1727 Pali Highway
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

GOJI

Vol. 75 No. 9

SEPTEMBER 2020
NEWSLETTER
of the
Honpa Hongwanji
Hawaii Betsuin
hawaiibetsuin.org

2020 Slogan:

Building
Healthy Sanghas:
Embracing Generosity
and Openness

BETSUIN
MINISTERS

Chief Minister
Rev. Toyokazu Hagio

Ministerial Staff
Rev. Yuika Hasebe
Rev. Sol Kalu
Rev. Shingo Furusawa

Virtual Autumn Higan Service Scheduled September 20th On YouTube!

The Honpa Hongwanji Hawaii Betsuin welcomes all to our annual Autumn O-higan Service, to be held September 20, 2020 at 10:00am on YouTube. No service will be held at the Betsuin due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Although we are not able to hold in-person services, we still want to share the Autumn O-higan service with you and will do so online. Please go to the Hawaii Betsuin channel on YouTube to find the listing.

This year especially, everything has changed so quickly. We should take this opportunity to sit for a few moments, take several deep breaths, and reflect on Amida's Pure Land. Higan literally means "Other shore." On this precious occasion of O-higan, let us think about Amida Buddha's Great Compassion, which embraces us always, in good times and in bad times.

About the Dharma Teacher, Rev. Ai Hironaka
We are fortunate to have Rev. Ai Hironaka for our O-higan online Service. He is currently the resident minister of Lahaina Hongwanji, Maui and has been there since 2010. Rev. Hironaka was born in Hiroshima, Japan in 1977. He graduated from Sotoku High school, Ryukoku University, and Dendo-in Missionary. He first arrived in Hawaii in November of 2002 and has served at Hilo Betsuin, Aiea Hongwanji, and Hawaii Betsuin. Rev. Hironaka and his wife, Megumi, have four children: Kokoro, Hoken, Ayumu, and Minori.

COVID-19 Updates Stacy Bradshaw, Executive Director

"It might be stormy now but it can't rain forever..."
- Manisha Rajan

I sincerely hope that this article finds everyone well and safe. Despite most people making an effort to stay safe, the number of COVID-19 cases in Hawaii is higher than ever. Please continue to be vigilant in wearing your mask when you go out, avoiding large gatherings, and washing your hands often - but better yet, stay home, if at all possible!

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With the new regulations by the Mayor just yesterday (Aug. 25th), the Hawaii Betsuin ministers and staff have made the following precautionary changes to ensure everyone's safety as we head into a two-week stay-at-home initiative on Oahu. From Thursday, August 27, 2020 until the end of the stay-at-home mandate, the temple business office will be closed for any in-person business. We will still be available by phone and online and will continue to conduct services through Zoom. You may also request that a minister conduct an in temple service with no one attending in-person; only the minister will be present. We will take a limited number of reservations for memorial services and columbarium visits from September 10th through the end of September.

Please continue to be patient and understanding about the fluidness of the COVID-19 pandemic and be flexible as plans change, depending on how the

see Updates on page 2

Dharma Message from Rev. Yuika Hasebe

Do you know yourself? We tend to think we know enough about ourselves, and we can control our emotion and desire relatively well.

Long ago, there was a monk named Gonyubo. He was a high-ranking monk and was known for his deep understanding and knowledge of Buddhism. However, he was also well-known for his short temper and his severe scolding.

Gonyubo had a younger sister. The sister had recently lost her child, and the tremendous sorrow broke her heart. Gonyubo was aware of his sister's loss of her only child, but he didn't attend the funeral service nor did he visit her. The sister felt sad and slight reproach toward her older brother because he did not show up to the funeral. Gonyubo overheard that his sister was not happy about his absence from the funeral; therefore, Gonyubo went to his sister's place and scolded her for her ignorance.

Gonyubo told her, "You should have already known that the life of sentient beings is always filled with the suffering of Birth, Age, Sickness, and Death. It is the law of nature and by knowing that, why should you be so overwhelmed by the sadness of losing your child and complain about me not showing up to the funeral." The sister said, "Of course, I have been learning about the truth of human life, and I am aware of it. However, to lose my precious, beloved only child is just unbearable pain and no matter what I know about the truth of human life, it just can't ease my sadness. I can do nothing but cry."

Gonyubo, again, scolded her saying, "How ignorant you are. Why do you cry if you know the truth?"

