

Dharma Service with Rev. Aoki on Zoom

Please contact Rev. Aoki at:
rev.aoki@gmail.com
to receive the Zoom link
or email the temple

(Service takes approximately 30
minutes - Meditation, Sutra Chanting,
and Dharma Talk)



Online (Zoom)
May Shotsuki
Gotane
Service

Saturday, December 17th at 10AM

Sunday, December 4th
@ 10:00 a.m. at the VBT

December Shotsuki/ Memorial & Bodhi Day

Masks are still required
when in the temple

The Zoom link is:

Meeting ID: 692 059 0986

Passcode: shinran

Vancouver Buddhist Temple



220 Jackson Avenue
Vancouver, BC, V6A 3B3

Phone:
604-253-7033

Email:
temple.vbt@gmail.com

Website:
vancouverbuddhisttemple.com



Bodhi Mind



Vancouver Buddhist Temple

December 2022, Issue #466

"A Three-year Old Child May Well Know the Way"



Welcome to the month of December! I cannot believe how time passes so quickly. We quietly look back over the year of 2021, and we should feel grateful that we are able to live each day, each moment, and each breath. When I talk about Buddhism to people who have never heard of the teaching, I often share the following story.

One day during the time when Bai Juyi was a Tang dynasty government official, he passed by the Green Creek Bridge and saw a crowd gathered before a Buddhist monk to hear him talk. He thought it strange that people would come to such a remote countryside to listen to this monk. The monk must be very learned, he thought. Therefore, he rode his horse in the direction of the crowd.

When Bai came face to face with the monk, he said: "Master, the place where you are seated is quite dangerous". The Buddhist monk was the famous Bird's Nest Monk. One glance at Bai and he could see an arrogant and conceited elitist. So Bird's Nest said to Bai, "It is your position that is in danger."

Bai was quite taken aback by this remark and said, "My position is one that is rooted in the country. How can it be in danger?" The monk replied, "Worries and pressures alternate with each other and the conscience is put to an unending test. Neither the body nor the soul can get any rest. Isn't that dangerous?"

Then Bai asked Bird's Nest, "Please tell me, Master, what is the essence of Buddhism?" Bird's Nest decided to teach him a moral lesson: "Do no evil deed and engage in deeds of kindness." Bai, who knew a little about Buddhism, immediately retorted, "I've known this for a long time. Not only do I know it, even a three-year old child knows it."

Seeing Bai disparaging Buddhist teachings, Bird's Nest said to him, "A three-year old child may well know the Way. But an eighty-year old man may no longer have the energy to practice it."

When Bai heard that, he could read between the lines and knew that Bird's Nest was right. He felt ashamed of himself. Then he said to Bird's Nest, "You've opened my mind. I hope to learn more about Buddhism from you. One day I will come again to be your follower." And he left.

Bird's Nest knew that Bai had a receptive heart towards Buddhism. However, after almost a year, Bai still did not turn up for his lectures. So one

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day Bird's Nest paid a visit to Bai's residence but found that Bai was out on an appointment. He took a pen-brush and on a wall he wrote this poem for Bai:

Having penned your ideals as an official for forty years;
While drowning yourself in countless disputes;
One family is well-off while thousands of others live in misery;
Half your life brings fame but invokes woes in a hundred after-lives.

When Bai returned home and saw the poem, a strong sentiment suddenly took hold over him. He realized that after all these years he had always wished to study Buddhism, but had never committed to doing it. He was so consumed by his daily affairs and by constant distractions of social gossip. He felt as though he was struggling to stay afloat in a pool of unending conflict. The poem awakened him to his cherished wish and so he decided to leave his job to become a secular follower of Bird's Nest.

We all have similar feelings during this busy time of the year. December is an ideal time to practice Dana (generosity), which is about giving with no attachments or any thoughts of receiving. It is a gift of gratitude and of letting go of the sense of self (ego-nature) for happiness. It is my wish that all temples in Canada share the Buddhist practice of 'giving' with a hope that we can use this joyful time to expand our generous hearts and give to the local charities of our choosing.

May we all continue to listen to the Dharma and with the approaching cold season, please stay warm.

Namo Amida Butsu!

Tatsuya Aoki



Message from the VBT Board

While we cannot change the results of last year's events which were successful or otherwise, we can learn from them as we plan for 2023 and the future. Thank you, members for your effort and dedication. The temple is the recipient, but really we, as followers, are the beneficiaries of the embrace of Amida Buddha, which is complete and unquestioned, showing us the way. Your contribution is the gratitude directed to the primal vow.

