

UPCOMING SERVICES

**November 10 (Sun) at
10:30 am**

November Shotsuki Memorial in conjunction with Eitai-kyo, Eshinni Memorial, Ochigo Procession, Anniversary Service, and Anniversary Special Luncheon

**November 11 (Mon) at
10:40 am**

Remembrance Day Ceremony at Japanese Canadian War Memorial in Stanley Park



Regular Dharma
Services
**Sundays, at
10:30 am**

*Rev. Aoki is on holiday
from October 28 to No-
vember 7.

Please contact Rev. Aoki
if you have some concern
about your family mem-
ber's condition. If you
require urgent ministeri-
al service, please call
Rev. Grant Ikuta (604-
908-4140).

220 Jackson Avenue
Vancouver, BC,
V6A 3B3

Phone: 604-253-7033

Email:

temple.vbt@gmail.com

Website:

vancouverbuddhisttemple.com



Bodhi Mind



Vancouver Buddhist Temple

Nov 2019, Issue #431

What are Sutras and Why do We Chant Sutras?

Most of us know that sutra chanting is an integral part of our services. But what is, and why do we chant sutras? Simply put, “sutra” in Sanskrit means scriptures (teachings) of Shakyamuni Buddha handed down to us over twenty-five hundred years. Originally, in Brahmanism, the word ‘sutra’ meant ‘string’. Words or phrases strung together were thus called ‘sutras’. When later adopted to Buddhism, it meant Buddha’s teachings in simple prose. In early Buddhism, recitation of the sutras was believed to bring merit to the practitioner. Ananda, one of Buddha’s disciples, is known to have memorized all the Buddha’s sermons. It was important that the sutras be easy to read and pleasant to the ear of the adherent. One of the best known translators of the teachings was the brilliant Buddhist scholar Kumarajiva who translated the sutras into Chinese using words to convey, simply and accurately, the original meaning and yet be pleasing to the ear.

Chanting in Shin Buddhism does not have a merit component. Chanting in the hondo in oneness with the sangha or chanting in front of the family butsudan establishes a link with the disciples of the Buddha who transmitted these words from country to country over the centuries. Historically speaking, the sutras were read aloud with sincere heart and mind in praise of the virtues of the Buddha, knowing that we are embraced by the wisdom and compassion of the Buddha. In Jodo Shinshu there is no practice to fulfil. We have only to be aware of and open our hearts and minds to the benevolence of the Buddha. Chanting of the sutra can be seen as directing praise to Buddha, which in turn is the calling voice of Amida.

In the reference book “Traditions of Jodo Shinshu Hongwanji-ha” by Rev. M. Kodani, sutras read aloud are referred to as ‘dokkyo’, the straight recitation in a natural, earthy monotone without set melody, whereas ‘shomyo’ has attached musical notations. Shomyo would include hymns written by the Masters of Jodo Shinshu, including gathas taken from the sutras that have been set to musical notation Wasans written by Shinran were set to a simplified notation similar to Shomyo pieces.

To chant the sutras is a total act of gratitude, which is the sound of Amida’s reassuring Voice calling to each and all of us.

Dr. Robert Akune

Message from the board

During the 1930's, our temple thrived with activities and services. In 1936 Rev. Zenyu Aoki was appointed director of the Buddhist Churches of Canada along with his assignment as head minister of the Vancouver temple. In the same year, Rev. Shinjo Ikuta arrived as minister of the New Westminster Buddhist Church. In 1938, Takashi Tsuji a nisei born in Mission, BC was accepted as a student at Ryukoku University to study for his eventual ordination as a kaikyoshi minister. With the threat of a Pacific war, after three years of studies and receiving his full ordination, he was directed by Hongwanji to return to Canada in October 1941. His first assignment to Vancouver was short-lived with the evacuation of all people of Japanese ancestry from the west coast in April of 1942. The last service held was on Dec 7, 1942. Due to the extreme conditions of internment, the temple as an organization did not exist until people gradually returned to the west coast in the late 40's and early 50's. It was not until 1952 when our temple was re-organized. Rev. Kyojo Ikuta upon completion of his ministerial studies in Kyoto was assigned as resident minister of our temple in January, 1957. The former United Church on Jackson and Powell St was purchased in 1954 and with renovations the temple soon became busy with activities and religious observances. In January, 1957 a dedication service was held for the new shrine installed in the naijin (alter). Through the 60's and 70's the temple was abuzz with Dharma school, YBA, YABA, Seniors' and other sports and social activities. During the 70's it became obvious that space and upgrades were required. To that end in 1977, the old church property on Powell and Jackson became the location of choice for constructing a new larger temple and auditorium complex to meet our needs. Two years later in 1979, we celebrated the completion of the temple with commemorative services.