Then the sister, while wiping her tears, said, "well… then…I would like to ask you a question, my brother. Is it a good thing to get upset and yell at other people?" Gonyubo replied with his angry voice, "Without asking, that is a bad act. Greed, Anger and Ignorance are considered the three major poisons of blind passions. You should have known those things by now!!" The sister next asked him, "Then…why are you always angry and scolding others?" Then, Gonyubo could not say a word and left her house. (Saseki shu)

Do you know anybody like Gonyubo, or do you see a glance of similarity inside of you? I felt that this story sounds like my story! We are so good at seeing others' faults, but we cannot truly see ourselves. We all know that anger is not welcomed, but sometimes we can't stop the strong wave of anger. We all know that no matter how much tears we shed, we can't bring back our loved ones to this world. We can't force ourselves to be happy instead of sad. We, as Buddhists, often hear about the suffering of "Birth, Age, Sickness, and Death," but it is truly difficult to just accept those as it is. When suffering manifests clearly in front of us, how many of us can accept it with a calm and peaceful mind? We all know about "Birth, Age, Sickness, and Death," but still most of us feel uncertainty, fear, sorrow, or anger when we face them. If we are capable of understanding the truth, and our sufferings are eliminated by knowing the truth, it is great and wonderful. But even though we know the truth, we still struggle with sadness, pain, and, sufferings; that is why Amida Buddha established the Vows. It doesn't means that we should allow whatever passions to drive us. Shinran Shonin wrote in his letter that "Because the power of our Blind passion is so strong, we, without even being aware, tend to say what shouldn't be said, to do what shouldn't be done and to think what shouldn't be thought." We shouldn't see Amida Buddha's Compassion allowing us to do whatever we would like to do. Because we are not capable of understanding the truth, Amida Buddha embraces us always. Therefore, everything that happens in our life is a precious opportunity to encounter the Great Compassion.

GOJI

The **GOJI** is a monthly publication of the Honpa Hongwanji Hawaii Betsuin, Tel. (808) 536-7044. There is no newsletter published for the month of SEPTEMBER.

DEADLINE:
Articles must be submitted no later than the 10th of the month prior to publication by e-mail (execdir@hawaiibetsuin.org), mail (1727 Pali Hwy, Honolulu, HI, 96813) or fax (536-0919). Address submissions to the ***GOJI.*** Please include your name and contact information. Original images should be labeled on the reverse side with caption and return information.

GOJI STAFF:
Editorial: *Jo desMarets; Dianne Ida, Randy Kawamoto, Rev.* , Japanese section*: Rev. Masanari Yamagishi, editor* Production: *Stacy Bradshaw, Colleen Kunishige;* Circulation: *Stacy Bradshaw;* Contributing reporters from *Hongwanji Mission School, Buddhist Women's Association, Dharma School & Parents, Project Dana, Wednesday Gang and Gals, Green Team, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Pacific Buddhist Academy, Betsuin Board and Social concerns, and the Kyodan*

The opinions expressed by individual contributors are their own and do not necessarily reflect those of the Honpa Hongwanji Hawaii Betsuin.

Updates continued from page 1

to have the most updated information on Hawaii Betsuin's status. You may also contact me at execdir@hawaiibetsuin.org with any questions or concerns. Please know that the safety of everyone is foremost in our decision-making. Thank you for your support and understanding during this challenging period. The ministers and staff are always here to support you as much as we can. Continue to take care of yourself and remain safe. Amida Buddha's great wisdom and compassion continues to embrace us daily, like a warm and comforting hug. Namo Amida Butsu.

President's Message from Dexter Mar

Lessons to Learn

With the Coronavirus crisis the central issue of 2020, have you ever wondered about the role of viruses in human evolution? Generally, viruses are seen as "bad" elements that cause trouble. Some viruses can actually boost the immune systems or destroy microbes harmful to humans. In either case, viruses force the cells they infect to adapt or perish; and in a larger sense, cause the entire organism to adapt or perish.

So, what's the COVID-19 lesson to learn? The old Buddhist parable* of the "runaway horse" tells the story of the farmer's reaction to the "bad" news that his only horse ran away. How did he react to the dire situation? "May be" he responded.

Our lives are ours to choose whether to adapt or perish. The Hawaii Betsuin's vision is ours to choose whether to adapt or perish. The outcome "May be" bad, or good, or neither. It's just something to deal with.

