



DECEMBER 2021 - JANUARY 2022

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Minister's Message

By Rev. Marcos Sawada

Buddhist Memorial Services Can Change the Perception of Myself, Living in This World

We, as Kaneohe Higashi Hongwanji, would like to thank you for helping us keep this temple alive one year more! We hope you have a nice holiday season and a Happy New Year!

Most of us in the world are experiencing an unusual time of struggles and anxieties. Plenty of information, but this brings more misinformation which generates more anxiety and more insecurity. On the other hand, struggle and despair are good resources to awaken something important to teach us about ourselves, humans!

On this occasion, religion can give us insight about reflecting on ourselves living in this world of constant changes. Our loved ones who passed before us can provide insights and hints of ways of living in a more adaptable harmonious perspective.

Some people say "My parents were Buddhist, but I am not! I'll do their funeral in my way, following my religion." This is how lots of people think. But, tradition has so many important things that guide us to open new paths in life which we cannot realize because of our egotistical perception.

Followers of different religions - non-Buddhism or Buddhist - mostly try to follow something Buddhist from their own beliefs, but usually not as presented by the Buddhism tradition of their parents.

For example, the schedule of Memorial Services made by the parents' temple. Most of us try to do the service only at our convenience, adopting our own calendar and not really listening to the path of awakening for the true reality.

We humans only follow what we believe is correct or fits with our expectations.

The world's population is about 8 billion people; therefore, we can have convergent ideas with others as individuals of the same cultural origin groups. It can be called a country, state, city, village, etc. We can create an idea of race, gender, political party, or favorite sport team and many others. We call it identity. Because of those differences, human ego continues to cause problems since the oldest time of civilization till nowadays.

Ego means make differences. Buddhism means the opposite, to break them!

Buddhism is a kind of teaching to realize about the self, who I am, the center of all human problems and solutions. Realizing my true self, I may connect with others.

From the earliest time humans embraced religion as a fundamental part of their lives. Feelings of pain, mercy, regret, gratitude, insecurity, joy, and more form the base of

religion and religion is the place where humans come to take refuge for all of humanity's history. In this point, our loved ones represent fundamental partners who connect those feelings of insecurities and anxieties to something higher for which we have no answer. These insights attempt to clarify the mysteries of living as human beings, what we can call The Path.

Death may not be something we want. We want to escape it, but we can't! As Reverend Makoto Ichiraku says: "In encountering those who have passed on before us, we become able to truly contemplate what life is." In this way, memorial services in Buddhism become a valuable tool to listen and to find our true selves.

Of course, those symbolic rites remind us about our connections with people who passed before us. Without them - our ancestors - our existence here would be impossible! They were here to build every possible base for us to live this moment right now and they continue to provide the foundation to find the meaning of happiness and the source of our anxieties.

Although death represents a negative concept in our society's vision, we can absorb it better in a natural way through the universal approach of Buddha's teaching. Wisdom & Compassion, or the Light of Buddha, is the perspective that overcomes our individualistic judgment of what's right or wrong and whether we believe or don't believe.

Life and death are a natural cycle through which everyone must pass, but human's biggest concern continues to be death: we are all going to die! We don't believe it and we don't accept it. It doesn't matter, death is universal for everyone without discrimination!

Death brings three important meanings for us. First, it is the physical separation from this secular world.

Second, death is not an objective but a subjective concern. When we lose a loved one, we face the realization that we are not immortal but 100% someone who is going to die! Then, it makes us think about others we leave behind when we leave this secular world and death becomes our own concern.

The third is what we call rebirth or re-encountering them. They come to us to reconfirm our rebirth or what I'm realizing since they passed.

We have two kinds of birth: our biological first, where we cross long journeys until we come to this world as a result of the births and deaths of infinite lives and conditions working towards it. The second rebirth is on encountering the departures of people, we are notified about something is here, therefore not realized it. Those constant changes in life and encounters make us a new I that destroys the old one. Through struggles and despair, life moves us to stand and awaken, teaching us about living moment by moment. The joy of living means the aspiration of our ancestors who are there to clarify directions because they are without our judgmental mind.

(Please see page 2)

They come back to this parallel world to reencounter and teach us our position in life right now. Our rebirth is what we could and can continue to learn from their lives in the process of continuous learning even after they have passed on. How much more actual humans we have been transforming! Gifts from their legacies and inheritances help us to re encounter our true selves.

