

ICHIMI

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Return Service Requested

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Tentative Schedule of May Events

May 1, 2024—Study Class @ 7:00 pm
May 5, 2024—May Shotsuki Memorial Service @ 10:00 am
Hatsumairi Infant Presentation Service
May 7, 2024—Board Meeting @ 7:00 pm
May 12, 2024—Sunday Service @ 10:00 am

May 19, 2024 —Combined Coast District Gotane Service @ San Jose Buddhist Temple
Special Guest Speaker Rev. Shinseki 10:00 am
NO SERVICE IN WATSONVILLE

May 26, 2024—Memorial Day Cemetery Services
Pioneer Cemetery @ 9:00 am
Pajaro Valley @ 10:00 am
San Juan Bautista @ 11:30 am

Temple Office Telephone (831) 724-7860
Temple Office is temporarily closed due to the COVID-19 pandemic. By Appointment only.
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Ichimi

To Live is to Take

“Yuien-bo, will you believe what I am going to say to you?” “Yes, I will.” I replied. The Master further inquired, “Then, will you obey anything I tell you to do?” I respectfully gave my assent. The Master continued, “Now, kill one thousand persons, will you? Then you will be sure of your Birth”. “With due respect for your words”, I replied, “I feel that, with all that is in me, I cannot kill even one person.” “Then”, the Master asked, “why did you promise me that you would not disobey what I, Shinran, said?” He continued, “From this you should know. Suppose you could do anything just as you please; then, you could kill, if you were told to kill a thousand persons in order to be born in the Pure Land. But you do not kill because there is no karmic condition within you to kill even one person, and not because your mind is good. Even though you have no thought of injuring others, it may so happen that you kill a hundred or a thousand persons”. In saying so he showed us that when our minds are good, we think it is good (for birth), and when our minds are bad, we think it is bad, thus failing to realize that we are saved by the inconceivability of the Original Vow.

Living in our homes, we must make adjustments to make certain our homes are solid, safe and secure. I have a regular service come and spray around the house for termites, ants, spiders and other critters so they do not invade our home. Once the terminator said to me “Everyone must make a living”. I was never sure if he was talking about himself as the killer of bugs, or the bugs themselves. The exterminator lives his life by taking the life of bugs, I pay him to do the dirty work for me. The bugs try their best to live their lives by living in and around our homes.

As Shinran points out in his Tannisho, although we do our very best to live with a sense of civility and our karmic condition does not allow us to kill, we have the danger of destroying life by living. I am not trying to make us feel guilt in living our lives, but trying to make us aware that large and small sacrifices are being made so that we can live our comfortable lives. This is part of the path of awakening to the truth of our lives.

Shinran is pointing out to us that given the karmic conditions we may be capable of committing the gravest of sins. Our (and Yuenbo’s) privileged lives don’t allow us to kill, not because of a indication of our morals. As Buddhists we continue to pursue the quest for perfection and goodness, thinking that would be the cause of our birth in the Pure Land. All the while we continue to commit evils big and small.

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Special points of interest:

Sun., July 120 2022
Hatsubon Service
Guest Speaker:
Rev. Michael Jones



To Live is to Take

(Continued from Page 2)

Every moment of our lives we are dependent upon the sacrifices of others. We have heard this many times. The sacrifices that I am talking about here are the lives that are given up so that we can live our lives. From the food we eat to the insects that we kill directly or indirectly sacrifice their lives to make our lives livable and comfortable.

Our current conditions allow us to live our lives in comfort and generally ignoring the sacrifices made on our behalf. As Shinran points out we think we are living good lives, when in fact we are living “bad” lives. I am not condemning anyone here, but pointing out that all of us no matter what our karmic conditions are we are saved by the Original Vow. How grateful I am.

Gassho,

Rev. Hosei Shinseki

June Events

June 2, 2024—Combined June & July Shotsuki Hoyo
Memorial Service @ 10:00 am

June 9, 2024 Sunday Service @ 10:00 am
June 16, 2024 Sunday Service @ 10:00 am
June 23 & 30, 2024 NO SERVICES



Here is Rev. Shinseki's article in the Religious section of the Pajaronian newspaper from the April 2024 issue.

Hanamatsuri: The Flower Festival

In the month of April the birthday of the historical Buddha, Shakyamuni is celebrated. He was born Siddhartha Gautama of the Shakya clan. The young Siddhartha spent the first 29 years of his life living in a palace with his family. At the age of 29 he became enlightened and from that day forward was known as Shakyamuni Buddha.

I have often wondered how Siddhartha celebrated his birthday? I can imagine as a prince living in a palace he had a grand celebration with music, great food and many people gathering to celebrate his special day. He probably received some wonderful gifts as well. But something was missing at his birthday party. Can you guess what it was?

His mother was not there to celebrate with him. She had died soon after his birth. I am sure that she was in his thoughts as everyone gathered to wish him a "happy" birthday. But he came to realize that all the gifts, all the great food and the celebration were all so temporal and the happiness he felt would melt away as he thought of his mother and sadness took over.