To adapt we must find new ways to serve our community of members, friends, and society. The Hawaii Betsuin has a new YouTube Channel that allows the community easy access to who we are and what we offer. New technology is challenging, and now is the time to learn how to connect via the Internet with smartphones, tablet computers, or laptops. The Buddhist Women's Association of Hawaii recently hosted a Zoom gathering of over 100 members and helped many get online for the first time. If you don't know what a "Zoom" is, it's time to adapt and learn. Ask a friend.

The COVID-19 crisis will continue throughout 2020, and whenever it's over, the Zoom meetings and YouTube videos will be used routinely. Have you checked out the Hawaii Betsuin YouTube channel? https://hawaiibetsuin.org

Our 10am Sunday Hawaii Betsuin services are there, as well as new videos on:

1. July 25th Bloom-Futaba Memorial Lectures by Prof. Ken Tanaka on "Passing the Torch"
2. August 9th 4-Petals Peace Walk to remember the Nagasaki bombing and appreciate 75 years of continued nuclear restraint.
3. 2019 Hawaii Betsuin Bon Dance

The Coronavirus is teaching us to "Adapt or Perish". The Farmer is teaching us that we can choose. The Hawaii Betsuin is here to help.

* http://truecenterpublishing.com/zenstory/maybe.html

BWA News and Events

Fujiko Motobu

September is still ruled by coronavirus so we cannot meet at the temple in large groups. We have been isolated, going into the sixth month. Although we are now able to make appointments and go to the temple, we must abide by strict rules. In the past, besides listening to the sermons on Sundays, it was most enjoyable to meet our friends. Many of the old timers are from the neighbor islands and they were accustomed to socializing at their respective temples, therefore they brought their practices to Honolulu and met friends at Hawaii Betsuin. Let's hope Covid19 will be completely under control with vaccines by the end of the year so we can again attend Sunday services and meet our friends and ministers. Meanwhile, take care of yourselves so you will not get ill. Stay healthy in mind and body. Households in Japan are suffering today due to the coronavirus epidemic. Men, stuck at home and not sharing the chores equally with their wives, are causing turmoil in their own household. Men usually see their families only briefly in the morning and evening. Men may have about 21 household-family tasks while the wives have 210 tasks. Men in Japan do fewer hours of household tasks and childcare than in any of the other world's wealthiest nations. About half of the working women in Japan have part time jobs or contract jobs without benefits. Women are held back in job promotions due to the heavy load at home that is not shared equally with the men.

ATOMIC BOMB ANNIVERSARIES IN HIROSHIMA AND NAGASAKI:

August 6, 1945 and August 9, 1945 are the two dates not to be forgotten. On December 7, 1941 Japan bombed Pearl Harbor, and President Franklin D. Roosevelt declared war against Japan. After four years, the United States of America bombed Hiroshima with the atomic bomb on August 6, 1945, killing 140,000 people. Then three days later, on August 9, Nagasaki was bombed, killing 70,000 people. Japan surrendered on August 15, 1945. Because the atomic bombs were radioactive bombs, many contracted cancer. Today, 75 years later, there are still survivors who experienced the deadly bombings. One of the survivors was in her late teens in Hiroshima when she became one of the victims. She is Mrs. Sachie Saigusa, wife of the late Rev. Saigusa from Hiroshima. She underwent many surgeries and hardships and pain, yet she takes the brighter side of life and lives with a positive attitude as a true Jodo Shinshu believer. There were some 20,000 ethnic Koreans living in Hiroshima believed to have died in the blast. Koreans were ostracized and many of them took Japanese names so the children would not be bullied. Today, through DNA testing we know that there are only a few pure blooded Japanese, perhaps only about 6% in Japan. Others claiming to be Japanese have many other oriental origins. Are you pure Japanese?

PROVERBS

(submitted by Lily Masuda)

1. *Ningen daka ra koso iki kata ni mayou*. Because we are human, we many times lose our way in life.