For December we are planning our annual Mochitsuki. It should be a fun event. Our fundraising projects are now concluded for the year. In the place of our annual spring and fall bazaars, once in each month with the exception of December, we have had sales of delicious bentos, manju, maguro and other items. They have proven to be quite successful fund-raisers. Thank you to all members and friends who have turned out to help at our services and events.

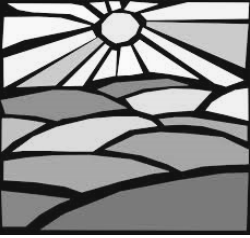
Please enjoy the holiday season safely with your family and friends!

Ake mashite omedeto gozaii masu!

In Gassho

The Board

Greetings from the Fraser Valley Buddhist Temple



Greetings everyone,

It feels like we went from late summer to winter in the space of a couple of weeks. Thank you to all of the people who continue to come out to our temple each month to listen to the dharma and spend time together. We are back to having our potluck refreshments again after the services and it is wonderful to see the mainstays of chili and chow mein, sushi, plus new items each month.

Our Bodhi Day service will be Saturday, December 3rd at 11:00 am (please note the earlier start time) with Rev. Aoki. After our refreshments, we will have our annual Bingo Party. To participate please bring a wrapped prize (max value \$10). This has always been a very fun event with a lot laughs, loud calls of "Bingo" and fun until the prizes run out.

The monthly movies project has been enjoyed by three generations so it has been a great success. We are taking a winter break for now and will resume showings in February or March.

We plan to hold Mochitsuki on Wednesday, December 28th. If you would like to participate please contact Lori (lori.north@gmail.com) or Lucy (604-856-6492). More information will be sent in the email update.

In gassho,

Fraser Valley Buddhist Temple



Fraser Valley Buddhist Temple Donations Received in Gratitude

Nov. 12, 2022 Eitaikyo & Nov. Shotsuki & Canada Post
Mr. & Mrs. John Kamimura - Aug., Sept. & Oct. Services
May Mukaida, Joanne McAllister - Sept. & Oct. Services
Ron & Marilyn Fujita, Amy Nagamatsu, Teruko Ikuta,
Ron Nishimura, Lori North

Jenny Fujita & Mike McSkimming - Oct. & Nov.
Services
Chieko Takasaki - in memory of Sakiye Takasaki
Stan & Lucy Yoshioka - in memory of Amy Muraki
Ron Nishimura - in memory of Fusae Nishimura

Mochitsuki

To all VBT members:



Please join us on Sunday, December 11th @ 9:00 a.m. for Mochitsuki. A long-standing tradition is once again returning to the Vancouver Buddhist Temple. Each member's family will receive one (1) kagami mochi set and one (1) komochi package (9 mochi/package). Also, additional mochi packages can be purchased for \$8.00 (9 mochi).

So we know how much mochi to make, please return the order form ASAP, or contact the VBT either by phone 604 253-7033 or email us at: temple.vbt@gmail.com

2022 VBT Mochitsuki Order Form

I would like to receive a Kagami Mochi set and Komochi package: YES / NO (VBT members only)

I would like to order additional mochi: _____ x \$8.00 Total: \$ _____

Name: _____

Phone #: _____ Email: _____

*** Deadline to order is Monday, December 5th***

2023 Vancouver Buddhist Temple Calendar**Monthly Services**

Sun, January 1, 2023	11 AM	New Year's Service
Sun, January 8	10 AM	Hoonko (Shinran's Memorial) and Shotsuki
Sun, February 12	10 AM	Nirvana Day and Shotsuki
Sun, March 5	10 AM	Spring Ohigan and Shotsuki
Sun, April 9	10 AM	Hanamatsuri / Keirokai / Shotsuki *Combined
Sun, May 7	10 AM	Gotane (Shinran's Birthday) and Shotsuki
Sun, June 11	10 AM	Family Day and Shotsuki
Sun, July 9	2 PM	OBON / Shotsuki
Sun, August 13	10 AM	August Shotsuki & Japanese Canadian Memorial Service
Sun, September 10	10 AM	Fall Ohigan and Shotsuki
Sun, October 15	10 AM	JSBTC Day and Shotsuki
Sun, November 5	10 AM	Eitaikyo and Shotsuki
Sun, December 3	10 AM	Bodhi Day and Shotsuki
Sun, December 31	11:30pm	New Year's Eve Service and Bell Ringing at UBC
Mon, January 1, 2024	11 AM	New Year's Service

2023 Membership Form

This year, we will continue to keep our membership fees at \$100 per member or \$200 for two and \$25 per student.

