



# ONENESS

**Buddhist Church of Florin**



February 2025

Volume 2



Hello! It's February. Last month we had many events, such as the New Year's Day, HoOnKo and Nirvana services, and many people came to the church. I look forward to seeing you all in February for our service, cooking classes and other events.

In the February cooking class, we will learn how to make okonomiyaki. There are two types of okonomiyaki: Kansai style and Hiroshima style, each of which is cooked using different methods. The Kansai style mixes flour, eggs, water, cabbage, pork, and fried tempura bits together and fry them all at once like pancakes.

The Hiroshima style uses wheat flour that is first fried thinly like a crepe on a wide, flat plate. Then cabbage, bean sprouts, tempura flakes, and pork belly are placed on top and flipped over. Next, water is added to steam the cabbage. Then, the noodles are fried, and once they are crispy, everything is transferred onto the plate. In an empty place on the plate/grill, a well-cooked egg is fried, and everything is layered on top of the egg. It is completed with toppings such as sauce, pickled ginger, bonito flakes, green laver, and mayonnaise.

“Okonomi” means “your preference” in Japanese, and the choices of ingredients include seafood such as shrimp, squid, and octopus, mochi, cheese, and many more. I have explained what okonomiyaki is for those who have never tried it, and I am looking forward to seeing you in the class and enjoying okonomiyaki with you.

In February, there will be a Lady Takeko Kujo service. She wrote the song called Seiya. Below are the lyrics:

The stars in the night sky are beautiful, like countless shining eyes. My heart is at peace with joy. There are more Buddhas than the sands of the Ganges River. They are always watching over us, night and day.  
Hearing this soothes the heart.

It seems like it would be difficult to count the number of grains of sand in the Ganges River, and you might be surprised at how many Buddhas there are, but she rejoiced that Amida Buddha takes all living beings

to the Pure Land and changes them into Buddhas, so there are countless Buddhas watching over us. Shinran Shonin wrote:

When we say "Namo-Amida-Butsu," the countless Buddhas throughout the ten quarters,  
Surrounding us a hundredfold, a thousandfold, rejoice in and protect us.  
[Shinran Shonin / JODO WASAN - 110]

### Last month's quiz answer

How do you say "Ta-da!" in Japanese when showing someone a surprise gift?

1. Jaan!
2. Juun!
3. Joon!
4. Jeen!

The answer is number 1, Jaan.

The English word "tada" has the same meaning and usage as the Japanese word "jaan." The word seems to have originated from the music that plays "Jaan♪" when a character makes an appearance on TV. It seems when you say "tada" in America it sounds like "Jaan" in Japan.

### The next quiz

でこぼこ



What does this kanji mean?



1. Tetris
2. Bumpy
3. Blocks
4. To fit

**In Gassho,**

Rev. Noritaka Imada

If you need to contact Rev. Imada, you can email him at: [imadabca@gmail.com](mailto:imadabca@gmail.com)

(916) 383-1831



## February Monthly Memorial (Shotsuki Hoyo) Service

The monthly memorial service for those who passed away during the month of February will be held on **Sunday, February 23, 2025 beginning at 10:00 am.** The persons who are noted in the Buddhist Church of Florin's (BCF) memorial records as having passed away in the month of February are listed below. If you have a homyo (Buddhist name) on a card, please bring it with you for placement on the onaijin (altar) before the service. If the year 2025 is a special service year (see table) for a dearly departed loved one, please contact Reverend Noritaka Imada, Buddhist Church of Florin at 916-383-1831 or email [imadabca@gmail.com](mailto:imadabca@gmail.com) to make special memorial arrangements. Please inform Lois Kashiwase of any corrections or additions to the list.