Gratitude, regret, forgiveness: all these feelings take us to make us one with them. Oneness makes us humble! Humbleness comes from actual respect and makes us listen to others and become one with them, compassionate people!

Our self-centered point of view makes us blind. We expect not to be rejected by others as we try to build a positive image of ourselves without realizing this is only an extension of our ego. This is just self or ego compassion not something unconditional like when mom & dad protected us without expecting anything in return as they nurtured us in our path of natural life. What does this mean? When we want to be protected and there is a part of ourselves to protect us, this is to become one to return us to the universal.

Life or Death isn't good or bad, it only expresses the nature of "as it is." We cannot change it, but we can appreciate this unique moment of our life, the best moment of our life. It is the best moment because we can only live this moment right now. The past, it doesn't come back anymore. The future, no one knows about it... it is only a projection of our minds.

The three treasures of Buddhism say: Difficult is to come to this world as human, difficult is to encounter Buddha's teaching, difficult is to hear it and more difficult is to follow it. If you don't awaken in this life, when do you hope to do that?

Memorial Service isn't for the deceased but to remind us of what really is important in this life right now. We listen to it right now, then we go out, we forget, and go back to our darkness again. Listen to it again and again. The truth, what can move us: Wisdom & Compassion. Remember our ancestors, their words and life, and get meaningful insights to go ahead in our life.

Nature we cannot change or control, it doesn't need our judgemental minds, only awakening to it. Life lives you!

Follow the tradition! Schedule and respect the memorial services! NAMUAMIDABUTSU.

EVENTS HIGHLIGHTS

Yard cleanup Nov.7,2021



Chairperson's Message

By CharAnn Nakamoto

Aloha Members & Friends,

Thank you to everyone who shared their valuable time & energy on Sunday, November 7 working out in the hot sun; pulling weeds and trimming plants...keeping our temple grounds looking well-groomed, welcoming & tidy. A big "Mahalo" to: Dennis Kajijura, Leighton Sakamoto, Tommy Fujimoto, Stan Sato, Kerri Kahapea, Gladys Sakata, Karen Higashi, Taylor Darling and Norma & Marcos Sawada. It was so nice to catch up with everyone over the ono lunch prepared by Norma.

With Sunday, Dec. 26 right around the corner we hope to see you at our annual Mochi Tsuki event. This year, we'll have up to five mochi machines available so we should be able to spread out (social distancing) and keep production going smoothly. We will start steaming rice by 10:00 am. and should finish cleaning up by 2:30 pm. Please call the temple at (808) 247-2661 by Monday 12/20/21 to sign up, and we can also plan for lunch. Remember to soak your rice a day or two in advance and bring your katakuriko (potato starch), anko or fillings and a supply of ziplock bags or containers for packaging. Guests and non-members are always welcome to join us! If you are unable to join us and would like to reserve some mochi, please call the temple by Dec. 20 to order mochi. We will have pre-packed plain mochi by the dozen available for pick up after 12 noon with a donation made to the temple. Be sure to call ahead of time to reserve your mochi due to limited supply.

On January 30, 2022 we plan to have our Annual General Membership Meeting at 9:00 am followed by our regular Sunday Service at 10 and our Annual New Year's Luncheon. Please mark your calendars for this event. As I mentioned in our previous Jushin, we are still in need of additional board members in order to sustain our temple into the next year 2022. Participating as an active board member does not require you to attend Sunday service on a regular basis. However, it does require you to be an "active" dues paying member. By the way, our annual temple membership dues is \$60. for the entire calendar year. Please consider participating and joining our temple board should you receive a phone call from one of our board members, Onegaishi-masu!

Once again, I am very thankful for all your kind donations, valuable time and dana (selfless giving) that you have shared with the temple during this challenging year. We strongly hope we can count on your continued support in keeping our temple going as a viable Shinshu resource & gathering place for our Kaneohe community. Have a safe and Happy New Year!

In gassho,



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS: As of September 20 to November 17, 2021.

SANGHA'S DANA MAHALO!!!