2023 Vancouver Buddhist Temple Membership Form

Toban # _____ New Member? (Circle): yes no

1st Person: (Mr./Mrs./Miss./Ms.) _____ Birthdate: _____ \$100.00
Month Day Year

2nd Person: (Mr./Mrs./Miss./Ms.) _____ Birthdate: _____ \$100.00
Month Day Year

Student's Full Name: _____ School ID #: _____ \$25.00

Cash: _____ Cheque #: _____ E-transfer: _____ Total: \$ _____

Address: _____ City: _____

Province: _____ Postal Code: _____ Phone: _____

Email Address: _____

Emergency Contact Person: _____ Phone#: _____

To receive the Bodhi Mind, please choose either e-mail or Canada Post. Email: _____ Canada Post: _____

To receive by Canada Post, please choose from: English _____ Japanese _____ Both _____

Upcoming Events

Saturday, December 3rd -
@ 11 am Fraser Valley
Service (in-person)

Sunday, December 4th -
Shotsuki/Memorial &
Bodhi Day
@ 10 am at VBT & on-line

Sunday, December 11th -
Mochitsuki @ 9 am

Saturday, December 17th -
Dharma Service @ 10 am

Sunday, December 18th -
Seniors' Luncheon @ 11:30 am

Sunday, December 25th -
Christmas Day

Monday, December 26th -
Boxing Day

Saturday, December 31st -
New Year's Eve Service
@ 11:30 pm at UBC

Sunday, January 1st -
New Year's Service @ 11 am
at VBT & on-line

Sunday, January 8th -
Shotsuki/Memorial &
Hoonko @ 10 am at VBT
& on-line

*** All services, except where
indicated, will be via Zoom.

The Zoom link is:
Meeting ID: 692 059 0986

Passcode: shinran

Also, you can dial-in to the
service.

Dial: 778-907-2071

Press Meeting ID#:
692 059 0986 & #



Toban 1 Will Be Responsible For the Months of December and January

The temple would not be the warm and welcoming place for gathering if it were not for the dedicated hard work of our members. When people come to the temple—whether it is for the first time or the 100th time—the care we put in our temple expresses how precious we hold the Teachings of the Buddha.

The Tobans will look after Memorial/Shotsuki services. Some of the duties include: cleaning the Hondo, inside and outside the temple; a parking attendant will be needed; as well as a couple people to act as service receptionist and usher. Help will also be needed for lunch prep for various monthly activities.

The following activities in December and January are the responsibility of: **Toban #1**

- ◆ Shotsuki/Memorial and Bodhi Day - Sunday, December 4th
- ◆ Mochitsuki - Sunday, December 11th
- ◆ New Year's Eve Bell Ringing Service - Saturday, December 31st
- ◆ New Year's Day Service - Sunday, January 1st
- ◆ Shotsuki/Memorial and Hoonko - Sunday, January 8th



Thank You to...

A lot of work is required to keep the temple in working order. From time to time things break-down or we need assistance in the kitchen. As well as the board of directors, we are very fortunate to have volunteers answer the call for help.

A huge shout-out and thanks to:

- ◆ **October Bento** - Molly Akune, Joyce Chan, Mayumi Dar, Kathy Homma, Mas Kitagawa, Len and Masumi Komori, Izumi & Henry Low, Karen and Tatsuo Mizushima, Akemi Mizuta, Sumie Takahashi, Michiyo Teranishi, Christine, Kaz, & Margaret Yoshida
- ◆ **November 6th Manju Making** - Molly Akune, Preston & Joyce Chan, Mayumi Dar, Frank & Pat Hamanishi, Kathy Homma, Michiyo Kishiuchi, Mas Kitagawa, Henry and Izumi Low, Akemi Mizuta, Kazumi Nakano, Keiko Oyama, Sumie Takahashi, Yuki Tanaka, and Michiyo Teranishi

New Year's Eve and New Year's Day Service

We are gradually returning to 'normal'...

We will have our New Year's Eve bell ringing service @ 11:30 p.m. at UBC - Asian Centre (1871 West Mall, Vancouver, BC)

Then, on Sunday, January 1st @ 11 am, the Vancouver Buddhist Temple will have an in-person service. We will still be observing COVID protocols and will not have tea or snacks after the service. Instead, we will have a take-away treat. Please RSVP if you would like to attend. Phone the temple at: 604 253-7033 or email at: temple.vbt@gmail.com

The service will also be on-line. Please use the usual Zoom link (see left side bar)

