



Soto Mission of Hawaii
 1708 Nuuanu Avenue
 Honolulu, HI 96817

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SOTO MISSION OF HAWAII



BETSUIN NEWSLETTER

JANUARY & FEBRUARY 2024

Table of Contents

	Page
Joya-no-Kane (Sunday, Dec 31 @ 11:30 PM)	2
Daihannya New Year Blessing Service (Sunday, Jan 7 @ 9:30 AM)	2
Nehan-e Service (Sunday, Feb 11 @ 9:30 AM)	2
General Membership Meeting (Feb 11 @ 10 AM) and New Year's Party (11 AM)	3
Sunday Services and Kannonko Services at Betsuin	3
Lay Confirmation Precept Class and Ceremony	3
Daihannya Ofuda Packet	4
2024 Membership Dues and Nokotsudo Maintenance Fee	5
Spring HSMA Meeting (Feb. 25 @ 9:30 AM)	5
Temple Clean Up (Mahalo)	5
Upcoming Events	5
Temple Closed Dates & Modified Hours	5
Donations	6

Soto Mission of Hawaii

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Services and Events

Joya-no-Kane (Sunday, Dec 31 @ 11:30 PM)

On December 31 11:30 PM, we will be having our last service of the year 2023 and the first service of 2024. This is the Joya-no-kane service where we will be ringing the bell 108 times to cleanse our body, mind, and spirit to welcome the new year, 2024.

The significance of ringing the bell 108 times is that, in Buddhism it is said that we have 108 different sins or attributes that humans consists that causes disruption and pain in this world. By ringing the bell 108 times, we clear off each and every one of them and begin the new year in a clean state of mind. Please join us if you are able to.



Daihannya New Year Blessing Service (Sunday, Jan 7 @ 9:30 AM)

On January 7, 9:30 AM, we will be having our first big service of the year, Daihannya New Year Blessing Service.

Bishop Komagata, together with all the Oahu Ministers, will recite the *Daihannya-Kyo* (Great Wisdom Sutra), and pray for your family's happiness, prosperity, good health, traffic safety, and well-being in the Daihannya Blessing Service. Your Ofuda Packet (if you ordered) will be blessed and distributed to you upon completion of the service. If you are unable to attend, you may come to the temple to pick up your Ofuda that you ordered and any extras omamori at anytime.



Daihannya New Year Blessing Service
Date: Sunday, January 7
Time: 9:30 AM

Nehan-e Service (Sunday, Feb 11 @ 9:30 AM)

On February 11 at 9:30 AM, we will be observing Nehan-e, one of the three major services we have for Shakyamuni Buddha, our founder of Buddhism. It is a memorial service dedicated to him. It is said that about 2600 years ago, Shakyamuni Buddha passed away on the 15th of February in a place called Kushinagara, India.

At Betsuin, to observe this day and witness the last teachings by Shakyamuni Buddha, we hang the Nehan Scroll or the Pari-Nirvana Scroll from Feb.1 ~ Feb. 15 on the right side of the altar. We encourage everyone to come during these days to see the magnificent painting of the scroll, and join us for the Nehan-e Service.

Donation for the service is welcomed and appreciated. The donor's names will be read during the service by the Bishop to bless you and your family ancestors along with your prayers for Shakyamuni Buddha.

General Membership Meeting (Feb 11 @ 10 AM) and New Year's Party (11 AM)

Every year after our Nehan-e Service, we have our General Membership Meeting. This is the time you will hear from our Board of Directors on financial reports to future projects. This is a great opportunity to speak to our Board of Directors and share your thoughts and find out what is happening at the temple.



After the Meeting, we will be having our New Year's Party. There will be lots of delicious food and entertainment program that we are excited in planning right now. We will have great prizes for Lucky Numbers like Gift Cards, Kitchenware, Toys, etc. for everyone to look forward to. We are also asking for any support for these prizes, so please donate for Lucky Number if you are able to.