In Memory of: Joann McCabe IMO Reverend Nobuyuki Sawada

Memorial Service: Karen Higashi

Nokotsudo: Ernest Oda

Gojikai: Ernest Oda

Calendar: Ernest Oda

Kyodan: Toshimasa Arai, Thomas & Suk Cha Fujimoto, Ernest Oda, Stephanie Pauling (Onishi Family), Michael Takashita, Cheryl Tyler

Ohigan: Anonymous, Mary Kagawa,

Eitai-kyo: Karen Higashi, Coleen Kasamoto, Mary Matsuda, CharlAnn Nakamoto, Tokie Yoneshige

Ho on ko: Anonymous, Liane Briggs, Clifford Fukuda, Karen Hayashida, Coleen Kasamoto, Joyce Kawakami, Sandra Kawate, Joyce Matsumoto, Edith Miyasato, Linda Morita, CharlAnn Nakamoto, Julian & Susan Ng, Sakiko Nishimura, Atsuko Nonaka, Gladys Sakata, Stanley Sato, Elea-nor Tokunaga, Lynn Tsuji, Barry & June Weled, Tokie Yoneshige

Donation, Items, Food & labor: Stan Sato; CharlAnn Nakamoto, Harriet Yamada; Gladys Sakata; Karen Higashi; Dayle Chock, Norma Sawada, Claudia Uyeda, Dennis Kajiura, Kerri Kahapea, Earl Tsukamoto, Hideko Higashi

Altar's flower donation: Stan Sato; Harriet Yamada; Gladys Sakata; Karen Higashi; Dayle Chock, Norma Sawada, Jeannie Higa

Total, Gojikai dues & Donations (including Offertory) = \$2,436

Mahalo! We appreciate your generous donations. Please contact Kaneohe Higashi Hongwanji for inadvertent omission of donors or if you want to remain as anonymous, please inform us in your mail.

Higashi Honganji Hawaii District 2022 Calendar

We ask for your contribution to our sect getting the nice OTOKI receipts on the 2022 District's calendar. Please send us your Dana with your 2022 GOJIKAI. Mahalo! Gassho!

Temple Cleanup



May we ask for your assistance on Sunday, December 19, 2021 beginning at 9:00 a.m. to clean the temple up. Wear a mask and bring your own gloves. Mahalo!

Mochi Pounding's donation for the temple Kagami Mochi. We need 15 Lb of Mochi rice, katakuri and anko. If you can make it, please bring it to the temple by December 25, 2021. Mahalo!!

MEMORIAL SERVICES

1 Y (Passed on 2021)

Mr. Minoru Higa 12/ 03, 2020; Mr. Howard Yim 03/14/2021; Mr. Francis Isao Tachiyama 04/ 12; Mr. Michael Tadashi Onomoto 10/30;

3Y (Passed on 2020)

Mr. Eugene Satomi Mukai 01/ 18; Mr. Koichi Yoshihara 1/29; Mr. Neil Masahisa Honda 02/ 24; Mr. Kurato Nakamoto 4/30; Mrs. Charliet Tsutayo Nakanishi 5/16; Mr. Mitsuji Higashi 10/26; Mr. Minoru Higa, 12/ 03; Mr. Jon Sakae Horikawa 12/10;

7 Y (2016)

Mrs. Miyoko Imai Hamaguchi 01/06; Mr. Yoshito Kanemitsu 03/07; Mr. Kenneth Yoshio Sakuma 04/16; Mrs. Irene Louise Tachiyama 04/ 16; Mr. Harry Masatsugu Sakaguchi 07/30; Mr. James Seiken Shiira 11/11; Ms. Chiyo Fukumoto 11/19;

13 Y (2010)

Mr. Masami Kasadate 12/30/2009; Mrs. Alice Kimiko Toyofuku 4/ 2010; Mr. Harry Masaru Kunihiro 08/02; Mr. Walter Iwao Furuya 10/28; Ms. Miyuki Yasuda 11/22;

17Y (2006)

Mrs. Lillian Shizue Komoda 12/17/2005; Mrs. Doris Fujiko Tsuchitori 03/27/2006; Mrs. Loretta Misao Sato 04/14; Mr. Toshio Ishida 10/11; Mr. Taro Shinsato 11/25; Mr. Shizuo Murabayashi 12/05; Ms. Kimie Ozeki Kasadate 12/26;

