



RADIANCE

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March/April 2026

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SACRED WORDS

*Therefore, I disappear from their eyes and cause them to admire me.
When they adore me, I appear and expound the Dharma to them.
I can do all this by my supernatural powers.
I live on Mt. Sacred Eagle and also in the other abodes for asamkhya kalpas.*

Lotus Sutra Ch. 16—*The Duration of the Life of the Tathagata*

Weekly Services

We will continue to hold services with limited in-person attendance and broadcast online via **Zoom**. For those interested in participating online, please contact the temple to obtain meeting ID and password. Donations can be made either by check payable to **Kannon Temple of Nevada** or **Zellepay.com** to kannontemplenv@gmail.com.

Spring Higan Memorial Service Mar. 22, 10:30 a.m. (Sun)

Higan means the “other shore” (Buddha Land) while *Shigan* means “this shore” (worldly land of the material). The world we can see is “this shore” while the “other shore” is the spiritual realm that we can see only through our faith. *Higan* Memorial Service is held to show our appreciation to those in the “other shore” by offering our chanting so that our ancestors can attain Buddhahood.

Please write your name and family names of your ancestors or their individual names on the enclosed prayer form and return to Kannon Temple of Nevada with your donation. Let us chant the sutra and *Odaimoku* together for them.

Buddha’s Birthday Celebration Blessing New Born Babies Apr. 5, 10:30 a.m. (Sun)

Happy Birthday Sakyamuni Buddha!

According to legend, the baby Buddha, soon after his birth, stood firmly, and walked seven steps and proclaimed, “From heaven to the earth, I alone am the most honored One!” by pointing his right index finger to heaven and his left index finger to the earth. This means the Buddha is the only person who has attained such precepts, meditation, and good roots of virtue. It also means there is no person just like you in this world who has the same appearance, character, and karma. Therefore, you are the most honored one as well as any other person.

We will pour the sweet tea, representing heavenly rain to help wash the baby Buddha.

Newborn babies will receive Shoda Kanai Shonin’s blessing and special amulets. Please let him know the name of any new born ahead of time.



Electronic Newsletter

If you wish to receive this bi-monthly newsletter electronically, please email temple with your request at kannontemplenv@gmail.com. We are in the process of moving many processes online, which will help reduce temple expense.

Hina Matsuri

March 3rd is *Hina Matsuri* or Girl’s Day. This is the time to display special dolls representing the Imperial Court and coming of spring. Let us create a special display to honor this occasion at home and temple.



We Will Meet Again

Shoda Kanai

Spring is right around the corner, which brings the equinox of equal lengths of day and night. As such, the veil between this world and the spirit world thins, thus we honor our ancestors during the week of *Ohigan*. This is also the time to reflect on our practice and the Six *Paramitas* of Generosity, Discipline, Patience, Energy, Meditation, and Wisdom.

As we reflect on our ancestors who have passed and on ourselves, we cannot forget those that are on the brink of passing into the next realm. Recently, I was able to talk to a good friend and follower of the temple before she passed on the phone. Though her family is not Buddhist, I chanted these phrases in Japanese, “*Rinjū Shōnen Shōdai Bodai*” (“May you be preserved in your right mind at the end of your present life and confirm the great awakening.”) This phrase is to reassure those who are close to passing that they have nothing to fear and go to the Buddha on Mt. Sacred Eagle. Also, “*Myōhōkyō Riki Sokushin Jōbutsu*” (“By the power of the Lotus Sutra may she attain Buddhahood in her present forms.”) This is to let her know that she can become Buddha right now.

We are all fortunate to be able to touch the Lotus Sutra in this life. Though it may be difficult to understand, we have Nichiren Shonin’s teachings that help guide us through our faith and gain the ⇒

⇐ deeper meaning contained within. This learning and practicing do not stop with this life and continues in the next on Mt. Sacred Eagle. (refer back to Radiance No. 106 July 2025 on Mt. Sacred Eagle)

Death is scary as it is the great unknown. Some people have near death experiences and told stories of what the process is like. Others who were on the brink and half transitioning were told not to cross over as it was not their time yet. These stories may help in alleviating our fear, but still not reassuring. Know this, through your faith in the Lotus Sutra, there is nothing to fear. We will all go to Mt. Sacred Eagle.