2. *Mayoi no may ni wa shin jitsu wa mie nai.* Truth cannot be seen through deluded eyes

CANCELLATION, DELAYS ON UPCOMING EVENTS:

Due to the Covid19 epidemic, many of the temple housed activities will have to be postponed to later dates. CALLIGRAHY class of Mrs. Okano, held on the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month beginning at 9:30 in the dining room will be postponed until March of 2021. SUMI E class of Mrs. Saigusa may start in January, 2021. Tentatively the 2020 exhibit at city hall will be held some time in April or May of 2021 and the Betsuin group will be in charge. Classes were held on the second and fourth Fridays from 9:00 am in the Dining room. The Japanese class with the Rev. Toshima, held every Wednesday morning from 9:00 am in the Annex temple was to start in September, but will be cancelled since the temple will be closed to large groups. We may begin in January, but the date has not yet been determined. Anyone interested in these activities are encouraged to join when the classes begin. Learning new things will stimulate your brain and you will also socialize with friends, so think about joining these groups.

HUMOR: A penny saved is a government oversight.

The older you get, the tougher it is to lose weight, because by then your body and your fat have gotten to be really good friends.

PERSONNEL CHANGES:

Rev. Masanari Yamagishi was transferred to HHMH HQ effective August 16, 2020

Peace Day is September 21!
Join Honpa Hongwanji in Ringing Bells for Peace

In the spirit of promoting Peace Day in Hawaii and throughout the world, Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii invites the world to join in ringing bells for Peace Day on September 21, 2020!

At 12:00 noon, Bishop Eric Matsumoto will lead a minute of silence, honoring all those who have sacrificed for the achievement of peace. At 12:01 p.m., young people will ring bells from their local temples, churches, schools, and community organizations. Plans include streaming the event live on the Internet as well as a post-event video that may be enjoyed on-demand.

The International Day of Peace was established by the United Nations in 1981 and, since 2001, has been celebrated on September 21. That date is also recognized as Peace Day in Hawaii, thanks in large part to members of the Hawai'i Federation of Junior Young Buddhist Associations who successfully advocated for the legislature to officially recognize Peace Day.

Please mark your calendars for this special observation of Peace Day 2020! More information is available at hongwanjihawaii.com and hawaiibetsuin.org. Questions may be directed to Rene Mansho, chair of the HHMH Peace Day Committee, at 808-291-6151 or renemansho@hawaii.rr.com.

If you would like to have a friendly conversation with one of our ministers, please call Rev. Yuika Hasebe at 536-7044!

We miss you and do not want to lose contact with you!

Hongwanji Online Bon Dance Experience available on-demand

Did you catch the virtual Bon dance presented by Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii on August 15? The video premiere has received many rave reviews and, as of August 18, has been viewed over 1500 times! You can still watch it on the HHMH YouTube channel. (The Hawaii Betsuin YouTube channel also provides access to the video.)

Hongwanji's statewide virtual Bon dance incorporated many diverse elements into a fast-moving program of just over one hour. It begins with a lone figure at Hawaii Betsuin (Dennis Sekine, with hapi coat and towel) overlooking an empty parking lot and reminiscing. A PBA student (Naho Umitani) happens by and offers him a "virtual Bon dance viewer" made in school. From there we enter a world of taiko, images and video of Bon dances past, five Bon dance songs, a picture book on the meaning of Obon, and messages from Bishop Matsumoto.

Creating the video was an all-island collaboration of the Monshinto Task Force, New Expressions Committee, Headquarters, and many individual and group contributors of photos, videos, music, choreography, text, and art. The event was chaired by Rev. Tomo Hojo and Rev. Satoshi Tomioka. Koji Suzuki and BJ Soriano served as emcees. Putting all the pieces together as editor was Hawaii Betsuin minister Rev. Yuika Hasebe.

Summer officially continues until September 22 -- why not dance along to Hongwanji's online Bon dance once again?

The related 2020 Bon Dance playlist on the HHMH YouTube channel includes instructional videos for each of the songs.

- David Atcheson

"Home Based Yagura" set up for the Betsuin Online Bon Dance!

From Jo d.

From David A.

Betsuin Girl Scouts

Courtney Mann, Troop 415

My Reflections On Earning the Padma Award

Through the course of March and all the way to January, me and a few other curious, inquisitive, and eager students gathered to learn more about the Buddhist religion and to expand our interests in the culture and beliefs. During my experience, I have learned so much and got to participate in many activities such as temple services, preparation before services, and so much more. This opportunity helped to grow my understanding and connection to the Buddha and the Buddhist religion, and I have gotten to meet many inspiring people who have shared their stories and lessons that I will hold with me for the rest of my life.