The young Siddhartha came to the realization that every person would experience the same things that he was feeling. A great sadness overcame him, and he began to think that there must be a better way of life for us. A life where there is no sadness, where we can enjoy peace of mind. His great sorrow was not for himself but for all of us. This was the motivation behind the Buddha's great vow of the nembutsu.

Throughout our lives we are celebrated by others. There is always someone who is thinking about us. And even if there seems that no one is thinking of us. The Buddha Amida is always thinking of us and our welfare. We live this life being thought of by someone else, always. Siddhartha never forgot his mother, and for many of us it is the same. We will always remember those in our life who cared for us, and celebrated our accomplishments, and shared in our sorrows. As we celebrate the birth of Shakyamuni Buddha we are celebrating the fact that his concern for us is like a parent's concern for their children. His Primal Vow was created out of deep concern for each and every one of us.

We are constantly being thought of by Amida Buddha. It is like the wonderful celebration of our births every day. Amida is celebrating our life and is giving us the gift of the Nembutsu (Namoamidabutsu).

Gassho,
Rev. Hosei Shinseki

**2024
Memorial Service Schedule**

| <u>Year of Death</u> | <u>Service</u> | <u>Year of Death</u> | <u>Service</u> |
|----------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|----------------|
| 2023 | 1st Year | 2000 | 25th Annual |
| 2012 | 3rd Annual | 1992 | 33rd Annual |
| 2018 | 7th Annual | 1975 | 50th Annual |
| 2012 | 13 th Annual | 1924 | 100th Annual |
| 2008 | 17 th Annual | | |

**June & July SHOTSUKI HOYO, FAMILY MEMORIAL
June 2, 2024 @ 10:00 am**

**JULY SHOTSUKI
HOYO:**

Akimoto, Keiko
Matano, Yoshio
Takeuchi, Sugako
Akiyama, Tom
Mine, Isekichi
Tamasu, Masao
Arao, Alan
Misumi, Jim Naoto
Tanimasa, George
Arao, Ted Tetsuo
Mito, Mary
Tao, Kazu
Fujita, Asa
Nagata, Takeo
Terasaki, Kichisaburo
Hamai, Nobuko
Nakahara, Robert
Teshima, Hubert
Hamai, Sosuke
Nakamoto, Motoichi
Tsuchiyama, Sunao

Hanayama, Rev. Shousei
Nakashima, Mikie
Uyeda, Sen
Katsukiyo
Nakashima, Mitsuteru
Wada, Utako
Haneta, Sumiko
Niiyama, Ayako
Wada, Hiroshi George
Hattori, Kin
Nishihara, Mitts
Wakayama, Hiroko
Higaki, Thomas Tsuyoshi
Nishita, Ronald Toshiyuki
Yamaguchi, Tadayoshi
Hirano, Isao
Nitta, Isano
Yamamoto, Aiko
Ikeda, Midori
Nitta, Tokujiro
Yamamoto, Fuku
Inokuchi, Takeshi George
Oita, Suwa

Yamaoka, Akei
Iwami, Shige
Ota, Yaeko
Yamaoka, Kousaku Kay
Izumi, George
Sasano, Katsukazu
Yokoi, Shizu
Kamigawachi, Carmel
Sasano, Yoshiko
Yoshizumi, Tsuru
Kawasaki, Fuji
Shimonishi, Torasuke
Kawasaki, Sanosuke
Shingai, Chiyoko
Konishi, Aki
Shingai, Fuku
Kurimoto, Fusayo
Shingai, Isaac
Kusumoto, Amiko
Shingai, Seki Inouye
Kusumoto, Satsuki
Sugimoto, George Kazuo

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FOR YOUR DONATIONS AND YOUR UNDERSTANDING.**

SAVE THE DATE
TRI-TEMPLE GOLF TOURNAMENT - August 12, 2024

All skill levels are welcome to sign up and join us for a fun day of golf at the beautiful Crazy Horse Ranch Golf Club in Salinas.



We are looking for sponsors from the three temples, so please contact your local temple to be a sponsor. For more information, you can email us at centcoasttritemple@gmail.com

Sponsored by Monterey Peninsula Buddhist Temple, Salinas Buddhist Temple & Watsonville Buddhist Temple

**Temple
Fireworks
Booth**



WE NEED YOU

Date: July 1– July 4

Time: 11:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Temple Parking Lot

**WE NEED YOUR HELP AT THIS YEAR'S
FIREWORKS BOOTH**

Our Fireworks fund raiser is one of the Temple's biggest fund raisers and we need your help. This year's booth has been reconfigured with distance markers, plastic shielding, disinfectants and face masks to help keep everyone safe.

If you cannot help in the booth, you can still support the temple by bringing food (**individually wrapped is preferred**), buying fireworks, waving a flag or stopping by and giving your support.

Please contact Perry or the office so we can schedule your shift or know what day you are bringing food for the temple volunteers.

Perry Yoshida @ 831.239.7540 - perry761@aol.com
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