Our anniversary year 2019, will soon be over. We are still seeking contributions from our members to meet our target of \$100,000 for our anniversary projects. Thank you to those who have already contributed. We seek further financial support to pay for upgrading our elevator. In addition, our garage door has broken and a new replacement is required. Yoroshiku onegai shimasu.



November Shotsuki
Eitaikyo / Eshinni
VBT 115th Anniversary
40th Anniversary of
Building
Anniversary Luncheon

Guest: Rev. Orai Fujikawa

The Eitaikyo Service is a memorial service for people who have handed down the teaching of the Nembutsu to us. The word Eitaikyo actually means "perpetual sutra." Eitai means "perpetual" and Kyo means "sutra," or "teaching of Buddha."

**Please join us for Vancouver Buddhist Temple's Eitai-
 aikyo Service on Sunday, November 10, 2019 at 10:30
 AM.**

Eshinni Day

On Sunday, November 10, in conjunction with the November Shotsuki service, VBT will remember Eshinni, the wife of Shinran. She was a great support to Shinran, but an independent and devout Buddhist in her own right. We remember her as the first of many women in our tradition who have worked to spread the Shin Buddhist Teachings.



Tōban Group

From lunches at our monthly Shōtsuki services, to wiping down tables and cleaning the wash-rooms, the temple would not be the warm and welcoming place for gathering if it were not for the dedicated hard work of our members. When people come to the temple—whether it’s for the first time or the 100th time—the care we put in our temple expresses how precious we hold the Teachings of the Buddha.

The following activities are the responsibility of

Toban #1

November

Sat. 9—10:00 am Toban & Board Meeting

Sun. 10—9:00 am Eitaikyō/ Eshinni/Shotsuski Service

Sat. 16—9:00 am Yearend Temple Cleanup

Mrs. Tsuki Aratake

Mr. & Mrs. Minoru Asaoka

Mr. & Mrs. Bradly Bishop

Ms. Nicole Bishop

Mrs. Naoe Bradley

Mrs. Haruyo Chiba

Mr. & Mrs. Greg Chor

Mr. & Mrs. Denny Enjo

Ms. Catherine DeRobert

Mr. Yoshio Fujimoto

Mrs. Nancy Hamanishi

Mr. Yutaka Harada

Mr. Toshi Haraguchi

Mr. & Mrs. Noboru Hayashi

Mr. & Mrs. Shigeru Hirai

Ms. Karen Hirakida

Mr. Tim Hirata

Mr. & Mrs. Kazu Komori

Mrs. Kikuye Komori

Mrs. Kazuko Koyanagi

Ms. Susan Inouye

Dr. Jessica Main

Mr. Robert Nakagawa

Mr. Kyle Otori

Mr. Paul Okada

Mr. Colton Oyama

Mr. Edward Oyama

Ms. Marie Oyama

Mr. Zachary Oyama

Mr. Alvin Ramos

Mr. & Mrs. Tsutomu

Shirahama

Mr. & Mrs. Yukihiro

Shoji

Mrs. Chieko Suzuki

Mr. Roy Tatsumi

Mrs. Etsuko Tsuji

Mr. & Mrs. Dan Uyesugi

Mr. & Mrs. Susumu

Uyesugi

Mr. & Mrs. John Wong

Mrs. Frances Xu



VBT Annual Mochitsuki (Sweet Rice Pounding) Sunday, December 8th

9:00 AM Rice pounding in VBT Social Hall

Join us for the annual Mochitsuki (sweet rice pounding) day and help pound, form, and EAT the mochi. Every participating household who are VBT members will receive some mochi to take home.

Please sign up for at the VBT Office by Thursday, December 5th so we know how much lunch and mochi to prepare.