We will be honoring our Kupuna Members for sharing their wisdom and individuals for their contribution to our temple. **Please call the temple to sign up for the New Year's Party at (808) 537-9409 by February 2.**

New Year's Party

Date: February 11

Time: 11 AM

Price: \$15 per Adult, \$12 per Children (13 - 18 Years Old),
No Charge for (88 years and Above or 12 years and Under)

RSVP: Friday, February 2

Sunday Services and Kannonko Services at Betsuin

We have Sunday Service on Sundays. Please join us in the prayer and learn about Buddhism.

Sunday and Kannonko Service Dates

Jan 7 (Daihannya Blessing), Jan 14, Jan 21 (Kannonko), Jan 28
Feb 4, Feb 11 (Nehan-e), Feb 18 (Kannonko)

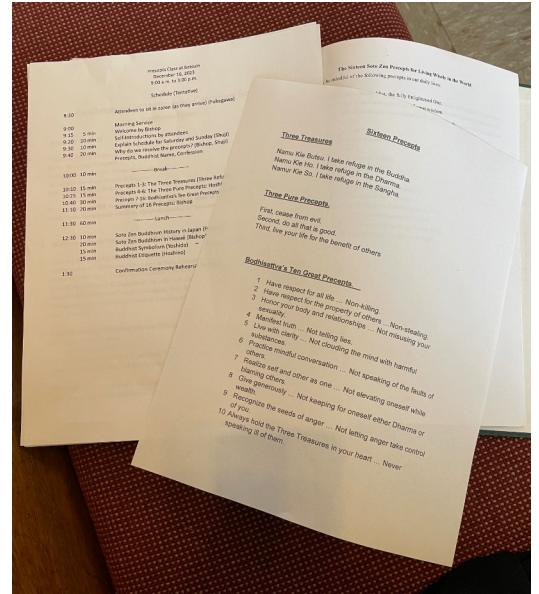
Announcements

Lay Confirmation Precept Class and Ceremony

On December 16 & 17, we had the opportunity for 12 individuals who received the blessing from the Bishop and taken the vows of becoming a Buddha's disciple. In addition we had 3 others who came to learn and study the precepts together. It was a very emotional experience for all of us to take the precept study class and to take the vows of becoming a true Buddhist.

Congratulations to the 12 individuals who have taken the oath and vows of becoming a Buddha's disciple. We look forward in having you at the temple and to study the teachings together.





Daihannya Ofuda Packet

Earlier this month, we sent out a order form for Daihannya Ofuda Packet. If you would like to order the Ofuda and Omamori for 2024, please send us the form and money as soon as possible so that we can bless it during our Daihannya Service on January 7.

The new Daihannya Ofuda will be distributed at our 2024 Daihannya Service on Sunday, January 7, 2024 at 9:30 AM. Each new ofuda packet includes the following contents: 1 wooden kifuda, 2 paper ofuda, 1 car omamori, and 1 wallet omamori. (\$50 per Packet)

You may pick up your ofuda packet anytime after January 7.

If you need the form, you can download it on our webpage at <https://www.sotomission.org/posts/2024-daihannya-ofuda-order> or please call the temple and we will be happy to mail you the form.



2024 Membership Dues and Nokotsudo Maintenance Fee

We thank everyone who has turned in and paid for your 2024 Membership Dues early. For those who have not yet turned in, this is a friendly reminder that payment for the Membership Dues and Nokotsudo Maintenance Fee for 2024 are now being accepted. The forms have been sent to you in the December. At your earliest convenience, please turn in your dues and fees. This allows the temple to protect and keep our legacy and tradition alive and provide a spiritual homes to our ancestors.



If you did not receive the Membership form, you can download the form and pay online on our website <https://www.sotomission.org/posts/2024membership> or please kindly call us and we will gladly mail the form to you.

Spring HSMA Meeting (Feb. 25 @ 9:30 AM)

On February 25, Hawaii Soto Mission Association will be having its 2024 Spring meeting. This meeting will be in-person. This is a meeting where representatives from Soto Mission temples throughout Hawaii gather to discuss the different challenges each temple face and the future of Soto Mission.

