



Buddhist Church of Santa Barbara
 1015 East Montecito Street
 Santa Barbara, CA 93103
 (805)962-3633



January 2026 Geppo
Monthly Services are held the Second Saturday at 10:00 am
CALENDAR

Happy New Year!



January 10 Service, Sat. 10:00 am,

Shotsuki Hoyo Memorial Service 祥月法要

Hō'onkō (報恩講) Shinran Shonin Memorial Service, Anniversary of his passing

For Rev Adams, "Ho'onko is the most significant service of the year because it is the opportunity to express my gratitude for Shinran's teachings and reflect on the guidance they provide for my life".

Feb 14 Service, Sat 10:00 am

Memorial for Shakyamuni Buddha or Nirvana Day (*NEHAN-E*, 涅槃会)

MEMORIAL SERVICE WILL BE HELD FOR:

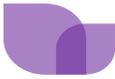
Shinran Shonin	
MR. KUMAGORO OMURA	MR. JINGO TAKEUCHI
MR. OTOHACHI AKAHOSHI	MR. SHIGEZO SHIBAO
MR. EITARO NAKASHIMA	MR. KANZABURO YOKOTA
MR. YAZO KAWAGUCHI	MRS. SHIZU YOKOTA
MR. YAICHI TANAMACHI	MR. SANZO KUWAMOTO
MR. SHINOBE INOUYE	TOKUMARU PARAENTS
MR. TOSHITAKE TANOUYE	MR. RYUJI KOZAKI
MISS HISAYE OKUI	MRS. KAME BABA
MR. SHINICHI ODA	MR. MANABU KURODA
MR. NOBUHARU KAGAWA	MR. JUNSUKE KANETOMO
MR. TOMEKICHI KIMOTO	MR. MASAO UYESAKA
MR. SEKITARO SHINOHARA	MR. DAIZO MUNENO
MISS MIYOKO GOTO	MRS. ORYO MORISHITA
MRS. TSURU KATAYAMA	MISS HARUMI YAMADA
MR. INOKICHI FUKAMAKI	MR. GEORGE NISHIMURA
MR. SEITARO YAMADA	MR. YOSHIO AOI
MR. TAHEI TSUNODA	MR. JOHN SAKURAI
MR. KUNITO OTSUKA	MR. MUTSUO YANAGIHARA
MR. TOM TSUNODA	MR. JON UYESAKA
MS. TERRY ISHIHARA KING	

Contact us: (805)962-3633 or Mail@buddhistchurchsantabarbara.org

Website: <https://www.buddhistchurchofsantabarbara.org>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/SBBuddhist>

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/p/DPZe2H5kif9/>



December 2025 Donations to Buddhist Church of Santa Barbara

Treasurer's Report, Sets Furuike –

\$9,033

THANK YOU! To all that donated in December!

The temple gratefully acknowledges the financial donations from the following groups and individuals:

<u>Memorial Service</u>	<u>Special</u>	<u>Bodhi Day</u>
Joyce Shelley (Kenny & Yoshio Aoi) M/M Jeffrey Tamura (Suzi & Jack Ochi) M/M Dennis Furuike (Hiroko Morihisa) Suzuki Family (Ochi Family; Chiyoko Suzuki) Susie Okada Nakata (Chohachiro & Tei Nakamura) June Tanamachi (Nelle Katayama Inouye) Tamako Nishimura (Takiyo Nishimura) Mary Saito (George Saito)	Monday Qigong (November) Dennis Ito (December) <u>Oseibo</u> Susie Okada Nakata Rev. JP deGuzman (donated his Dec. monthly Orei & the Dec. year-end Orei) Junko Torigoe Tamako Nishimura Mary Saito	M/M Dennis Furuike Bianca Ayers Ellen Clark JJ Uyehara Jodi Miles Mary Saito

YEAR END Financial Summary – In 2025, with the monthly memorial donations, special donations, and Obon, BCSB income exceeded our expenses! It was an unusual Cabinet decision to waive membership dues for 2025, and because of the generosity of the community, we are doing well.

Thank you all!!! BCSB is fortunate to receive the special donations from Qi Gong classes taught by **Dennis Furuike** and the income from **Dennis Ito**.

FINANCIAL DONATIONS	
2022	\$19,600
2023	\$35,716
2024	\$36,673
2025	\$45,834



And, we would like to gratefully acknowledge all those that donate especially to honor those individuals listed in the Monthly Memorial Service. There have been over 40 people or families that donated in 2025 to honor those people who were so integral to BCSB history and continuation.

Our gratitude for their special memorial contributions include **Fujii** family, **M/M Furuike**, **Lonny Ishihara**, many **Muneno** family members, **Nishimura** family, **Ochi** family, **Okada-Nakata** family, **Mary Saito**, **Sasaki** relatives, **Suzuki** family, **Joyce Shelley**, **Dave Tabata**, **Tamura** family, **Junko Torigoe**, **Mika Yamada**, **Kamei** relatives, and **Mary Hide**.

