




RADIANCE

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March/April 2023

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SACRED WORDS

*The Buddhas, the Leaders, expound the teaching of Nirvana
In order to give a rest [to all living beings].
When they see them having already had a rest,
They lead them to the wisdom of the Buddha.*

Lotus Sutra Ch. 7—*The Parable of a Magic City*

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](https://www.zellepay.com) to: kannontemplenv@gmail.com.

Spring Higan Memorial Service Mar. 19th, 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. 2nd, 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 have the same appearance, character, and karma. Therefore, you are the most honored one as well as any other person.

This year, I will pour the sweet tea in honor of his birth for everyone.

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. If you have any questions, please contact the temple.

~ April Kito Blessing Time Change ~ Apr. 9th, 11:00 a.m. (Sun)

Schedule change of note. Please mark your calendars that April’s Monthly *Kito* Blessing will start 30 minutes later at 11:00 a.m. PDT.

I will be arriving earlier that morning from a training class that I am leading. Hopefully flight will not be delayed. Please be patient if I happen to be late.

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.



Let’s Go on a Journey Shoda Kanai

It is already spring! That means time for Spring Break! When I lived up north, it was good to get away from the dark clouds, snow, and rain to visit some place tropical to recharge and refresh. Seasonal Affect Disorder (SAD) is real as less sunlight affects the body and causes depression. SAD does not affect everyone. but it still does have a minor affect. There are special lamps that can help alleviate this issue.

Now being in Las Vegas, there is plenty of sunlight even during the winter months, so SAD does not affect us here. Still, it is nice to vacation somewhere else to recharge and refresh. Instead of going someplace far, we can do “*stay-cation*.”

As with anything in life, we are on a journey. Sometimes the journey is short, while others are longer. We move from experiences to experiences. Many times we are navigating through many ⇨

⇐journeys simultaneously. Sometimes we succeed while other times we do not. Hopefully each journey is assisting us in moving forward in life.

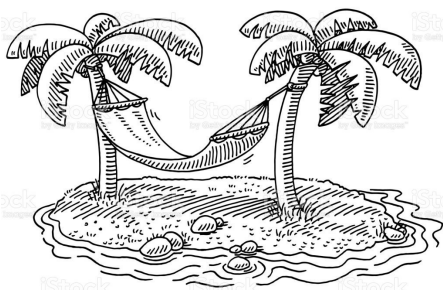
As with any journey, sometimes we need a rest. That is the vacation we can take to escape but also to recharge. This is the same thing with our practice.

For beginners, the road ahead is difficult and uncertain. For the advanced, the road can turn to one filled with doubt. When we realize that we are in this situation, it is alright to take a break, just like making a stop at the “Magic City” creating in Ch. 7 of the Lotus Sutra.

The “Magic City” refers to the teaching of Nirvana in that we can find a place to temporarily cease the cycle of birth and death. It is a rest stop that we feel is like the end, but it is only temporary. There is something greater that is awaiting us if we continue further.

So, the “Magic City” can also be used with our practice and not just about Nirvana. We may find that chanting and practicing turn tedious. By being able to step away, our viewpoint can change. We may inadvertently form “tunnel vision” thus cannot see outside ourselves. By stepping away, that “tunnel vision” is broken and we can realize what we may have missed. With newfound vision, we can continue along the path.

If you happen to get stuck or run into a bind in your practice, remember to take a break from time to time. It will help mentally, but also create new channels of thought and insight. With this new understanding, we can continue our path towards becoming Buddhas.



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

749 shakyo tracing Chapter 25 of the Lotus Sutra offered, **24,470,000** times of Chanting *Odaimoku* offered, As of February 23, 2023

Thank you very much! Please continue your support.

From the High Desert, I Bring you Good News!

Crystal Rainbow

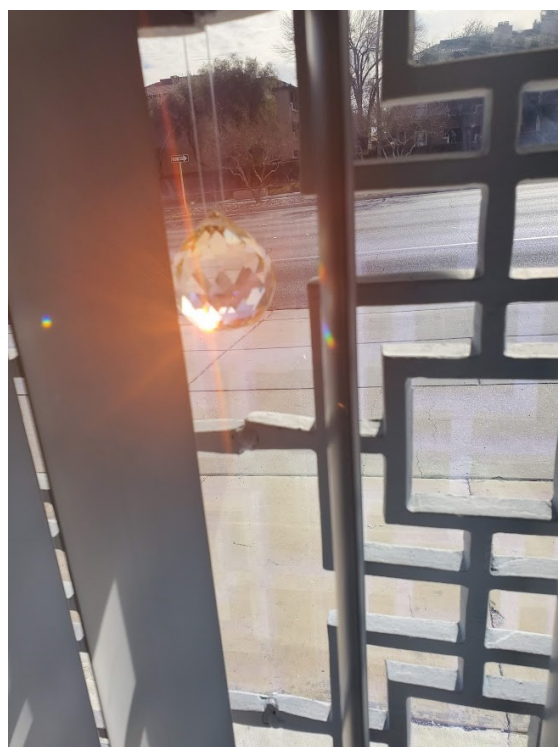
Shoda Kanai

For those that have yet to visit Kannon Temple, we are small building with the only windows facing south on a busy street. The windows do not open thus difficult to get flowing air and sunlight into the interior. Though I continually offer chanting and prayers, I cannot revitalize the temple 24/7. Instead, I use the power of crystals, especially the one shaped as a ball.

My mother always hung crystal balls on the windows. She always said that the rainbows formed as the sunlight passed through the facets, were magical and helped purify the room. It also brought good fortune. The more there were little rainbows reflected on the wall, the greater the fortune.

Here at the temple, I use the crystal ball especially during the winter months as the sun is to the south to bring forth good energy and purification. It is pleasant to see the little rainbows dancing on the back wall and move around the main hall as the sun heads west.

Try this at home. Use fishing line to hang the crystal from your windowsill and let the little rainbows dance in your room. Hopefully this will help in purifying your house as well!



EVENTS

March

5th (Sun) 10:30 a.m. Monthly Kito Blessing
 12th (Sun) 10:30 a.m. English Service
 19th (Sun) 10:30 a.m. *Ohigan* Memorial Service
 26th (Sun) 10:30 a.m. Shodai-gyo (Chanting Meditation)

April

2nd (Sun) 10:30 a.m. *Hanamatsuri* (Buddha’s Birthday)
 9th (Sun) **11:00 a.m.** Monthly Kito Blessing
 16th (Sun) 10:30 a.m. English Service
 23rd (Sun) 10:30 a.m. *Shodai-gyo* (Chanting Meditation)
 30th (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 ***