Abe, Shige	02-23-1970	Nakashima, Lester T	02-03-1998
Fujii, Ted Satoru	02-04-1999	Nishi, Kikuyo	02-17-1985
Fuwa, Mabel Kikuye	02-19-1971	Nishi, Yaichi	02-14-1975
Goishi, Tomeyo	02-16-1979	Nishimoto, Itsu	02-11-1941
Hamamoto, Toichi	02-17-1974	Noda, Alice Shizuko	02-03-2002
Hayama, Alice Kiyoko	02-09-2017	Noda, Tokutaro	02-06-1934
Hayashi, Mika	02-13-1920	Nozawa, Sugimatsu	02-21-1933
Hayashida, Tadao	02-07-1923	Oda, Amy	02-13-2024
Hiraga, Tomitaro	02-15-1936	Okamoto, Matsu	02-24-1914
Hirakawa, Sumiko	02-11-1935	Okamura, Sekichi	02-02-1937
Honda, Kazuma	02-08-1942	Otani, Masayuki Walter	02-13-2008
Imahara, Toichi	02-11-1931	Sakamoto, Tatsukichi	02-27-1934
Ishii, Fukuji	02-10-1937	Sasaki, Tadashi	02-27-1928
Ishii, Tane	02-09-1941	Sato, B. Shoichi	02-14-1970
Ito, Rose Harumi	02-02-2015	Shibao, Chieko	02-23-1981
Itonaga, Kimie	02-22-1937	Shintaku, Isao	02-24-1914
Itonaga, Miki	02-06-1971	Shishido, Melvyn Takeshi	02-19-2012
Kanemaru, Junnosuke	02-10-1961	Sumida, Shigeru	02-07-1923
Kanemoto, Yuriko	02-12-2003	Takehara, Alvin	02-18-1952
Kato, Masashi	02-03-1955	Takehara, Darrel	02-18-1952
Kawanishi, Mary	02-10-2022	Takehara, Kazuo	02-18-1952
Kishaba, Kame	02-14-1948	Takeoka, George	02-18-2012
Kow, Ritsu	02-10-1934	Tanaka, Yoshimatsu	02-03-1962
Kurima, Herbert M	02-20-2006	Taniguchi, Frank Ben	02-24-2018
Kushi, Masako	02-16-1911	Tanihara, Kiyoto	02-20-1968
Maeda, Toki	02-11-1946	Tanihara, May	02-03-2017
Masuda, Yayoyo	02-23-1935	Tonai, Reiko Moriya	02-23-2013
Matsui, Kichigoro	02-18-1940	Tsukamoto, Beatrice M	02-11-2006
Matsui, Noboru	02-20-1993	Tsukamoto, Infant	02-10-1911
Menda, Albert	02-27-1997	Tsukamoto, Toyoko	02-20-2024
Mitsuyoshi, Katsumi	02-02-1926	Uchida, Issaku	02-13-1918
Miyao, Tokumatsu	02-19-1956	Umeda, Mrs.	02-27-1931
Nakamura, Takamichi	02-27-1923	Watanabe, Teddy Osamu	02-15-2019
Nakamura, Yuki	02-25-1986	Yamaoka, Tony	02-05-2013
Nakashima, Isuke	02-04-1978	Yoshihara, Shozo	02-06-1964

### 2025 Memorial Service Schedule

Please schedule a service if your loved ones passed away in the following years:

<u>Year</u>	<u>Service</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>Service</u>
2024	1 <sup>st</sup> Year	2001	25 <sup>th</sup> Year
2023	3 <sup>rd</sup> Year	1993	33 <sup>rd</sup> Year
2019	7 <sup>th</sup> Year	1976	50 <sup>th</sup> Year
2013	13 <sup>th</sup> Year	1926	100 <sup>th</sup> Year
2009	17 <sup>th</sup> Year		

# *Join us for Sunday Service*

**Lady Takeko Kujo-Kisaragi-Ki,  
*February Shotsuki and Family Service*  
Sunday, February 23, 2025 at 10:00 a.m.**

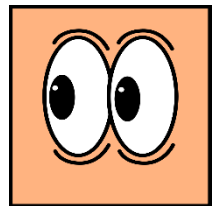
**Officiant: Rev. Noritaka Imada**

*There will be a light luncheon following the service and so in order to prepare enough for everyone, we ask that you please rsvp to [florinbuddhist@gmail.com](mailto:florinbuddhist@gmail.com). Thank you!*

**\*\* The front gates may be locked 15 minutes after the start of scheduled services and/or activities. Thank you.**

In the event of a change, we will post the updates on our website, Facebook page and send out a message to our email list.