As one of my big projects, while working for my Padma Award, I was able to sit down and talk with Reverend Yuika Hasebe, an inspiring and kindhearted person, who I have gotten to know so much about. While talking with her, not only was I able to learn much more about her past and present life, but I got to understand who she is as a person and how Buddha's teachings have helped her in her life. It was very life-changing hearing her stories, but the one that really impacted me the most was the reasoning as to why she wanted to become a minister in the first place. She had said that although she grew up in a temple atmosphere, she never believed she would find her love and passion as a Reverend. She spoke to me and told me how she was only 24 when her father had passed, just after she had received certification and ordained to serve as a minister. Before passing, her father had asked her to participate in his funeral as a minister. Reverend Hasebe said the reasoning and motivation to become a Reverend was because she could share a connection with her father. This story is incredibly touching and so dear to my heart. It shows how Buddhism can connect each one of us. Before I departed, I asked her for advice, something that has stuck with her. She simply shared this empowering quote, "Appreciate the moment and all the happy times, be present because it can change at any time. The kindness you share is the kindness you will receive." I believe that we can all learn something so important about her powerful words, and we can apply this piece of motivation every time we are faced with challenges, or just need something to help us keep going and to keep our heads held high.

Being one of the older scouts I was able to take a step back, and learn not only from our incredible teacher, Alan Kubota, but also from the younger scouts. The lessons he taught us were not only impactful, but they are teachings I will remember for years. One of my favorite lessons Mr. Kubota shared with us was the importance of looking at the big picture. He taught each of us this skill by having us set up the chairs during class. This required each one of us to work together, align the chairs, but also to put things in perspective and to not only look at the things in front of you but to see the whole outcome. Within this assignment, the scouts and I also were able to understand the significance of process, and details, including the consequences of actions. This ties into another story/lesson he had brought up in class. He shared of the tragic time his items were stolen from him. He had said how unexpected it was and how things in life usually are, you learn from these experiences, and you deal with the consequences and find the good in every situation. Earning my Padma Award was not only learning about the Buddha's teachings but realizing how they apply to our lives every day. He was able to tie into the lesson discussing why we should understand suffering, the cause of suffering, the end of suffering, and the path, also known as the Four Noble Truths. Mr. Kubota taught us with his story about his personal items being stolen, that life always contains suffering, big or small. The importance is to know the cause of the suffering, the thing that is holding you back from moving past the situation and carrying on, and to find the end of suffering, to find the good. You do this by following the path, the Noble Eightfold Path. Throughout this experience, I have been enlightened with the deeper meanings in life, and now know that the teachings of Buddha are bigger than just words and actions, these teachings are fundamentals of life, we, I, am living the Buddha's teachings.

Striving for my Padma Award I was unsure what to expect from the experience. I thought it was just going to be simply "a thing" I would attend every Sunday. However, I now understand that it is way more than that. Because the Padma class is an experience to be surrounded by a wide range of enthusiastic children, motivated to learn more about Buddhism. Every Sunday I would get to see some of the happiest people I know. Each one of the students who attended would walk into class with a bright smile on their faces wanting to learn. Learning from Mr. Kubota has been an experience to perceive the meaning and learn the importance of the Buddha's teachings and the relevance it has to everyone's lives.

In Remembrance...

Setsuko Yoshida

September 7, 1926 - April 7, 2020

We were saddened to learn about the passing of Setsuko "Sets" Yoshida in New York on April 7, 2020 from COVID-19 at age 93. She contracted the virus in a retirement/nursing facility. When her condition deteriorated, she was admitted to the hospital where she died less than a day later of coronavirus-related complications.

Sets was a member of Hawaii Betsuin's Upasika Society and Buddhist Women's Association. She was head nurse in the infectious disease unit at The Queen's Medical Center. In the mid-1980s, at the height of the AIDS epidemic, Sets cared for and befriended many of Hawaii's HIV/AIDS patients.

Her many other patients she cared for at Queen's included those with cancer. In an interview with Karleen Chinen of the Hawaii Herald in 1986, Sets said "her Jodo Shinshu Buddhist faith helped her put her life into perspective - showing her who she was and helping her to realize her limitations as a human being." "And, yet, in spite of our limitations, we have a deep wish to help or heal another person - physically, mentally, spiritually. And so we go out and try our best to do that." She believed that "it is not for her to judge others, she encouraged them to celebrate life."