Memorial Years

1st Year - 2021
3rd Year - 2020

7th Year - 2016
13th Year - 2010

17th Year - 2006
25th Year - 1998

33rd Year - 1990
50th Year - 1973

December Shotsuki (Memorial) List

1959

HIROSE, Tanejiro
MATSUYAMA, Iyo

1960

HARA, Matsuji
NAKAZEKI, Ihachi
NOGAMI, Sankichi
UYEYAMA, Yoshiye

1961

IWABUCHI, Ichio
SHOJI, Kojiro

1962

NAITO, Ise

1963

MIZUNO, Tsuru
SAKATA, Yone

1964

NAKAMURA, Hikoza
OHASHI, Gengo
OYE, Tomi

1966

ARAKAWA, Sute
KOHARA, Shirayu

1968

FUJIOKA, Kenji
TAKIMOTO, Yojiro

1970

MAEDA, Ko
OOKA, Fusaye
YANO, Kenichi

1972

KARIYA, Gorokichi
MATSUI, Sadajiro
NEHA, Tomonori

1973 - 50th Year

MORI, Bun
NAGASAWA, Kinsaku

1974

INOUE, Teru
NAKAMURA, Keizo

1975

MIYATA, Ninosuke
UYEDE, Shige

1976

KOYANAGI, Kyuichi

1977

HIGO, Hajime
MATSUNO, Takao

1978

NAKATSU, Gen
ROBINSON, Robert

1979

AJIMOTO, Haruye
HAMANISHI, Kentaro
KOYANAGI, Jun
MASUHARA, Yohei
NAKASONE, Yoriko
YAMANOUCI, Keiji

1980

SHOJI, Tamiko

1982

NAKATSU, Kanichi
YOSHIDA, Makio

1984

MORI, Kenji
SHIBATA, Yasuhiro

1987

TAKAHASHI, Tsusaburo

1988

KITADE, Yoshiharu
MORISUE, Kazuo

1989

MUKAI, Mine

1990 - 33rd Year

FUJITA, Kiyoshi
NAGASAWA, Tatsu
NATSUHARA, Sawaye
OHORI, Masa
SUGAWARA, Yoshiko
TAKASAKI, Takeo

1992

BABA, Masako
HAMANISHI, Toshio
TAKAGI, Nobue

1993

MINAMIDE, Toshiye
ONO, Suye
YAKURA, Ko

1994

TAKATA, Takeo
Tahara, Toshiyuki

1995

HAMAGUCHI, Kisako

1996

KITAGAWA, Sotojiro

1997

HONDA, Kazuo
KAWAMOTO, Masao
NISHI, Yoshiko
YOSHIDA, Yoshie

2000

ASAOKA, Takashi

The December Shotsuki monthly memorial service will be held on Sunday, December 4th at 10:00 am.

IWASAKI, Mitsuji
KOYANAGI, Saburo
MASUHARA, Wakako
OKAMOTO, Yukio
TOMANEKI, Machiye

2001

AKASAKA, Minoru
MURAO, Yasukichi
TAKAI, Nobuo
TAKENO, Hisae
YAMAMOTO, Ei

2002

HARA, Miyoko
HARAGUCHI, Masanobu
NISHIKIHAMA, Sawae
SEKIYA, Mitsuo

2003

KOYANAGI, Suyeko
TATARA, Eiko
NISHIMOTO, Kumeko
HATTORI, Allan

2004

TAKEMOTO, Yasuye

2005

KAGETSU, Hide
TAKEMORI, Ichiro
YONEDA, Minoru
2006 - 17th Year
MIYAZAKI, Yoshie

2007

KOMORI, Edward
NATSUHARA, Kaoru
KITANO, Ken

2008

SAKATA, Kazuma
HAYASHI, Shigeiko

2009

GOMYO, Yuichi
CHIBANA, Jinjo

2010 - 13th Year

YONEDA, George
OKABE, Hitoshi

2011

NUKINA, Roy Masami

2012

NOMURA, George
MARTIN, Hunter
SAKIYAMA, Mitsuyo
FUJITA, Eileen

2013

HAYASHI, Kotaro

UEGAKI, Takuo
SHIKAZE, Emiko
MATSUNAGA, Takao

2014

TAKATA, Etsuko

2015

IKEGAMI, Kinya
TAHARA, Yume

2016 - 7th Year

TAKAKI, Jean
TANAKA, Mike
FUKUI, Makoto

2017

TSURUMARU, Chizuko
TSUJI, Akiko
TANIZAWA, Masaaki

2018

NATSUKOSHI, Noriko
TATEYAMA, Henry
FUKUHARA, Toshiro

2019

HAYASHI, Teru (Terry)

2020 - 3rd Year

JOSHI, Kuniko
NAKASHIMA, Herbert

Passings

Our deepest
condolences go to the
families and friends of

Mr. Stanley Takaki
73 years
November 5th

**The Shotsuki Service
will be held on Sunday,
December 4th at the
temple & via Zoom @ 10
am.

The Zoom link is:

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Passcode: shinran

Also, you can dial-in to
the service.

Dial: 778-907-2071

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