



SOTO MISSION OF HAWAII

BETSUIN NEWSLETTER

JUNE 2022

33 Kannon Osunafumi Service (June 12 @ 9:30am)	2
2022 Bon Service	2
2022 Bon Dance [Canceled]	3
History of 33 Kannon Osunafumi at Soto Mission of Hawaii	3
Announcements	3
Upcoming Events	3
Temple Hour Changes	3
Donations	4

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Except for Federal Holidays
and 5th Sunday

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33 Kannon Osunafumi Service (June 12 @ 9:30am)

On June 12, we will be having our 33 Kannon Osunafumi Service. In the past we used to have the service in November. This year we will be observing the service earlier during the year. This service is composed of two words, first word is Osuna or Suna, meaning sand and second word is Fumi, meaning to step on. Together Osunafumi means stepping on the sand, symbolizing pilgrimage. This service is a special service where we bring down the 33 Kannon Bodhisattvas that are enshrined on the altar. These Kannon Bodhisattvas are a replica of the 33 Kannon Bodhisattvas of the pilgrimage temples in Western Japan. This is a unique service where ministers/jizoku/members of our temples who journey through the actual pilgrimage in Japan collected the sands from each of these temples and today we are fortunate to experience and practice the pilgrimage of going to the 33 temples here in Hawaii.



Not to mention that this is the only time we bring down the 33 Kannon Bodhisattvas from the altar and for the public to come and see them closely. Many people go through the pilgrimage to pray for their loved one's wellbeing and for your wishes to fulfill through the powers of the encompassing love of the Kannon Bodhisattvas. Please join us on this auspicious pilgrimage experience.

2022 Bon Service

Bon Service schedule has been decided for this year. With the COVID-19 pandemic restrictions being lifted, we decided that we will be returning to in-person service and one (1) Online service. There are few important recommendation that we would like to ask as you join us for the service to protect our staff, volunteers, and especially our kupuna members. and individuals with underlying conditions. We would like to recommend and ask for your cooperation in **wearing your masks during the service.**

The dates and time for the Obon services will be as follows:

- July 2 (Saturday) at 9:30 AM - In-person
- July 3 (Sunday) at 9:30 AM - In-person
- July 5 (Tuesday) at 6:00 PM - In-person
- July 7 (Thursday) at 6:00 PM - In-person
- July 9 (Saturday) at 9:30 AM - In-person
- July 10 (Sunday) at 9:30 AM - In-person
- July 12 (Tuesday) at 6:00 PM - Online Only

Please see the attached Bon O-Toba Request Form to sign up and reserve your spot for the services.



Also if you are able to help as a volunteer during the Bon Service, for example helping with Choba, parking, flower arrangements, etc. please contact the temple or sign up at www.sotomission.org/volunteer

2022 Bon Dance [Canceled]

This year the temple has decided to be on the cautious side to **cancel again our Bon Dance**. This was a difficult decision to make as other temples will be having their Bon Dance. However with the difficulty of maintaining necessary safety and precautions and the size of the crowd that we bring to our Bon Dance, we have to regretfully announce that we will not be having Bon dance this year.



History of 33 Kannon Osunafumi at Soto Mission of Hawaii

The 33 Kannon Osuna Fumi Service is an ancient practice that began over 400 years ago in Japan. This is a pilgrimage that a devoted individual would walk from one temple to another praying for the guidance of Kannon Bodhisattva throughout their journey. Kannon Bodhisattvas are known for Love, Mercy, and Compassion and they help Buddhist to understand the essence of living cooperatively amongst their family, friends, and their community.



In Hawaii, the worshipping of Kannon Bodhisattva dates back to the plantation era, where Japanese immigrants sought spiritual comfort in their life of hardship and struggle. However, one had to travel thousands of miles to Japan to do the pilgrimage. Living in Hawaii, it was impossible for the immigrants to do so. Hearing of the dilemma, Bishop Zenkyo Komagata and devout members gathered the soils (sand) from the 33 Kannon temples and brought them to Hawaii so that everyone here was able to do their pilgrimage. In 1926, the 33 Kannon Bodhisattvas along with the soils have been enshrined here at Soto Mission of Hawaii.



However, after decades, this tradition was forgotten, until recently. With strong determination by Bishop Shugen Komagata, his wife Mrs. Faye Komagata, and with the help of dedicated members of Kannon-ko, we were able to revive the tradition that was lost for decades.

Announcements

Upcoming Events

June 12, 9:30 AM	33 Kannon Osunafumi Service
July 2, 3, 9, 10 9:30 AM	Bon Service
July 5, 7, 12 6:00 PM	Bon Service

Temple Hour Changes

May 29	Temple closed for 5 th Sunday
May 30	Temple close at 12 noon in observance of Memorial Day

Donations

Thank you very much for your generous donations during the month of April.

Howard Nihei	Donation - Annual
Ellen Nishimura	Donation - Spring Higan
Helen Watanabe	Donation - In memory of Kimiye Watanabe
Charities Aid Foundation America	Donation
Charlene Harada	Service - 13th Memorial for Margaret Harada
Charlene Harada	Service - 25th Memorial for Takashi Harada
Helen Tricas	Nokotsudo Perpetual Care - Niche 533
Grace Shinohara	Nokotsudo Perpetual Care - Niche 240
Grace Shinohara	Nokotsudo Perpetual Care - Shinohara Niche
Helen Tsuchiya	Donation - Higan
Luann Suzukawa	Nokotsudo - Perpetual Care
Melissa Kenjo	Service - 13th Memorial for Marilyn Perry
Dara Luangphinit	Donation
Frank Iyomasa	Membership 2022
Kent Hada	Membership 2022
Ellen Nishimura	Donation - April
Doreen Davis	Service - 7yr Memorial for Betty Kajiwara
US Bank Foundation	Donation
Leslie Kainoa	Service - Funeral & Inurnment for Cyril Akashi
Kathleen Hashizume	Service - 49th Day for Tane Hashizume
Thomas Horio	Donation - In memory of Phoebe Horio
Jeanne Kaneda	Donation - In Memory of Ford Kaneda
Linda Unten	Service - 33rd Memorial Service Kazumi Funakoshi
Shell Oil Company Foundation	Donation
Wayne & Ann Uradomo	Service - Kannonko
Keiko Kawagishi	Service - Kannonko
Mona Sawai	Service - Kannonko
Thomas Itagaki	Service - Kannonko
Sally Nozaki	Service - Kannonko
Bernice Koike	Service - Kannonko
Ellen Nishimura	Service - Kannonko
Linda Unten	Service - Kannonko
Jean Maekawa	Service - Kannonko
Arden Loomis	Service - Kannonko
Katherine Higuchi	Service - Kannonko