Thank you to everyone who supported our BC Jodo Shinshu Buddhist Temples Federation through purchasing tickets for our 2019 annual raffle (Licence 117015). The winning tickets are:

1st prize \$1,500 – J Shidei, Kamloops (ticket 4835)

2nd prize \$1,000 – K Natsuhara, Vernon (ticket 5141)

3rd prize \$500 – Y Miyakawa, Kelowna (ticket 5120)

4th prize \$300 – D Matsuo, (ticket 0595)

5th prize \$300 – J Nguyen, Vancouver (ticket 2957)

6th prize \$200 – S Morizawa, Richmond (ticket 0651)

7th prize \$200 – M Ushizawa, Vancouver (ticket 0576)

8th prize \$200 – Y Nakano, (ticket 2030)

For more information on Jodo Shinshu Buddhism, please contact one of our member temples:

Fraser Valley Buddhist Temple

(fvbtemple@gmail.com), Kamloops Buddhist Temple

(danielheslops@hotmail.com), Steveston Buddhist

Temple (sbt@shawlink.ca), Vancouver Buddhist

Temple (temple.vbt@gmail.com), Vernon Buddhist

Temple (vernonbuddhisttemple@gmail.com).

November Shotsuki (Memorial) List

The November Shotsuki monthly memorial service will be held on **Sunday, November 10 at 10:30 am.**

<u>1951</u>	<u>1975</u>	<u>1991</u>	HAYASHI, Hisae
ARAKI, Satoshi	SAKAI, Fuji	KURAMOTO, Masaaki	TAKIMOTO, Takie
<u>1959</u>	TANAKA, Hatsuye	<u>1992</u>	NISHIKIHAMA, Teruo
NAGANO, Saburo	<u>1976</u>	IKEDA, Teruhiko	<u>2004</u>
HASEBE, Aizo	YAMADA, Shohei	MIZUYABU, Tokuichi	YOSHIDA, Yoshiye
KAKUTANI, Genichi	<u>1977</u>	<u>1993</u>	SHIBATA, Takeo
FURUKAWA, Shinnosuke	EBATA, Shinkichi	HAMAKAWA, Yoshio	<u>2005</u>
<u>1960</u>	MINAGAWA, Katsuo	KOYANAGI, Tad	ARITA, Hajime
AOKI, Ichiji	MURATA, Tadao	MURAMOTO, Emiko	KUROYAMA, Tsutomu
IWASE, Yoshi	<u>1978</u>	<u>1994</u>	<u>2006</u>
SAKAI, Susumu	KASUYA, Moto	BANNO, Masakazu	OKAMURA, Yukio
<u>1961</u>	NAKATANI, Tomiye	KUMAMOTO, Toshiko	SAITO, Fuyuko
KATAYAMA, Isao	<u>1979</u>	TANOUE, Kokichi K.	<u>2007 (13th Year)</u>
<u>1962</u>	ARATAKE, Shigeru	<u>1995 (25th Year)</u>	MORI, Fumi
YANAGIMOTO, Katsujiro	<u>1980</u>	SAKATA, Ayame	<u>2008</u>
<u>1963</u>	ENJO, Denzo	MIYASHITA, Ichiji	TAMURA, Naoharu
TAKEBAYASHI, Tadasuke	TAKASAKI, Sakiye	MURAO, Jean Nobuko	NAKATSU Kimiyo
<u>1964</u>	<u>1981</u>	FUJINO, Yoshio	<u>2009</u>
OTSUJI, Yaeko	HIRAI, Heishiro	<u>1996</u>	HIRATA, Emmie
IMADA, Mitsugu	TABATA, Shizu	NITSUI, Yoshio Roy	<u>2010</u>
EDAMURA, Sowa	<u>1982</u>	HAMAZAKI, Hiroshi	KAWAHIRA, Masanobu
<u>1967</u>	OKABE, Sueko	KAZUTA, Kathy Noriko	YOSHIDA, Sue
ANDO, Yoshi	<u>1983</u>	<u>1997</u>	ATAGI, Suetsugu
HAMAGUCHI, Masu	YAMANOUCHI, Sada	SHOJI, Inosuke	<u>2011</u>
<u>1968</u>	<u>1984</u>	SAKAI, Yaeko	WEBB, Michael David
SHINTANI, Sadasuke	MITSUMI, Masao	LEE, Shirley Michiko	SUGIYAMA, Yukiko
<u>1969</u>	SHIKAZE, Noriko	SAWADA, Katsuko	TERASHITA, Keiko
MATSUTANI, Inosuke	<u>1985</u>	<u>1999</u>	FUCHIHARA, Tsumae
HINATSU, Ito	SHINTANI, Kohatsu	CHIBA, Fukuyo	<u>2012</u>
KAWASHIMA, Fumiko	<u>1986</u>	WAKABAYASHI,	MEYER-FUNATSU, Miho
<u>1970 (50th Year)</u>	DEGUCHI, Haruye	Hikoichi	NISHIMURA, Fusae
KURAMITSU, Yoshiko	<u>1988</u>	<u>2000</u>	<u>2014</u>
<u>1971</u>	NAKATA, Chiyo	SAKAMOTO, Hideo W.	DAR, Emi Isla
YAMAMOTO, Fujino	HAMAKAWA, Yosaburo	IKARI, Chiyoko	<u>2015</u>
<u>1972</u>	OIKAWA, Kengo	<u>2001</u>	FUJII, Chiyoko
ISHIGURO, Shigesaburo	HIGUCHI, Kiyokazu	YADA, Genichiro Frank	<u>2016</u>
IWATA, Kinichi	KIMURA, Mitsuo	MIZUTA, Tane	MOCHIZUKI, Ichiya
UCHIYAMA, Kenroku	MAEDA, Genzo	<u>2002</u>	KAWASHIMA, Kazuo
<u>1973</u>	<u>1989</u>	HAMAGUCHI, Tatsuko	MANIWA, Reiko
FUKAWA, Toki	OHARA, Tsuru	YOSHIDA, Umeyo	<u>2017 (3rd Year)</u>
KAJIRO, Fumio	TANAKA, Zenno	TANAKA, Sonoko	MASUHARA, Takayasu F.
NAKAGAWA, Shio	<u>1990</u>	<u>2003 (17th Year)</u>	<u>2018(1st year)</u>
<u>1974</u>	FURUKAWA, Matsu	MOCHIZUKI, Fumiye	JANG, Lawrence
MORITA, Emi	WAKABAYASHI, Gentaro		TAMOTO, Miyoko
SHIMIZU, Yoshiharu			

