



# **SOTO MISSION OF HAWAII**

## **BETSUIN NEWSLETTER**

**September 2020**

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## Fall Higan and Ryosoki Service (YouTube Online)

On September 20 @ 9:30 AM, we will be observing Fall Higan and Ryosoki Service online. The meaning of Higan is "the other shore", the land where the Buddhas and our Ancestors live. It is a time for us to reconnect with our Ancestors. Ryosoki is the service dedicated to the two founders of Sotoshu, Dogen Zenji and Keizan Zenji.

Dogen Zenji is the original founder of Sotoshu, who traveled to China to learn the teachings of Zen from his master Nyojyo Zenji. After returning to Japan, he established Eiheiiji Temple located in the mountains in Fukui Prefecture.

On the other hand, Keizan Zenji, who is also the founder of Sotoshu is the fourth disciple of Dogen Zenji. You may wonder why we have two founders, this is because Keizan Zenji was responsible for teachings to the lay community and spreading the teachings throughout Japan.

Thus, in Sotoshu, we honor both of them, one as the original founder of the sect and the other as the one responsible for the dissemination of the sect.

You will be able to join us in the prayer by visiting the following link ([www.sotomission.org/posts/fall-higan-and-ryosoki](http://www.sotomission.org/posts/fall-higan-and-ryosoki)) or on our YouTube page. During the service, if you would like to dedicate and pay tribute to your deceased love ones or your ancestors be tribute and dedicated during the service, you may make a donation with your credit card by visiting the Fall Higan Service page from the link above or you can mail us your check/cash by September 17.



Dogen Zenji



Keizan Zenji

## Temple Fundraiser (November)

We will once again ask for your help with the annual temple fundraising. Last year we tried a new type of fundraising, smoke meat and pupu packs, and it was a great success. We will be working with Kala Kokua once again this year to collect donations for the temple to help us upkeep and maintain the temple.



This year, we will be shifting our donation dates to November, in hopes that by then COVID-19 situation will settle down and make it easier for us to maintain safety for our staff and volunteers and also to keep it safe for everyone that will be picking up that day. More details will be shared next month.

## Online Minister's Sermon

As we experience more and more restrictions with the COVID-19 numbers going up on Oahu, it will be difficult to come to the temple to pray as well as hear the teachings

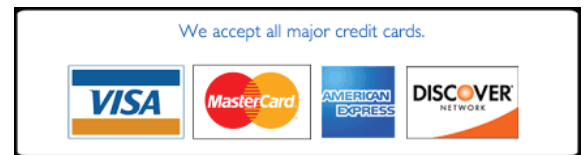


of the Buddha. Especially in these times, prayers and spiritual care becomes essential to everyone's mental and physical well-being. In the effort made by the Bishop's office to connect with our members, we have been working to share the Dharma through the use of YouTube and other online platforms. One of the projects is the **Online Dharma Message** project.

If you have not had the chance to watch Bishop Komagata, Rev. Yoshida, and Rev. Hoshino's Dharma Messages, you can head over to Soto Mission of Hawaii Bishop's Office YouTube page (<https://rb.gy/uas0tq>) to view them. You can also watch other minister's sermon as well.

## Recurring Credit Card Donation Available

We informed you in the previous newsletter a new payment method to the existing method. We are now able to accept recurring credit card donations as well. If you would like to set up monthly donations to the temple, please call us at 537-9409 and speak to Rev. Yoshida.



## Online Bon Service (Replay)

This is a friendly reminder that our online Bon Service is on our Homepage as well as our YouTube page. It will be available until the end of the year for you. If you haven't watched it, you can do so by visiting our Homepage and watching them. If you are unable to watch the video because of technical issues, we have DVDs of the services. If you are interested, please come to the temple to borrow a DVD so that you can watch the service on your TV at home.

## In-Person Public Service Canceled Until Further Notice

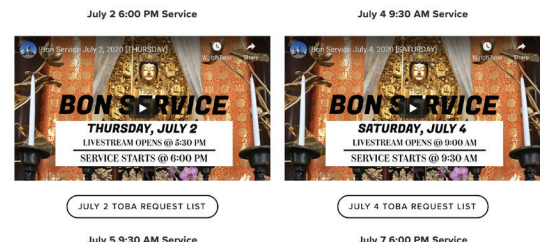
Due to the new order by the government, we will be canceling all public services. This includes Sunday Service, Kannonko Service, and any other major services.

**However, we will continue to do private services such as memorial services and funeral services provided we can keep the number of participants under 10 and keep distance within different household.**

We will also be able to do services online for those who are unable or do not wish to come to the temple. We are making the best efforts to provide our members with the necessary spiritual and religious care so please feel free to contact us and we would be happy to make the adjustments to fulfill your needs.