**See you  
on Sunday!!!**



## 2024 Membership Dues

Thank you to the following members for their 2024 membership dues received in December:

Frank Mouton (monthly)    Tim & Melanie Tsukamoto  
Burt & Carol Yoshioka (monthly)

## 2025 Membership Dues

Thank you to the following members for their 2025 membership dues received in December:

Shirley Gee	Glenn Harada	Gordon Ito
Michael & Carla Kakutani	Gordon & Donna Kunisaki	Walter & Kathy Menda
Gary & Sharon Okamoto	Ginny Syphax	Alex & Stephanie Takeda
Bob & Susan Takeda	Clifford & Bettie Tsuda	Tim & Melanie Tsukamoto
Richard & Connie Yee	Burt & Carol Yoshioka (monthly)	

***2025 membership dues are due January 31, 2025.***

Please direct membership questions to Susan Takeda at (916) 837-5699 or [s.takeda@comcast.net](mailto:s.takeda@comcast.net).

***The Buddhist Church of Florin welcomes the following new members:***

***Clifford & Bettie Tsuda***

***We look forward to seeing you at service and temple functions and hope the BCF will meet your religious and community desires.***

***Thank You!***

**2025 MEMBERSHIP FORM**

**New Member**     **Name/Address Change**     **Annual Renewal**     **Other** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Last Name                      First Name                      Middle Initial                      Birthdate  
**Telephone #**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Home                                      Cell                                      **Email**  
**Spouse**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Last Name                      First Name                      Middle Initial                      Birthdate  
**Telephone #**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Cell                                      **Email**  
**Address**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Street                                      City                                      State                      Zip Code

**Children at home under age 25:** (List last name if different than above)

Last Name	First Name	Middle Initial	Birthdate		
_____	_____	_____	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> Son	<input type="checkbox"/> Daughter
_____	_____	_____	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> Son	<input type="checkbox"/> Daughter
_____	_____	_____	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> Son	<input type="checkbox"/> Daughter
_____	_____	_____	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> Son	<input type="checkbox"/> Daughter

**This information will be published in the church directory.**

**Membership Dues:**

New Member (1st year)	\$150 per adult /\$300 couple/family
New Member Ages 80 - 84 (1st year)	\$100 per adult
New Member Ages 85 and over (1st year)	\$ 50 per adult
Ages 25 - 30	\$100 per person per year
Ages 31 - 79	\$280 per person per year/\$560 couple/family
Ages 80 - 84	\$190 per person per year
Ages 85 or older	\$100 per person per year

Check Payment Preference: \_\_\_ Annual    \_\_\_ Semi-Annual    \_\_\_ Quarterly    \_\_\_ Monthly (10 payments)

**Checks must be made out to BUDDHIST CHURCH OF FLORIN or the bank will return the check.**

Check if paying via PayPal: \_\_\_ (make sure you put in the PayPal notes, payment is for "membership dues")

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

**MEMBER'S SIGNATURE:** \_\_\_\_\_

Membership dues are payable/due in January 2025. If joining mid-year, yearly dues are pro-rated for 2025.

For office use:    Date: \_\_\_\_\_    Amt Pd \_\_\_\_\_    Ck No. \_\_\_\_\_    Cash \_\_\_\_\_    Rec'd by: \_\_\_\_\_    Entered \_\_\_\_\_

Buddhist Church of Florin  
**Governing Board Meeting Highlights**  
January 9, 2025

