



RADIANCE

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September/October 2025

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SACRED WORDS

I show my extinction to you expediently although I never pass away.

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.

Autumn O-higan Service

Sept. 21, **10:30 a.m.** (Sun)

The autumn equinox is the time to commemorate our ancestors. This is the time of equal parts day and night, thus the veil for this world and the “other shore” is close. Our chanting of the Lotus Sutra and *Odaimoku* can readily reach our ancestors to help them reach enlightenment. Please join us for this special service by writing down your ancestor’s names on the included form and send back to Kannon Temple with your donation.



Oeshiki Memorial Service

Oct. 12, **10:30 a.m.** (Sun)

On the morning of October 13, 1282, our founder Nichiren Shonin entered into *Parinirvana* after spreading the teaching of the Lotus Sutra for many difficult years. We are holding the 744th Memorial Service for him. Let us join our hands together in *gassho* to show our appreciation towards him for the lessons that he has taught and the gift he has left, which is the *Odaimoku*.



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.

Notice: Rev. Shokai Kanai’s New Zoom Study Class!

7:00 p.m. (Wednesdays)

The assistant minister of the Kannon Temple of Nevada would like to invite you to his new Zoom Study Class on THE SUN and THE LOTUS starting Wednesday September 3 at 7pm PDT. The textbook used will be “The History and Teachings of Nichiren Buddhism” published by Nichiren Shu Text Committee. If you don’t have the book, please purchase it through Amazon.

You will learn the lives of Sakyamuni Buddha and Nichiren and their teachings. He will share his experiences through his long missionary work in North America and Hawaii. He would like to teach a more practical way to use our daily life.

If you are interested in this one-hour class every Wednesday night, please contact him at revkanai@gmail.com for Zoom ID and Password.

Tamashii

Shoda Kanai

During “Tea Time with a Priest” that I hold on Wednesday nights, I get asked many questions. For this month’s message, I would like to share one with everyone.

In many of my father’s writings, he uses the word “soul.” In Buddhism, there is no “soul” or what is thought of as a “soul” as that is something tangible. Instead in Sanskrit, the term used is “*anatman*” or “no-self.”

There is some confusion when using the term “soul.” To clarify, we must go back to the Japanese word, “*tamashii*” that is used. When translated, means “soul, spirit, mind.” But there is something that is lost in the translation.

Tamashii also refers to the vital essence that animates all living beings, the core of one’s being. It is the intangible, unseen aspect that continues even after death. This seems similar what could be considered to be a “soul” but there is a deeper meaning that cannot be translated as easily. ⇒

⇐ English words are based around Judeo-Christian belief systems; very direct and either/or. It's either black or white, good or bad. In the Eastern language, there is more subtly and nuance. Characters used are pictograms, thus conveying a story.

When translating to English, some of the nuance is missing as there is nothing as comparable, only similar. Thus “soul” is used when actually the word contains a deeper meaning.

If you do happen to see “soul” used in a Buddhist concept, think of “spirit” or “essence” if that helps. Interchange “soul” as you are reading. Maybe include the Japanese word *tamashii* as well.

Diving deeper, *tamashii* also contains the “eternal nature” of us. The Buddha only revealed the His eternal nature in the *Lotus Sutra* specifically Ch. 16. He did not explain the specifics as we were not ready to understand and only distract ourselves with mundane questions. It was not until Ch. 16 that it was understood that we too had an eternal nature as well. We always are and will be. We constantly move from birth and death, birth and death.

Think of your life as a flowing river. Death is the waterfall. The water mixes at the bottom then continues to flow again (next life). Then another waterfall, mixing, and continuing to flow. There is no tangible “soul” that moves though the water but is the aggregate of everything mixed together that forms what we call “self” right now, which is a different “self” the next minute. We are constantly changing as we flow down the river of life.



Words have power and meaning. When discussing Buddhist terms, especially in English, remember to not think in literal meaning but also the hidden, underlying meaning behind the word. If you need help, you can always email me with your questions or attend “Tea Time with a Priest” Wednesday nights, 6 p.m. PT.

New Building Fund commemorating the 800th Anniversary of Nichiren Shonin’s Birth
756 shakyo tracing Chapter 25 of the Lotus Sutra offered, **25,090,000** times of Chanting *Odaimoku* offered, As of August 22, 2025
Thank you very much! Please continue your support.

From the High Desert, I Bring you Good News!
Yakisoba

Shoda Kanai

Yakisoba or “fired noodles” is one of my favorite comfort foods. I am sure my mother cooked us a batch when my brothers and I were younger, but my love of the dish came during an outing at the beach over the summer in Japan.

There are many summer beach foods, shaved ice, *somen* (thin cold noodles), *Takoyaki* (octopus balls), and cut watermelon. I am sure they serve these foods and more during *Obon* Dance festivals and fireworks shows. But what stood out was the *yakisoba* dish. I could not get enough of it! It might be the sauce, the fried vegetables, pork belly, or the combination of it all.

If I am at an *izakaya* (Japanese tapas) bar with friends, I always include an order *yakisoba* along with other items. I need my noodles!

This past July, I was helping the Los Angeles Betsuin with their *Obon* Service. They held their *Yakisoba* Fundraiser at the same time. It was very difficult to concentrate as the smell of the cooked vegetables and meat, with the sauce wafting upstairs to the *hondo* (main hall) and office. I did take many trips downstairs to the kitchen to watch and emersed myself in the preparation and boxing of the noodles.

After the service, I was finally able to eat the delicious noodles. The box looked small, but there was plenty of food. Oh, what a treat! I even took some home!

Thank you to the LA Betsuin members who cut, prepared, cooked, and boxed the *yakisoba*. I hope they had a successful fundraiser!



EVENTS

<u>September</u>		<u>October</u>	
7&14 (Sun) No Service	Traveling to another temple	5 (Sun) 10:30 a.m.	Monthly Kito Blessing
21 (Sun) 10:30 a.m.	Autumn <i>Ohigan</i> Memorial Service	12 (Sun) 10:30 a.m.	<i>Oeshiki</i> Memorial Service
28 (Sun) No Service	Traveling to another temple	19 (Sun) 10:00 a.m.	English Service
		26 (Sun) 10:30 a.m.	<i>Shodai-gyo</i> (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 ***			