In 1986, the Life Foundation honored Sets with its outstanding service award to recognize the compassion and humanity with which she treated her HIV/AIDS patients, who, at the time, were treated like society's "untouchables."

After retirement, she cared for her husband Patrick, a 442nd RCT veteran, who was diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease. With support and encouragement from Frances Kakugawa, her long-time friend, Sets shared her caregiving experiences by writing several poems that were published in Frances's book on Alzheimer's Caregiving. Several years after Patrick's passing in 2000, Sets moved to New York City to be near her son Abram. *(submitted by Ruth Tokumi)*

Rose Sadako Nakamura

July 11, 1928 - July 10, 2020

Rose Sadako Nakamura, 91, of Honolulu, Hawaii, passed away July 10, 2020. She was born July 11, 1928 in Hilo, Hawaii. She taught PE at Hilo High School and at UH Hilo. She worked at the East West Center as a program officer for over 25 years. After retiring from the EWC she co-founded Project Dana in 1989 and served as the founding administrator until she retired in 2017. Her passion was Project Dana and helping the frail and elderly. Rose is survived by daughter Gwen; grandchildren Erin Warner and Drew Nakamura and sister Iris Namaye.

Private services were held. A celebration of life will be held in 2021 at later date for everyone. *(From the Honolulu Star Advertiser, August 23, 2020)*

Dr. Fujio Matsuda

Oct. 18, 1924 - Aug. 23, 2020

Fujio Matsuda, past president of the University of Hawaii, serving from 1974 to 1984, passed away in the early hours of August 23, surrounded by his wife of 71 years, Amy Saiki, and six children. He was 95.

Matsuda was born in Honolulu and grew up in Kakaako. A 1942 graduate of McKinley High School, he volunteered to become a member of the 442nd Regimental Combat Team's 232nd Combat Engineer Company in World War II. After his military service, he studied at UH, then transferred to and graduated from Rose Polytechnic Institute in Indiana in 1949. He earned a doctorate from MIT in 1952

As a sangha member, Dr Matsuda sang in the Betsuin choir and was active in various Betsuin activities. In 2004, he was honored as a "Living Treasure" by the Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii.

His family is planning to hold a public memorial service in the future when the risks of COVID-19 have subsided. The family plans to establish the Fujio and Amy Matsuda Scholarship in his honor. In lieu of flowers or gifts, the family requests consideration of support for this fund. *(Exerts From University of Hawaii News; Aug. 24, 2020)*

Radio Programs
SEPTEMBER 2020
KZOO 1210 AM
Japanese Language
Saturday at 7:30 AM

05 Rev. Hiromi Kawaji
12 Rev. Yuika Hasebe
19 Rev. Shingo Furusawa
26 Rev. Kazunori Takahashi

All Betsuin services and activities are CANCELLED **Until Further Notice**

The 10 am English services are premiered on YouTube

10 am Sunday mornings.
Go to the website hawaiibetsuin.org for a link

Please call the office at (808) 536-7044 if you have any questions.
We are here for YOU!

In Memoriam February - June 2020

The Hawai'i Betsuin extends its deepest sympathy to the families of the following members who recently passed away. May the family members find solace and comfort in the Nembutsu. Namo Amida Butsu

1/31 TSUTSUMI, Jane Sumie (92)
5/18 MURAKAMI, Etsuro (97)
6/30 KANO, Edward Sukeyuki (88)

7/2 KAWAMURA, Irene Kazumi (94)
7/5 SARUWATARI, Orie (100)
7/12 FUJIMOTO, Carol Chiyo (86)
7/16 NAKAHARA, Florence Suzumi (88)
7/25 OKA, Akiko (94)
7/27 YAMADA, Byron Masao (72)

2020 Memorial Service Schedule

2020 is the memorial year for those who passed away in:

2019: 1st year	2008: 13th year	1988: 33th year
2018: 3rd year	2004: 17th year	1971: 50th year
2014: 7th year	1996: 25th year	1921: 100th year

The great practice is to say the Name of the Tathagata of unhindered light. This practice, comprehensively encompassing all practices, is perfect and most rapid in bringing them to fullness. For this reason, it is called "great practice." Saying the Name then breaks through all the ignorance of sentient beings and readily brings all their aspirations to fulfillment. Saying the Name is in itself mindfulness; mindfulness is nembutsu; nembutsu is Namo-amida-butsu.

-Shinran Shonin