Sun.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.	Sat.	
Nov 2019				Please note that the November Donation List will be enclosed with the January Bodhi Mind issue. We are sorry for the inconvenience.		1	2
3 10:30 AM Pet Memorial English Dharma Service	4 <i>End of Daylight Savings Time. Don't forget to set your clocks BACK one hour.</i>	5	6 7-9 PM Intro. Buddhism	7 12:00 Noon Seniors' Club	8	9 10:00AM Toban and Board Meeting 2:00PM Fraser Valley (Rev. Ikuta)	
10 10:30 AM Ochigo Procession, Anniversary Service, Eitaiko, Eshinni, Shotsuki Service Anniversary Special Luncheon	11 10:40 AM Service at Japanese Canadian Cenotaph (Stanley Park) (Office closed)	12	13 7-9 PM Meditation	14 12:00 Noon Japanese Service and Seniors' Club and Bonenkai (Year-end party)	15	16 9:00AM Temple Cleanup	
17 10:30 AM English Dharma Service	18	19	20 11:00 AM Nikkei Place Service (Rev. Grant) 7-9 PM Meditation	21	22	23	
24 10:30 AM English Dharma Service	25	26	27 7-9 PM Meditation	28 12:00 Noon Sutra Chanting "Shoshinge"	29	30	
Dec. 1 10:30 AM Bodhi Day and Monthly Memorial Shotsuki Service	2	3	4 7-9 PM Meditation	5 12:00 Noon Sutra Chanting "Shoshinge"	6	7 10:00 AM VBT Board Meeting 11:00PM Fraser Valley Temple (Rev. Aoki)	
8 9:00 AM <i>Mochitsuki</i> 10:30 AM <i>Year-end service</i>	9	10	11 7-9 PM Meditation	Dec 2019			

Year-end Party—Bonenkai

The VBT Seniors' Club will be hosting a year-end Luncheon on Thursday, November 14 starting at 12:00 Noon.

The luncheon is open to everyone, whether you are a member of the Seniors' club or not.

Please contact the VBT office to RSVP, and the lunch fee will be collected at the party.

Remembrance Day Service at the Japanese-Canadian War Memorial Cenotaph, Stanley Park
Monday, November 11, 2019
at 10:40 am

The Vancouver Buddhist Temple's presence today is founded on the resolution, accomplishments, and struggles of many Canadians of Japanese descent. Whether one is Japanese-Canadian or not, whether the soldiers were Buddhist or not, it is with deep gratitude that we gather at the Cenotaph to show our respect.