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January 2026 – New Year, New You?

Rev. JP deGuzman

Happy New Year! May your 2026 be resplendent with good cheer and adventures big and small!

With turning of the calendar year comes the ubiquitous phrase, “New Year, New You.” That slogan has likely launched innumerable gym memberships and other new year’s resolutions! The idea is clear: when presented with a clean slate you can determine your destiny. You can, in a sense, reinvent yourself.

In January we observe the memorial for the founder of our school of Buddhism, Venerable Shinran, who offers a different perspective on crafting a new you.

Did you know Shinran was actually born Matsuwakamaro? As he went on to pursue to the Nembutsu path by studying the Pure Land masters he adopted the name Shaku-ku, in honor of the Chinese master **Doshaku** and his own teacher, **Genku**.¹ Later, he went by Zenshin, inspired by **Zendo** and **Genshin**, combining, again, a Chinese and Japanese master. Shinran, as we know him, is actually a portmanteau of **Seshin** and **Donran**.

Rev. Masami Fujitani, the former minister at our sister sangha, the Oxnard Buddhist Temple, notes “Except for Matsuwakamaro, all names were of his own choice and profusely convey his adoration to his natural and spiritual fathers in the teaching of the Nembutsu. Shinran Shonin was specially [sic] thankful to those teachers for the wonderful gift of Amida’s Dharma. His names themselves symbolize gratitude.”²

Shinran’s reinventions were not motivated by his ego, in the way that we may say that we may pledge to shed some extra pounds, spend less time on our phones, dine out less, or any number of other resolutions.

Instead, he adopted these new names out of deep gratitude for the teaching that limitless wisdom, expressed through great compassion, is all around us, at all times, shining light without discrimination. In lieu of a resolution to pursue enlightenment, he awoke to the myriad ways in which his life was supported by all life.

Rather than worrying about a new year’s resolution, perhaps we can be like Shinran and reflect on what’s present in our lives instead of what’s not. When we earnestly do this, we shed our ego and are naturally brought to feel awe and gratitude. That spiritual peace will give us the shock absorbers to grapple with life’s unexpected twists and turns. And, if I’ve learned one thing, it’s that a new year will certainly bring them!

Namo Amida Butsu!

¹ The Japanese names for the Seven Pure Land Masters are: Ryuju, Seshin (Tenjin), Doshaku, Donran, Zendo, Genshin, and Genku (Honen).

² *Dharma Talks of the Four Seasons* (Buddhist Churches of America, Southern District Ministerial Association, Research Committee, 1984), 1.

CHURCH NEWS

Thank you! to Christophe Sautot who put so much time and energy into updating our webpage, facebook, and Instagram accounts. Our webpage has 151 followers. 😊

Also, have you seen some of the new updates on BCSB Facebook page? Rev JP deGuzman has posted throughout December in remembering 2025, a pivotal year for BCSB! He has also posted news from other Buddhist churches, including the mochitsuki of our sister temple, Oxnard Buddhist Church. That’s Rev Honda with children shaping and filling the mochi (rice cakes).

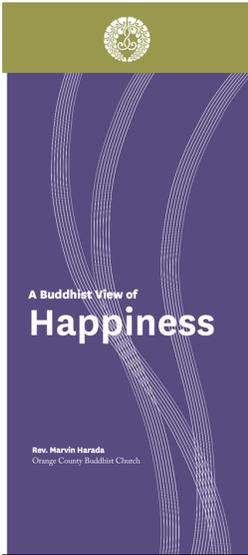


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In thinking about the New Year, here is a link to the brochure, "A Buddhist View of Happiness" by Rev Marvin Harada. Rev Harada is now the Bishop of the Buddhist Church of America.

https://aeb39f2f-a07c-402b-b6f0-ef194e65cced.filesusr.com/ugd/458b11_a3cf684624a442dab56e5435d3519665.pdf

For the printed newsletter, the brochure is included in the envelope. These will also be available at the service on Jan 10 at 10 am.

If you are interested, there are other available brochures on many topics. Search for the Buddhist Churches of America website; Go to Other Resources; The brochures are on the bottom of the webpage.

OSEIBO

"Oseibo" (お歳暮) is specifically the traditional end-of-year gift given to show deep appreciation for someone's support throughout the year, often high-quality foods or practical items. The main difference is context: Orei is for any "thanks," while Oseibo is a formalized, seasonal gift exchange for year-long support.

In Japanese culture, the end of the year is spent wrapping up social debts and giving thanks to those for their support for the year. At the beginning of the New Year, for three days, people visit those important influencers and mentors.

Following that tradition, at our December service, Sets gave out Oseibo to many people who continue to give of their time and service throughout the year. For example, Jodi Miles who does the floral arrangements and greenery for the service. And, Rev JP deGuzman donated his monthly orei and oseibo back to BCSB --- many thanks!!

