

NICHIREN NEWS

November, 2017

Sacramento Nichiren Buddhist Church - 5191 24th Street, Sacramento, CA 95822 (916) 456-8371

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

November, 2017

5	---	no service
12	11:30am	Komatsuara persecution
19	---	no service
26	11:30am	Kaji Kito
26	noon	Church meeting

December, 2017

3	---	no service
10	---	no service
16	7:00am	Mochi Tsuki
17	11:30am	Bodhi Day & Kaji Kito
17	noon	Church meeting
24		End of year clean up
31	11:00pm	End of year service (Joya)

January, 2018

1	12:00am	New Year service
28	noon	New Year Party

CHURCH MEMBERSHIP DUES

Please use the enclosed envelope to send in your Church membership dues. The dues are still only **\$240** per year.

FUJINKAI MEMBERSHIP DUES

Membership dues for the Fujinkai are **\$10** per year. Please send your dues to the Church.

FALL FOOD BAZAAR

Thanks to all members, family & friends who helped to make the Fall Food Bazaar a great success.

CHURCH MEETING

HIGHLIGHTS

SEPTEMBER 24, 2017

- ▶ John Hughes reported that the County will refund the Church \$2,346.50.
- ▶ Discussed the Fall Food Bazaar preparations.

CHURCH MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

OCTOBER 8, 2017

- ▶ Agreed to combine the Sunday School and Building Fund bank accounts in order to avoid the fee being charged on the Building Fund account.
- ▶ For the Fall bazaar agreed to sell soda in the back with the food & to extend the due date for orders to one week before the bazaar.

CHURCH MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

OCTOBER 29, 2017

- ▶ Discussed the December mochi-tsuki. Noted that the prices will remain the same & the order deadline will be 12/9.
- ▶ The Church New Year Party will be on January 28, 2018.
- ▶ The summer bazaar will be on June 9-10, 2018

MOCHI TSUKI

The annual mochi tsuki will take place on **Saturday, December 16, 2017**. The cost is still **\$5.00** per pound for regular mochi & kasane; **\$6.00** per pound for an-mochi. Pick up is between 11:00am and 1:00pm. To purchase mochi, please either mail in the mochi sale form, order with a credit card through the church website: www.sacramentonichirechurch.org or call the Church by **December 9 2017**. *All church members and friends are asked to help beginning at 7:00am on December 16, 2017*

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

We gratefully acknowledge the generous donations from the following:

Ohigan: Chiharu Yamada/\$20; Kathy Mine/\$20; Takami Lau/\$20; Keiko Tsuda/\$20; Joe Hitomi/\$20; Kinjiro Nakatogawa/\$25; Yurimi Sawamura/\$25; Lily Hitomi/\$30; Masanao Okamoto/\$30; Brian Tsuda/\$30; Susumu Fujiwara/\$40; Kiyoko Kuwabara/\$40; Hideko Tsuetaki/\$50; Takashi Mizuno/\$50; Yoshiko Hitomi/\$50; Mary Hughes/\$50; Keiko Lucas/\$50;

Acknowledgement continued:

Ohigan: David Boots/\$50; Kazuyo Johnson/\$100; John Hughes/\$150; Thomas Murray/\$200.

Oeshiki: Susumu Fujiwara/\$40; Yoshiko Hitomi/\$10; Kiyoko Kuwabara/\$40; Keiko Lucas/\$30; Kathy Mine/\$20; Fusako Okamoto/\$10; Brian Tsuda/\$20

Memorial: Kazuyo Johnson/\$50 in memory of Kumaichi Yoshioka; Lawrence Katayama/\$50 in memory of Sandra Sugiyama; Peter Kato & Liz Johnson/\$100 in memory of Alfred Kato

Membership Dues: John Kitamura/\$240; Hitoko Nagasawa/\$240; Betsi Anne Nagasawa/\$20 & \$20