SOTO MISSION OF HAWAII HOME POSTS LIVESTREAM CULTURAL ACTIVITIES NEWSLETTER ABOUT US

### LIVE-STREAM SERVICE





# Let's Learn About Sotoshu: Two Head Temples

## Daihonzan Eiheiji



Daihonzan Eiheiji was founded in 1244 CE by Koso Dogen Zenji. Originally, the temple was named Sanshoho Daibutsuji, but was later renamed as Kichijozan Eiheiji.

Eiheiji was built through the great mind of Dogen Zenji, who endeavored to create a principal practice center where the teaching of Shakyamuni Buddha would be correctly transmitted and where the Way of Buddha, which is the source of people's eternal peace and happiness, would be practiced.

Eiheiji is proud of its 750 year-old tradition and strictly a Zen Monastery, where still to this day, it is dedicating to train more than 200 monks who strive at Zen practice throughout the night and day.

Eiheiji is surrounded by ancient Japanese cedars and the sounds of murmuring streams. Visitors are struck by the profound nature of Zen and naturally straighten up when they arrive there.

### Head Priest of Eiheiji

Fukuyama Taiho Zenji

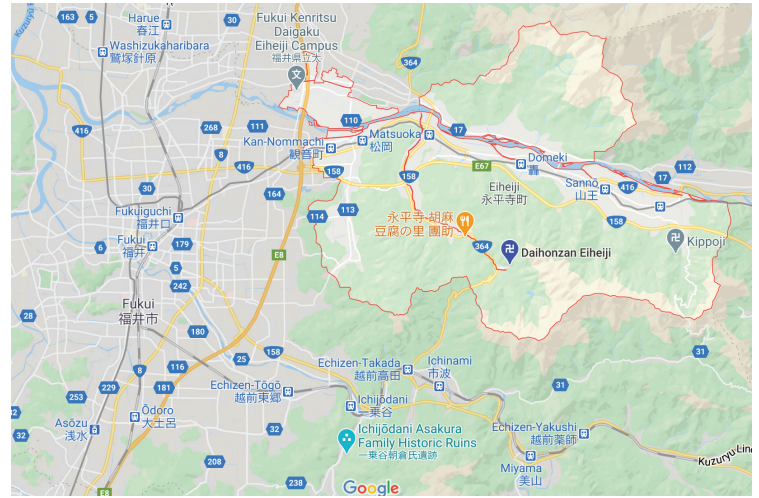
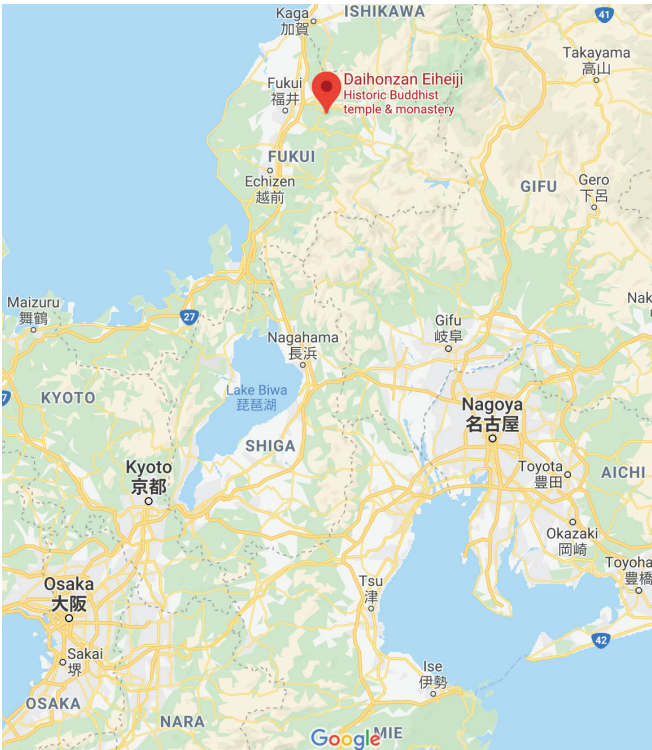
Born in Tokyo in 1936

Positions held: Assistant Head Priest of Eiheiji, Sotoshu Councilor,

Member of Sotoshu Assembly, Head Priest of Myogonji (Toyokawa Inari) in Aichi Prefecture.



Fukuyama Taiho Zenji



## Address

Shihi, Eiheiji-cho, Yoshida-gun, Fukui Prefecture

## Daihonzan Sojiji



Daihonzan Sojiji was founded in 1321 CE when Taiso Keizan Zenji renamed the already existing temple Morookaji in Ishikawa Prefecture as Shogaku-zan Sojiji. During the Meiji Period (late 19th century) when the original temple was lost to fire, Sojiji was relocated to Yokohama, where it is still located today.

Sojiji is proud to be one of the main dojos of international Zen and is located in Yokohama, known as Japan's gateway to the sea. The temple complex is extensive and the massive size of the temple buildings is impressive. Sojiji is an open practice center where the teaching of Keizan Zenji is



truly practiced in its original form. Also, because of Sojiji is located in such a convenient place it also has been able to hold various training sessions for company employees, zazen groups, and other community outreach programs.