1. Sensei Imada is holding a Japanese cooking class beginning February 23<sup>rd</sup> at 1 pm at BCF. Recipe requests and help are welcome. Please RSVP by February 15 to [imadabca@gmail.com](mailto:imadabca@gmail.com). Look for details elsewhere in this newsletter.
2. The Dharma School curriculum for 2025 is now set and a slate of fun activities is coming up. If you know of a family with Dharma School-aged children (pre-K through high school), please invite them to contact Judi Yuki ([jhmyuki@gmail.com](mailto:jhmyuki@gmail.com)) for more information.
3. The Board is looking for someone to prepare the Oneness Newsletter. If you are interested in publications, publishing software, or are just good with computers, please contact Margie Sunahara ([mjsunahara@att.net](mailto:mjsunahara@att.net)).
4. The BWA was very active in December and is excited for upcoming events. See elsewhere in this newsletter for details.
5. Please remember to renew your membership. Membership forms can be found in this newsletter and on our website ([BuddhistChurchOfFlorin.org](http://BuddhistChurchOfFlorin.org)).
6. The Hondo kitchen remodel project is planned to begin in mid-March. The Board thanks the BWA, Dharma School, Jr. YBA, LOTUS, Sacramento Kendo Dojo, Kyudo Kai and various individuals for their generous contributions to the project.
7. Two benches on the side of the Hondo need replacement. To raise funds BCF will be selling commemorative bricks (like ones near the entrance to the Hondo). Watch for information in the coming months.
8. Sacramento Kendo is now holding classes for (those without equipment) from 7:00 to 7:50 pm on Tuesday and Fridays. Members with Kendo Bogu will practice Tuesdays and Fridays from 8 to 9:30 pm.
9. Take advantage of the BCF Scrip program. It's easy; you purchase scrip and the scrip company rebates a percentage of the sale to the church. Use the scrip for your everyday shopping or for gifts. Watch for details on how to purchase scrip in this newsletter, on our website ([BuddhistChurchOfFlorin.org](http://BuddhistChurchOfFlorin.org)), and by email.
10. There will be a road improvement project along Florin Rd from Franklin Blvd to Power Inn Rd from November 2024 to September 2025. Please be mindful that you may need to consider alternate routes to temple at some times.





**Buddhist Church of Florin Dharma School**  
**News & Events- February 2025**  
**“B.R.A.I.D.” – Building Respectful Awareness**



A couple of weeks ago, we rang in the new year, literally. After a short service by Reverend Imada, those who attended lined up to ring the kansho 108 times, each ring representing the discarding of an earthly desire and cleaning of the slate. It symbolizes rebirth, starting anew and shedding the old skin worn down by the year. This year we also accompanied this ritual with the firing of 108 arrows on New Year's Day, courtesy of our Kyudo Kai club. Though the gym was ten degrees colder than outside, the heaters were not, and all in all I found it a very wonderful experience to attend the event. May our new year be one of positive change, and may that gym not freeze my fingers off the next time I'm in there.

- Skylar Lam

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### Upcoming Dharma Lesson/Activity

February 16, 2025	Game Day 11:00am-1:00pm
February 23, 2025	Nirvana Day
March 9, 2025	Use Kind Words
March 23, 2025	Lumbini Garden
April 12, 2025	Decorating Hanamido 6:00-8:00pm
April 13, 2025	Hanamatsuri
April 27, 2025	Four Gates
May 11, 2025	Dharma School will present Mother's Day gifts
May 25, 2025	White Elephant
June 8, 2025	Graduation and Father's Day presentation



# Dharma

## GAME DAY



**16** FEBRUARY

**11:00-1:00**

**BCF 7235 Prichard Rd. Sacramento 95828**

Come join us for a fun time, Movie and Games! Pizza and Salad will be provided. RSVP by February 16<sup>th</sup> to Nadine Nouchi: [nnouchi@att.net](mailto:nnouchi@att.net).

# February '25 BWA Lady Kujo Dana Project



[Initial plan; still in planning stage at the time of this message.]

In coordination with LA Wildfire Disaster Relief efforts and under BCA guidance, the Lady Takeko Kujo Dana Project this month will help to raise funds for affected BCA churches and members affected by this disaster. This would be a nice tribute to Lady Kujo who dedicated her life to helping others in need.

**Lady Takeko Kujo Kisaga-ri Service      February 23, 2025**

*BWA sponsored*

## January BWA Dana Project



Florin BWA provided meals to residents of Sister Nora's Place in January.

## LOTUS Members Treated to New Years (Shogatsu) Food

Thanks to JoAnn & Sharon for preparing all the Shogatsu food on January 2 for LOTUS members who enjoyed the special lunch after working all morning.



