



SOTO MISSION OF HAWAII

BETSUIN NEWSLETTER

December 2020

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Temple Fundraiser (Dec. 6)

A reminder that the Fundraiser tickets for Jumbo Arabiki and/or Flame Broiled Chicken that you generously bought to support the temple will need to be picked up on Sunday, December 6 from 8 AM to 1 PM. If you did not pay for your tickets or would like to return them, please do so as soon as possible so that we can finalize the order count.



Date: December 6, 2020

Time: 8:00 AM to 12:00 Noon

Place: Soto Mission of Hawaii Front Parking

Products: Jumbo Arabiki & Flame Broiled Chicken

Price: \$11 per ticket

Kala Kokua Recipes

Arabiki Sausage Omelet

Arabiki sausage cut in small pieces

2-3 eggs

Garlic powder

Other ingredients depending on what you have or like (mushrooms, spinach, tomatoes, bell peppers etc.)

Salt and pepper to taste. Heat eggs

Garlic powder

Combine all ingredients except eggs

Salt & pepper to taste. Fold over egg

Smoked Chicken Stir-Fry

Bag of Chop Suey mix

1/2 onion sliced

1-2T oyster sauce. Garlic salt

Chopped smoked chicken

Stir fry chicken till heated

Add onions, cooked till translucent

Stir fry veggies

Add smoked chicken, oyster sauce and garlic salt to taste

End of the Year Temple Clean up

We would like to ask everyone to help us dust out all the dirt from the 2020 year to start fresh in 2021. We will be cleaning on December 20 from 8:30 AM. Please come to the temple ready to clean. We would also like to ask all the groups that utilizes the temple (although activities had been limited during 2020) to come and help clean the places that you use for your class and activity.

Joya no Kane (Dec. 31 @11:30pm)

As we close off this year, we will be having our Joya no Kane Service on December 31 at 11:30 pm. Please join us as we ring the temple bell 108 times and welcome the new year.

Daihannya New Year Blessing Service (Jan 3, 2021 @9:30 AM) [Online Service]

This coming year's Daihannya New Year Blessing Service will be conducted virtual or live-streamed service, due to the current situation of the COVID-19 in consideration of the State and City Mandates that are in place. As this has been a very difficult decision to make, we ask for your understanding as we try to keep the wellbeing and safety of our members and staff/volunteers our priority. You can watch the service at www.sotomission.org/live.

We will still be blessing the Daihannya Ofuda and other omamori on this day. You may come and pick up your order anytime after the service.

Daihannya Ofuda Packet

If you would like to order Daihannya Ofuda Packet for 2021, please call the temple to order your personalized Ofuda with your name. For more information, please call the temple at 537-9409.

Ofuda Packet (\$30) includes:

- 1 Car Omamori
- 2 House Paper Ofuda
- 1 House Wooden Ofuda
- 1 Wallet Omamori



Let's Learn About Sotoshu: Keizan Zenji

Following Dogen Zenji, the Dharma lamp was transmitted to Ejo Zenji, then to Gikai Zenji, and then to Keizan Zenji, who was the fourth ancestor in the Japanese Soto Zen lineage.



Keizan Zenji was born in 1264 in Echizen Province, which is present-day Fukui Prefecture. His mother, Ekan Daishi, was a devoted believer in Kannon Bosatsu (Avalokiteshvara), the bodhisattva of compassion. It is said that she was on her way to worship at a building dedicated to Kannon when she gave birth. For that reason, the name that Keizan Zenji was given at birth was Gyosho.

At the age of eight, he shaved his head and entered Eiheiji Temple where he began his practice under the third abbot, Gikai Zenji. At the age of thirteen, he again went to live at Eiheiji and was officially ordained as a monk under Ejo Zenji. Following the death of Ejo Zenji, he practiced under Jakuen Zenji at Hokyoji, located in present-day Fukui. Spotting Keizan Zenji's potential ability to lead the monks, Jakuen Zenji selected him to be "ino," the monk in charge of the other monks' practices.

In contrast to Dogen Zenji, who deeply explored the internal self, Keizan Zenji stood out with his ability to look outwards and boldly spread the teaching. For the Soto Zen School, the teachings of these two founders are closely connected with each other. In spreading the Way of Buddha widely, one of them was internal in his approach while the other was external.

After more years of practice in Kyoto and Yura, Keizan Zenji became resident priest of Jomanji in Awa, which is present-day Tokushima Prefecture. He was twenty-seven years old. During the next four years, he gave the Buddhist precepts to more than seventy lay people. From this we can understand Keizan Zenji's vow to free all sentient beings through teaching and transmitting the Way.