Sojiji, unlike Eiheiiji, is a temple with congregational membership due to its location as well. This allows Sojiji to expand its ability not only as a monastery but as a religious center for the lay community and thereby, Sojiji has continued Keizan Zenji's commitment to education by establishing a school on the temple grounds called Soji Gakuen and also Four Year College.

(Article from Sotoshu Shumucho)

## Head Priest of Sojiji

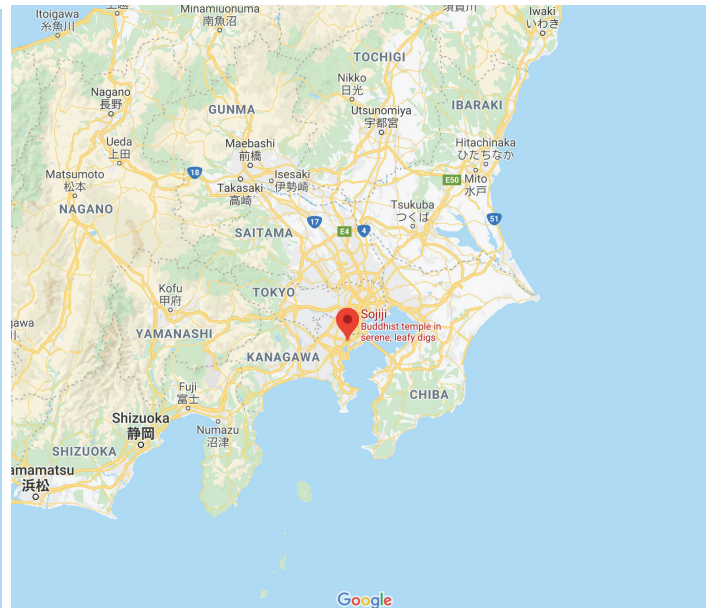
Egawa Shinzan Zenji

Born in Yamanashi Prefecture in 1928

Position held: Vice Rector of Judicial Institute, Administrator (Kannin) of Daihonzan Sojiji, Administrator of Daihonzan Sojiji Soin, Abbot of Daihonzan Sojiji Soin Training Monastery, Resident Priest of Shogenji in Komaki City, Aichi Prefecture, Assistant Head Priest of Daihonzan Sojiji, Head Priest of Sotoshu.



Egawa Shinzan Zenji



## Address

2-1-1, Tsurumi, Tsurumi-ku, Yokohama-shi Kanagawa Prefecture

## Upcoming Events

September 20, 9:30 AM Fall Higan and Ryosoki Service (YouTube online)

## Change of Office Hours

September 7, Temple will be closed in observance of Labor Day

## Donation Acknowledgements



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

### **Kannonko Service Donations**

Katherine Higuchi, Bernice Koike, Sally Nozaki, Mona Sawai, Ethel Watanabe

### **Bon Service Donations (Partial Listing)**

Melvin Agena, Marguerite Aono, Howard Asao, Jean Fujitani, Baron Fukata, Anne Fukumitsu, Lynette Furuhashi, Gail Furuhashi, Alan Hiramatsu, Edith Mukai, Alvin Honbo, Kathleen Inouye, Kenneth Ito, Carolyn Iwamoto, Patricia Izumoto, Eric Kanda, Lisa Kaneshiro, Clayton Kirio, Drucilla Koide, George Koide, Leslie Komori, Jean Kumamoto, Milton Kwock & Katherine Hamada-Kwock, Stanley Masagatani, Dot Matsui, Dorothy Matsui, Martin Matsuura, Violet Machida, Fumie Miyazone, Tod Morimoto, Sharon De Carlo, Nancy Murakami, Boyd Akase, Edwin & June Nakahara, Ronald Nakamura, Ross Nishida Toshio Ozeki, Brian Suda, Brian Hiromi Suzuki, Hoa Myto Takata, Richard Tamaru, Mitsugi Tayasu, Sadie Watanabe, Glen Yamasaki, George Yamasaki, Glenn Yokoyama, Nancy Abe, Clara Ogawa, Mikie Yvonne Hanato-Wells, Pualani Kondo

### **Memorial Service / Funeral / General Donations**

The Aikido Ohana, Jack Comstock, Pualani Kondo, Claudia Akizaki-Kuwana, Ryuko Kokuzo, Claire Matsuoka, Deborah Saito, Katherine Higuchi, Janet Asami, Gary & Laura Nakamura, Herbert Kondo, Jean Matsuura, Ellen Nishimura, Melissa Kenjo, Rae Miyasaki, Merritt Sakata, Nils Morita, Helen Tsuchiya, Ajanthan Thevarajah, Sharon Nozaki, Martin Matsuura, Nancy Abe, Hiromi Shimada