Rev. Imada leads members including LOTUS ladies (not pictured) in a sake toast.

**JoAnn Kusaka**

*Head food preparer*

**Jan Takeuchi**

*Enchilada lunch, Dec. holiday/NY's treats*

**Ann Tsukamoto**

*Egg foo young*

**Sharon Okamoto**

*Salads*

**Sharon O/Jan T**

*Desserts*

**Tomio Ito**

*Morning treats*





## Buddhist Church of Florin Fried Rice Loco Moco Plate Breakfast Fundraiser

Order Pick-Up:

9AM - Noon

**March 8, 2025**

Buddhist Church of Florin

**\$18 PER  
ORDER**

*Order Includes:*

*Fried Rice, Hamburger Patty,*

*Scrambled Egg,*

*Gravy & Mac Salad*

*\*No substitutions*

### **Three different ways to order! Choose one:**

- 1) ON-LINE: Order and pay online! Scan QR Code:
- 2) VENMO: Complete and mail ORDER FORM  
VENMO your payment to @Elizabeth-Fujii-3
- 3) PAY BY CHECK: Complete ORDER FORM and mail with your check  
payable to **Buddhist Church of Florin** \*Checks will be deposited AFTER event



Scan me!

*Pick-up your Loco Moco Breakfast on March 8th between 9AM to Noon.  
Check in at First Station and your order will be delivered to your vehicle.*

IF PAYING VENMO OR CHECK: COMPLETE ORDER FORM AND MAIL by MARCH 1, 2025 TO:  
E Fujii 325 34th Street Sacramento CA 95816

1) NAME

2) NUMBER OF LOCO  
MOCO ORDERS

\_\_\_\_\_ x \$18.00 EACH

**TOTAL PAYMENT:**

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

3) For Check or Venmo  
Orders ONLY:

If Delivered or Mailed:  
CHECK NUMBER?

If Paid Venmo:  
DATE?

4) YOUR PHONE NUMBER?

5) YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS?

*Need more information?*

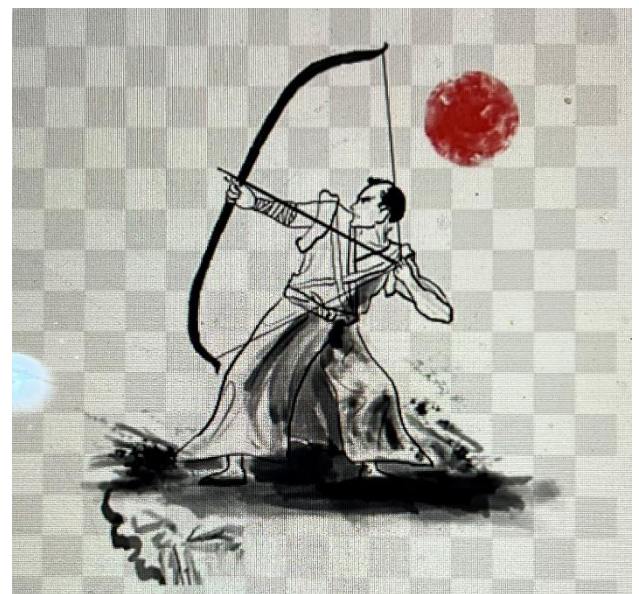
*Contact Eric at (916) 955 1954*

# Kyudo Kai of Florin- Joya no Kane

With New Year's Day came a time for reflection of 2024 events and to prepare for what 2025 may bring. In Ancient Japan, Joya no kane was held annually on New Year's eve in Japanese Buddhist Churches.

Joya no Kane means "midnight bell" and as part of Omisoka celebrations, churches would ring their temple bell 108 times. Through this Buddhist belief, there are 108 sins known as "bonnou". The 108 bell rings represent the cleansing of these bonnou (wordly wants and negative emotions) that can lead to human suffering.