He also came forth emphasizing the equality of men and women. He actively promoted his women disciples to become resident priests. At a time when women were unjustly marginalized, this was truly groundbreaking. This is

thought to be the origin of the organization of Soto Zen School nuns and it was for this reason many women took refuge in Buddha, Dharma, and Sangha.

Keizan Zenji finally moved back to Daijōji, in present-day Kanazawa City, where he became the second abbot, following Gikai Zenji. It was here that he gave teisho (sermon) on Transmission of Light (Denkoroku). This book explains the circumstances by which the Dharma was transmitted from Shakyamuni Buddha through the twenty eight ancestors in India, the twenty three patriarchs in China, through Dogen Zenji and Keizan Zenji in Japan until Keizan's teacher, Tetsu Gikai.

In 1321 at the age of fifty-eight, a temple called Morookaji in Noto, which is present-day Ishikawa Prefecture, was donated to Keizan Zenji and he renamed it Sojiji. This was the origin of Sojiji in Yokohama, which is, along with Eiheiji, the other Head Temple (Daihonzan) of the Soto Zen School.

Keizan Zenji did not, by any means, make light of the worldly interests of ordinary people and along with the practice of zazen used prayer, ritual, and memorial services to teach. This was attractive to many people and gave them a sense of peace. For this reason, the Soto Zen School quickly expanded.

Even in the Soto Zen School today, while all temples have zazen groups to serve the earnest requests of believers, they also do their best to fulfill the requests that many people have for benefiting in the everyday world, which include memorial services and funerals.

Keizan Zenji died in 1325 at the age of sixty-five. In succeeding years, his disciples did a good job in taking over for him at Sojiji on the Noto Peninsula. However, that temple was lost to fire in 1898. This provided the opportunity in 1907 to move Sojiji to its present location in Yokohama. The former temple was rebuilt as Sojiji Soin and continues today with many supporters and believers.

(Article from <https://global.sotozen-net.or.jp/>)

2021-2022 Board of Directors Nomination

Thank you to everyone who made suggestions for the Board of Directors nomination for the upcoming 2021-2022 year. We will be sending out ballots in the coming days as we finalize the nomination and send out the election ballot to determine who will be serving on the Board of Directors.

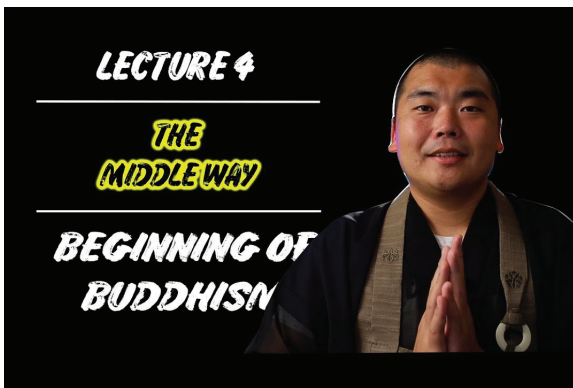
UHSSWA Cookbook

We still have a few cookbooks left to sell. If you did not grab one yet, we highly recommend that you do so quickly. We have very few left and we are not sure if we will be reprinting more at the moment. The books are \$12 each.



Video Series by Rev. Hirosato Yoshida

Thank you everyone who showed interest and support. The video series by Rev. Yoshida (8 videos) has finished. We hope you enjoyed and learned something new. You can still watch the 8 videos by visiting the link below or scan the QR code. <https://bit.ly/3i7lo2U>



Upcoming Events

- Dec. 6 Annual Fundraiser Pick up
Dec. 20 End of the Year Clean up
Dec. 31 Joya no Kane Service
Jan. 3 Daihannya New Year Blessing Service (online)

Change of Office Hours

- Dec. 31 Reopen from Joya no Kane Service to 2 AM (Jan 1)
Jan. 1 7 AM to 2 PM

Acknowledgment of Donations

Thank you to the following individuals and organizations for their generous donations in October.

Kannonko Service

Katherine Higuchi, Arden & Mary Loomis, Sally Nozaki, Linda Unten, Mona Sawai, Ellen Nishimura, Jean Maekawa, Michiko Sasaki, Keiko Kawagishi, Bernice Koike, Thomas & Chiye Itagaki, Wayne & Ann Uradomo

Memorial Service / Funeral / General Donations

Family of the Late Yoshimitsu Mizuno, Katherine Higuchi, Bernice Koike, Ellen Nishimura, Clayton Kirio, Ryuko Kokuzo, Daryl Chow, Rhanda Kim, Carolyn Iwamoto, Family of the Late Violet Moto, Family of the Late Masuzu Kumano Shimoko, Martin Matsuura, Alan Nagahisa, Sachiko Kodama, Gay Takahashi, Michiko Sasaki, Gayle Fukunaga, Claudia Akizaki, George and the Late Janet Tokita, Howard Yoshinobu