Bazaar Fund: Takashi Mizuno/\$50; Kinjiro Nakatogawa/\$25

Special Donation: Bocho Doshi-Kai/\$200 Tsuito-e; John Hughes/bamboo, paper (supplies for Oeishiki flowers); Fusako Okamoto/flowers for the Temple; James Okimura/\$25 Bocho Tsuito-e; Mike Tamai/rolling cart, cutting boards and serving trays; offering box/\$415

2018

MEMORIAL SERVICES

1 st year	2018
3 rd year	2016
7 th year	2012
13 th year	2006
17 th year	2002
23 rd year	1996
27 th year	1992
33 rd year	1986
37 th year	1982
43 rd year	1976
50 th year	1969

❖ Mochi Sale ❖

Saturday, December 16, 2017
11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Sacramento Nichiren Buddhist Church
5191 24th Street - Sacramento, CA 95822
(916) 456-8371

Keep this top portion for your records.

<u>Item</u>	<u>Price X</u>	<u>Quantity</u>	=	<u>Total Cost</u>
Mochi (1 pound)	\$ 5.00	_____		_____
An Mochi (1 pound)	\$ 6.00	_____		_____
Kasane	\$ 5.00	_____		_____
TOTAL				_____



To place an order, EITHER complete the section below & mail it along with your check made payable to “Sacramento Nichiren Buddhist Church” to the church by **Saturday, December 9, 2017**, OR visit our website at www.sacramentonichirenchurch.org to order & pay online.

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____

Email _____

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Sandoku 三毒 (“Three Poisons”)

In the United States, there were two deadly mass shootings during the months of October and November of this year. In October, 58 people were mercilessly shot to death in Las Vegas. In November, 28 members of a church lost their lives in Texas. No matter how many times these tragedies involving guns occur, the United States continues to debate gun control. These recent shootings have led me to think more about *sandoku* (三毒, “three poisons”), which I would like to further discuss in this article.

As you know, in Buddhism, there are six realms/states of existence: heavenly beings, humans, ashura, hungry spirits, and beings in hell. We are born in this world as human beings with the goal of furthering our practice to attain Enlightenment. Even though we are born as human beings, it is possible for people to experience conditions similar to the other realms/states of existence. For example, individuals living a life full of happiness may see this world as heaven. In contrast, others who struggle to find any form of happiness in their life and experience only despair may see this life as hell. However, it is important to remember that this world is neither paradise nor hell. We as human beings are the ones that create this “heaven” or “hell” in this world that we live in.

All human beings are born with *sandoku*: (1) *tonyoku* (貪欲, “greed”), (2) *shinni* (瞋恚, “anger” or “resentment”), and (3) *guchi* (愚痴, “stupidity” or “ignorance”). They are some of the defining features that explain why we are born into this world of human beings. Greed causes us to want anything and everything we desire. Having anger makes us to be hostile towards others. Lastly, ignorance prevents us from clearly distinguishing right from wrong, which results in making spontaneous decisions without much thought. If we are unable to rid ourselves of *sandoku*, we will be reborn into this world of human beings and continue to face the four sufferings (birth, aging, sickness, and death). Is there any cure for these three poisons?

A parable in chapter 16 of the *Lotus Sutra* hints at the answer to this question. Many of you may already know this parable, but it is about a great physician who had many children. One day, the physician went out of town for a business trip and during his absence, all his children accidentally drank poison. The physician returned home to see his children suffering. The children were delighted to see their father return and asked for a cure. The father prepared medicine, which appealed to the senses. Though there is more to this story, ultimately, the children were saved. This medicine, which is mentioned in this story, this antidote to the *sandoku*, is none other than the *odaimoku*. True happiness will never be obtained while we have this *sandoku* within us.

Going back to the recent shootings, people who hold anger within their hearts only feed and nurture that anger when obtaining a gun. Along with getting rid of the *sandoku* within us, I believe it is necessary to make a conscious effort to rid the world of weapons as well.