As an extension of this symbolic tradition, Kyudo Kai of Florin (KKF) held a Joya no kane at BCF with Reverend Imada opening the event. Instead of a ringing of the bell, 108 "bonnou" was written on paper and secured to each arrow. KKF members shot these arrows into kyudo targets to represent the cleansing of the bonnou. This was the first of hopefully many future Joya no Kane through kyudo.



**Buddhist Church of Florin  
Kikuyo and Kinjiro Nakatani Scholarship**

**Graduating High School Students  
And  
Students Attending a University, College or Vocational School**

You are encouraged to apply for the Buddhist Church of Florin's Kikuyo and Kinjiro Nakatani (Nakatani) Scholarships, if you meet the following criteria:

**\$5,000 Scholarship and \$3,000 Scholarship for Graduating High School Students**

- Must be graduating from high school this academic year;
- Plan to attend an accredited university, college or vocational school full time next year;
- Your parent is a member of the Buddhist Church of Florin (church membership dues are paid and current before the scholarship application deadline); and
- You have been a Florin Dharma School student prior to enrolling in a university, college, or vocational school.

Applicants will be judged on:

- Participation in the Florin Dharma School
- Participation in church program activities
- Participation in community programs
- Academic achievements
- Essay (approximately 300 words) on the topic of how Buddhism affects your life
- In-person interview

**\$5,000 Scholarship, \$3,000 Scholarship, \$2,500 Scholarship, \$1,500 Scholarship and \$1,000 Scholarship for Students Attending a University, College or Vocational School**

- Must be attending an accredited university, college or vocational school full time this academic year and plan to continue next year full time and for the full year;
- You or your parent is a member of the Buddhist Church of Florin (church membership dues are paid and current before the scholarship application deadline); and
- You have been a Florin Dharma School student prior to enrolling in a university, college, or vocational school.

Applicants will be judged on:

- Participation in a Jodo Shinshu Buddhist church and/or program activities
- Participation in community programs
- Academic achievements
- Essay (approximately 400 words) on the topic of how Buddhism affects your life
- In-person interview

Applications may be obtained from the Nakatani Scholarship Committee, Walter Menda, or Florin Dharma School Superintendent and YBA advisors in January 2025.

**Applications must be received by the Nakatani Scholarship Committee, Walter Menda, by midnight, April 1, 2025.**

Please be considerate and RSVP (email Sensei: [imadabca@gmail.com](mailto:imadabca@gmail.com)) if you plan on attending this cooking class. Sensei needs to shop for grocery/prepare for this class.

# Cooking Class

HIROSHIMA STYLE

OKONOMIYAKI

Sunday, Feb 23, 1PM @BCF



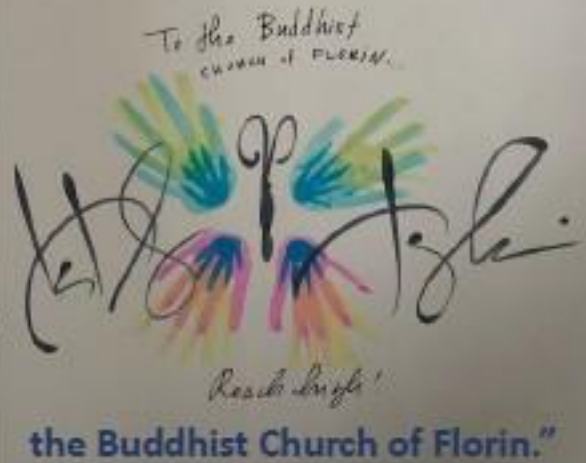
REGISTER NOW

[imadabca@gmail.com](mailto:imadabca@gmail.com)

To prepare enough ingredients, please RSVP.



These children's books may be checked out from the church library. Each is inscribed "To



Carolyn Imahara, cousin of the Mukais (JoAnn Mukai Kusaka/Sharon Mukai Okamoto) & cousin also of Walter Menda, donated a half dozen children's books, many written by her friend Kathryn Otoshi who dedicated the books to the Buddhist Church of Florin.



Carolyn's, JoAnn & Sharon's, and Walter's grandparents were Florin pioneers.



Beautiful Hands



Kathryn Otoshi

Bret Baumgarten