Betsuin will be the host temple for this meeting. We are still working on the venue and price to attend. If you are interested in observing the meeting, please contact the temple in February to learn more about the meeting, price for lunch, and agenda.

Temple Clean Up (Mahalo)

Thank you to many individuals and groups who came to temple on our end of the year clean up day. With everyone's help we can all say that we are able to say "Thank You" to 2023 and welcome 2024. Once again, thank you!



Upcoming Events

December 31	Joya-no-Kane
January 7	Daihannya New Year Blessing Service
February 11	Nehan-e Service, Membership Meeting, New Year Party
February 24	Soto Mission Ministers' Meeting
February 25	Hawaii Soto Mission Association Meeting

Temple Closed Dates & Modified Hours

December 31	Temple closed for 5 th Sunday (Will reopen at 11 PM for Joya no Kane)
January 1	Temple will be open from 7 AM to 2 PM
January 15	Temple closed at noon in observance of Federal Holiday
February 19	Temple closed at noon in observance of Federal Holiday

Donations

Thank you for your their generous donations for the month of October and November.

Shodo Class Members	Donation
Annette Matsumoto	Donation - Building Maintenance
Carol Yamamoto	Service - Funeral for the late Wayne Yamamoto
Charities Aid Foundation America	Donation
Chiyako Hadano Family	Service - Graveside for Chiyoko Hidano
Christine Kaizawa	Donation - Building Maintenance
Dara Luangphiniith	Donation
Ellen Nishimura	Service - October Kannonko, Eitaikyo for Sandra & Russell Azuma, Monthly Donation
Family of the Late Mitsugi Tayasu	Service - Funeral and Burial for Mitsugi Tayasu
Faye Chiogioji	Service - Blessing
Frank Childs	Donation - Building Maintenance
Fukata Family	Service - Inurnment at Honolulu Cemetary and at Punchbowl Cemetary for Baron Fukata
Gail Honda	Donation
Gary Wakabayashi	2023 & 2024 Membership Dues
Gertrude Kihara	Service - Eitaikyo
Grace Shinohara	Donation - Building Fund
Helen Tsuchiya	Service - Eitaikyo
Herbert Ishikawa	Donation
Iguchi Family	Donation
Ichiro Shimpō	Donation
Katherine Higuchi	Service - Eitaikyo
Keiko Kawagishi	Service - Eitaikyo
Linda Unten	Service - Eitaikyo
Lynn Maurer	Service - 3rd Memorial for Tamotsu Inuma
M. Rajakumary	Donation
Margaret Laracuenta	Service - Funeral for the late Tokue Ouchi
Mari Nakamura	Service - Memorial for Tetsuko Nakamura
Matsuzaki Family	Donation
May & Norman Kanada	Donation - Building Maintenance
May Gishitomi	Service - Inurnment for Tokue Ouchi
Melvin Sakae	Donation - In Memory of Dorothy & Richard Sakae
Mikie Hanato Wells	Service - In Memory of Kigen Hanato & Ancestors
Miles Kasahara	Donation
Milton & Grace Saito	Donation - Building Fund
Nakai Family	Donation
Natsuyo Miyazaki	Service - Precremation of Hideo Miyazaki
Norikazu Miyata	Donation
Rev. Hirosato Yoshida	Service - Blessing Service
Rev. Ojin Nishizawa	Donation
Rie Kainuma	Service - Inurnment for the late Waye Kainuma
Sally Nozaki	Service - Blessing for Harry Lee, Eitaikyo for June Nozaki
Shinobu Fukunaga	Service - Funeral for the late Yoshikage Fukunaga
Shugen Bishop Komagata	Donation - Building Maintenance
Thomas & Chiye Itagaki	Service - Eitaikyo
Thomas Kamikawa	Donation
Wayne & Ann Uradomo	Service - Eitaikyo
Wayne Warashina	Service - Eitaikyo
Yasuri Fujimura	Service - Funeral for the late Robert Fujimura