



RADIANCE

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September/October 2023

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SACRED WORDS

I also will manifest monks, nuns and men or women of faith [by my supernatural powers], dispatch them, and have them hear the Dharma from them. These people manifested [by my supernatural powers] will hear the Dharma [from him], receive it by faith, follow it, and not oppose it.

Lotus Sutra Ch. 10 — *The Teacher of the Dharma*

COVID-19 Update

Good News! The State of Nevada is gradually lifting restrictions, therefore Kannon Temple will open for in-person service. We request that everyone gets vaccinated, wear a mask, bring their own DHARMA book, and social distance as much as possible. There will be no meal after service so please do not bring anything. Services will still be broadcasted online via **Zoom**. For those interested in participating, please contact the temple to obtain meeting ID and password. Donations can be made through **Zellepay.com** to: kannontemplenv@gmail.com.

Tastsunokuchi Persecution Service September 10th, **10:30 a.m.** (Sun)

The fourth of Four Major Persecutions in Nichiren Shonin's life. On the night of September 12, 1271, Nichiren was arrested and sentenced to be executed. Miraculously he escaped death when a "bright light" shot across the sky, frightening everyone. Later he was exiled to Sado Island instead, where he began composing some of his greatest treatises.

Please join us to commemorate this important event.

Autumn O-higan Service Sept. 17th, **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. 15th, **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 742nd 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. If you have any questions, please contact the temple.

My Faith in Nichiren Shu = Guest Writer =

For this month, I decided to ask a follower to contribute to this newsletter regarding the impact that Nichiren Shu and Odaimoku had on their life. From time to time, I will reach out to one of you to see if you are willing to contribute. — Shoda

by Cindy Campbell

A friend recently asked me how I manage to get through hard days and stay positive. The answer is simple, I have strong faith and have practiced Nichiren Shu Buddhism for almost 15 years. For me, my practice has opened up more peace within my life and an acceptance of what is best for me versus what I think is best for me.

I begin and end each day by chanting the Odaimoku. I chant with gratitude and thanksgiving for what the previous day brought my way, as well as what's in store for the new day ahead. Chanting brings me peace in a time when peace can be difficult to find. It also brings me comfort, knowing I am connecting to something far more powerful than I am; a realization that I am never truly alone.

Often, when I am feeling stressed or concerned about something not working out for me, I realize that things will work out for my best and highest good. My role is to believe and stay faithful that things will work out exactly as they are intended. This realization has allowed me to reduce my worry and remain secure in the knowledge that everything will be alright.

Recently, I chanted before an interview. My intentions were if the job would be a good fit, I would get hired. I remained calm and felt the interview went well. Now, I wait to hear back from them; however, the wait isn't bad because I believe that whatever the outcome is will be in my best interest.

Keeping my faith allows me to remain calm even when I am surrounded by chaos. I teach high school, and sometimes things can get a bit crazy. However, ⇒

⇐due to my practice of Nichiren Shu, I remain calm and am able to bring that calmness to my students. There have been several times throughout my time as a Buddhist that I have been able to calm a child down, prevent an altercation, and help my students do the right things. I have seen first-hand how my practice not only benefits me; it benefits those around me.

It is my opinion that my practice of Nichiren Shu has saved my life. I was struggling when I first walked into the Kannon Temple of Nevada, but through the teachings and kindness I received there, my life has made a positive turn. I focus more on the positive, remove myself as much as possible from the negative, and remain in a state of gratitude.

“When you are ready to learn, the teacher will appear” is a phrase I have heard often. I was ready to learn when I found the Kannon Temple of Nevada, and I remain to this day a willing student. By remaining open to receiving the lessons and following the path, not only my life, but me as a human have improved in so many wonderful ways. I remain a dedicated follower of the Nichiren Shu practice. My sincere thanks go out to all who have helped me along my path.



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

751 *shakyo* tracing Chapter 25 of the Lotus Sutra offered, **24,710,000** times of Chanting *Odaimoku* offered, As of August 25, 2023

Thank you very much! Please continue your support.

From the High Desert, I Bring you Good News!

Maui Strong

Shoda Kanai

A couple of weeks ago, I had an opportunity to visit Maui to see my brother’s family. The timing just happened to coincide with the aftermath of the terrible wildfire that burned down historical Lahaina Town.

Three different fires started early August 8 and quickly spread throughout the region. By August 13, the fires were almost contained. Within that time span, many people lost their lives and livelihood. Thousands of buildings were destroyed, with many people left homeless and residing in shelters.

The Hawaiians have a term, “ohana” meaning “family.” This spirit is very strong with the residents helping and supporting each other. Many Facebook posts and websites posted updates on local supply centers where critical goods were needed, such as canned goods, water, and toiletries. Many areas not hit by the wildfire have propped up tents and began accepting donations to help the survivors.

My brother and sister-in-law, loaded their truck and brought goods to a couple of shelters. On the way, we could see the aftermath of the devastation.

Fire is fickle and strange. Some houses were spared while next door completely burned down. There is a famous picture of the “red roof house” by the water that was completely spared while the surrounding houses all burned down. Could it be luck, type of construction, or just how the wind blows? That is just the nature of fire.

Off island people can still help:
www.hawaiicommunityfoundation.org/maui-strong
<https://mauiunitedway.org/disasterrelief>

Let us keep those who lost their lives in our prayers.



EVENTS

September

3 rd (Sun) 10:30 a.m.	Monthly Kito Blessing
10 th (Sun) 10:30 a.m.	<i>Tatsunokuchi</i> Persecution Service
17 th (Sun) 10:30 a.m.	Autumn <i>Ohigan</i> Memorial Service
24 th (Sun) 10:30 a.m.	<i>Shodai-gyo</i> (Chanting Meditation)

October

1 st (Sun) 10:30 a.m.	Monthly Kito Blessing
8 th (Sun) 10:30 a.m.	English Service
15 th (Sun) 10:30 a.m.	<i>Oeshiki</i> Memorial Service
22 nd (Sun) 10:30 a.m.	<i>Shodai-gyo</i> (Chanting Meditation)
29 th (Sun) No Service	5th Sunday

*** 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 ***