy them.



JOIN US FOR AN AFTERNOON OF
FAMILY FUN AT OUR SENSHIN TEMPLE

DAY OF THE
GAKI

Senshin Halloween Party

SUNDAY
OCTOBER 25,
2026

11:30 AM

Details:

10:00 Temple Service

(Change into costumes after service,
please)

11:30 Day of Gaki begins

Fun Activities

Mini-parade

Pizza Lunch

Games

Please rsvp to Jana Yumori so we
can have enough pizza for all,
scoutthesprout@gmail.com or call
626.862.1319



SENSHIN-JI 2026 OCTOBER 2569

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

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
September 27	28	29	30	1	2	3
		10:30a-2p Wasabi Kai Open Studio	10a-2p Hongwanji Place	10:30a-2p WasabiKai Open Studio 7-9p Kinnara Taiko	FWBA Conference Oct 2-4, San Diego	
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
FWBA Conference Oct 2-4, San Diego 9:45a Japanese Howa 10a Monthly Memorial Service (Shotsuki Hōyō) and Family Service Rev. Mas Kodani <i>Following service</i> Donuts		10:30a-2p Wasabi Kai Open Studio 7p BWA Reikai (Zoom)	10a-2p Hongwanji Place 6:30-7:15p (Zoom) SBG: Chanting, Ritual & Buddhist etiquette in Jodo Shinshu, Learning from Senshin Service Book	10:30a-2p WasabiKai Open Studio 7-9p Kinnara Taiko		
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
8:30a Temple Board Meeting 10a Eshinni-ko/Kakushinni-ko, Takeko Kujo-sama/ BWA Memorial Service; Guest Speaker: Rev. Mayuki Nagamine of Higashi Honganji Buddhist Temple <i>Following Service:</i> BWA Offsite Luncheon at Thai by Trio	7:30p ABA Meeting (Zoom)	10:30a-2p Wasabi Kai Open Studio	10a-2p Hongwanji Place 6:30-7:15p (Zoom) SBG: Chanting, Ritual & Buddhist etiquette...	10:30a-2p WasabiKai Open Studio 7-9p Kinnara Taiko		
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
10a Family Service <i>Following service</i> Meetings: Jr. YBA, Sangha teens <i>Following service</i> Bachi Babies: Toddler Taiko		10:30a-2p Wasabi Kai Open Studio	10a-2p Hongwanji Place 6:30-7:15p (Zoom) SBG: Chanting, Ritual & Buddhist etiquette...	10:30a-2p WasabiKai Open Studio 7-9p Kinnara Taiko		Nokotsudo Soji
25 Day of the Gaki	26	27	28	29	30	31
10a Family Service <i>Following service</i> Day of the Gaki		10:30a-2p Wasabi Kai Open Studio	10a-2p Hongwanji Place	10:30a-2p WasabiKai Open Studio 7-9p Kinnara Taiko		

October SERVICE Toban: Jr. Y B A

Monthly Toban group responsibilities

Weekly Chair Sunday Service

(Jr. YBA will chair service the 2nd Sunday each month)

October 11 Provide/serve snacks and beverages for Temple Board Meeting; Provide donuts/beverages following monthly memorial service

October HONDO Toban

Keith Sawada

Greg Yee

James Harada

Karen Harada

October ONAIJIN Flower Arrangement

Oct. 3 Qris Yamashita

10 Paige Morikawa

17 Debra Nishida/Lori Nishida

24 Donna Ebata

31 Sandra Aguilar

Nov. 7 Marilyn Shimabukuro/Gilbert Leong

**Flowers done on Friday due to scheduled event
Note: If you are unable to fulfill the week you are scheduled, please contact Iris at (310) 951-0160*

NOVEMBER Upcoming Events

8 ABA Bingo Fundraiser for WEEME S