25 Y (1998)

Mr. Takashi kiichi 03/14; Mr. Masakichi Aniya 5/26; Mr. Misato Yoshihiro 09/01; Mrs. Tazu Oda 12/15;

33 Y (1990)

Mr. Harry Masao Uyemura 01/20; Mr. Mitsuru Yoshizaki 06/28; Mrs. Megumi Takishita 08/03; Mr. Tomeki Takishita 10/03;

50 Y (1973)

Mr. Takashi Tamekichi 01/25; Mr. Katsuki Nakamura 04/27; Mr. Katsuhisa Nakamura 04/27; Mr. Rengo Okamoto 05/16; Mr. Yoshiharu Hasebe Nakamura 08/07; Mr. Masaru Otsubo 09/28/1973;

The above dates reflect the memorial services for the entire year 2022. This year, we are keeping for the whole year because the pandemic's shutdown. We are having in person's service at the temple, striving to keep every member and visitor safe. Wear mask, keep physical distance and assuring the comers not having the Flu symptoms. Please call Kaneohe Higashi Hongwanji (808 247-2661) for your service appointment, even the date has passed. You can consult the resident minister for any information you need. Also please feel free to come and join our **Sunday Services**, starting from 09:00 am. For further information call Rev. Sawada at 808 247-2661.

First proceed when a loved one almost going to pass or just passed away for Bedside service:

Call immediately to Rev. Sawada at 808 247-2661 or 808 217-7325

**KANEOHE HIGASHI
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EVENTS HIGHLIGHTS



Hoonko Service October 17,2021

“ Even if a person has learned eighty thousand Buddhist scriptures, if she or he does not know the world after death, they are fool.”
Master Rennyō Shonin



thank you

Omigaki Oct 10,2021

CALENDAR DECEMBER-FEBRUARY 2022

DECEMBER

- 5 (Sun) HBC Bodhi Day Service 9:30a.m. * Live Stream HBC YT
- 12 (Sun) Bodhi Day Service 9:00 a.m. * Live Stream YT
- 19 (Sun) Temple's Cleaning up 9 a.m.
- 26 (Sun) MOCHI POUNDING 10 a.m.
- 31 (Fri) New Year Eve Service JOYA NO KANE 5 p.m.

JANUARY 2022

- 1 (Sat) New Year Service 9 a.m.
- 2 (Sun) Sunday NY Service 9 a.m.
- 9 (Sun) NY Family Service 9 a.m. * Live Stream YT
- 11(Tue) Larger Sutra Study 6 p.m.*Zoom
- 16(Sun) Sunday Service 9 a.m. * Live Stream YT
- 20(Thu) OKO Tea time 6 pm * Zoom With Betsuin
- 23(Sun) Sunday Service 9 a.m.
- 30 (Sun) General Membership MTG and New Year Party 9 a.m. * ZOOM

FEBRUARY

- 6 (Sun) No Sunday Service 11 a.m. Board MTG
 - 8(Tue) Larger Sutra Study 6 p.m.*Zoom
 - 13 (Sun) Sunday Service 9 a.m.
 - 18(Thu) OKO Tea time 6 pm * Zoom With Betsuin
 - 27(Sun) Sunday Service 9 a.m.
- ZOOM Live Stream Need get Link
 - YT YouTube Channel live Stream at Kaneohe Higashi Hongwanji YT Channel # Every Wednesdays and Fridays
- Dharma Health Morning Service**
* Health Tips Exercise from 7:30 a.m. to 8:30 a.m. (Feb. no classes)



UP COMING SERVICES

December, 12 (Sun) Bodhi Day Service 9:00 a.m.

January, 30 (Sun) General Membership MTG and New Year Party 9 a.m. * ZOOM

2021 Annual's report and Meeting at 9 a.m. Service at 10 a.m. and 11 a.m. New Year Party. Further Information will be posted at our WEB page KANEOHE HIGASHI HONGWANJI MISSION

Join us in person. We are doing the best to keep every member and visitor safe following the safety guidelines.

2022 Gojikai dues (membership fee)

Please send this year 2022's Gojikai dues. It is an important way to keep our temple alive. Mahalo! NAMUAMIDABUTSU

JUSHIN EDITORIAL MEMBERS

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