It is sad that we will no longer be able to interact with the loved one in this life. Rest assured we will. This quote from the movie *Gladiator* has stuck with me, "You will meet them again, but not yet." Continue to chant and practice. Deepen your faith in the Lotus Sutra in this life. Through this, we will strengthen our ties to Mt. Sacred Eagle and help those who may not have yet heard or help our loved ones reach Mt. Sacred Eagle where we will all meet again. When the time comes, please chant, "*Rinjū Shōnen Shōdai Bodai*" and "*Myōhōkyō Riki Sokushin Jōbutsu*" to your loved one at their time of passing to help them easily cross over.



New Building Fund commemorating the 800th Anniversary of Nichiren Shonin's Birth

794 shakyo tracing Chapter 25 of the Lotus Sutra offered, **25,260,000** times of Chanting *Odaimoku* offered, As of February 22, 2026

Thank you very much! Please continue your support.

From the High Desert, I Bring you Good News!

Deity Daikokuten

Shoda Kanai

(note: from previous newsletter, the figs did not ripen. Unfortunately, I had to cut them down in preparation for next season.)

The first day of the 60 day cycle of the Chinese calendar starts on *kinoe-ne* (yang wood rat) day. There is a secret ceremony to honor the Deity Daikokuten taught to those who have gone to *Aragyo* Ascetic Training for 300 days. Unfortunately, I have gone only 200 days, but I can still honor Daikoku-sama.

Several years ago, I had a feeling that Daikoku-sama was left out. We honor Kannon Bodhisattva on the first of the month and Kishimojin, her ten daughters, and Deity Futaba Inari on the 18th. Daikoku-sama brings good fortune so I asked my father what I could do. He showed me the special way to honor Daikoku-sama and thus I have continued this ceremony every sixty days.

Originally this deity is a Hindu warrior Mahakala, which later transformed into a fortune deity in Japan. Daikoku-sama is special as he stands on two bails of rice (which represents fortune and good harvest), a sack slung over his shoulder (containing many treasures), holding a mallet (when struck, brings fortune), wears a simple peasant's cap, and is always smiling. He is also on the pudgy side. He reminds me of Santa Claus!

In a letter addressed to his followers, Nichiren Shonin wrote, "If you desire good fortune, offer uncooked rice, sake, and water to Daikoku-sama, read the Lotus Sutra aloud, and chant the *Odaimoku* with all your heart, especially on the day of the 60-day festival, the day of *kinoe-ne*, you must cherish Daikoku-sama even more than usual."

Besides offering water daily, every sixty days I make offerings of white and brown rice, soybeans, black beans, read adzuki beans, oats, sea salt, and sake. Later I incorporate the offerings into my meals. Those of you who live in town and wish to receive some of the offerings every sixty days, please contact the temple. The next date is April 20.



EVENTS

March

1 (Sun) 10:30 a.m. Monthly *Kito* Blessing
 8 & 15 (Sun) **No Service** Traveling to another temple
 22 (Sun) 10:30 a.m. *Higan* Memorial Service
 29 (Sun) 10:30 a.m. *Shodai-gyo* (Chanting Meditation)

April

5 (Sun) 10:30 a.m. *Hanamatsuri* (Buddha's Birthday)
 12 (Sun) 10:30 a.m. Monthly *Kito* Blessing
 19 (Sun) 10:30 a.m. English Service
 26 (Sun) 10:30 a.m. *Shodai-gyo* (Chanting Meditation)

*** Join in every Wednesday night at 6 p.m. for **Tea Time with a Priest** to have your questions answered. Email temple for zoom ID and password ***

*** Those interested in Study Class and/or Counseling, please contact the temple to make arrangements ***