

Joint Celebration
850th Anniversary of Shinran Shonin's Birth and 800th Anniversary of
Establishment of the Jodo Shinshu Teaching

Information for Group Participation

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I. Outline of Joint Celebration

A. Service schedule

1st session	March 29–April 3, 2023
2nd session	April 10–April 15
3rd session	April 24–April 29
4th session	May 6–May 11
5th session	May 16–May 21

5 sessions / 6 days per session

2 services per day: 10:00 AM and 2:00 PM, with some exceptions

B. Special services

Special programs for designated groups will be conducted on the following days:

1. April 29, May 6 and 7

Special services are being planned especially for those who are either new to Buddhism or the Jodo Shinshu tradition. Final details are still pending.

2. May 18 and 19

One service each day planned for parents and their children under school age

3. May 20

One service on this day planned for students enrolled at Ryukoku Sogo Gakuen affiliated schools. As for overseas districts, the Pacific Buddhist Academy is the only school that is affiliated with the forementioned educational institute organization.

C. Daily schedule

Time	Activities	Place
5:30	Gates open	
6:00	Daily Morning Service	Hall of Amida Buddha & Founder's Hall
9:35	Schedule overview Dharma Talk Opening Remarks	Founder's Hall
10:00	Joint Celebration, Morning Observance	Founder's Hall
Estimated Start Time 11:45	Confirmation Ceremony	Hall of Amida Buddha
12:30		
13:45	Schedule overview Dharma Talk Opening Remarks	Founder's Hall
14:00	Joint Celebration, Afternoon Observance	Founder's Hall
Estimated Start Time 15:45	Confirmation Ceremony	Hall of Amida Buddha
Estimated Start Time 16:30	Daily Evening Service	Hall of Amida Buddha & Founder's Hall
Estimated Start Time 17:30	Gates close	

Confirmation Ceremony

Follows each Joint Celebration Service, starting around 11:45 AM after the Morning Observance and around 3:45 PM after the Afternoon Observance.

Except for the following days:

April 29 (Thu), May 6 (Sat), May 7 (Sun), May 18 (Thu), May 19 (Fri), May 20 (Sat)

On these days, the Confirmation Ceremonies will be conducted:

1. After the daily 6:00 AM Morning Service
2. At 1:30 PM.

On **May 21 (Sun)**, the Confirmation Ceremony will be conducted only once, following the daily 6:00 AM Morning Service. There will be no Confirmation Ceremony on that afternoon.

Further procedures will be announced in May 2021 or soon thereafter.

II. Outline of Group Participation

D. Outline

1. Group participants are welcome to register for and participate in any of the services during the Joint Celebration period (24 days and 47 services), **EXCEPT** for the following six days.

April 29 (Thu), May 6 (Sat), May 7 (Sun),
May 18 (Thu), May 19 (Fri), May 20 (Sat)

2. A participating group can be made up of one or more temples. If your group becomes larger than one motor coach capacity, please subdivide your group into sub-group units based on the capacity of a motor coach for each sub-group.
3. 1200–1400 chairs will be set-up in the Founder’s Hall. Seating assignments for group participants will be made in advance.
4. Voluntary donations in any amount in gratitude for service participation will be greatly appreciated.

E. Target Dates

October 2020

Outline of Joint Celebration (in Japanese) was distributed to the Jodo Shinshu Hongwanji-ha affiliate temples in Japan.

1. October–December 2021

The First Application Period

Please submit your application to participate in the Joint Celebration by following the procedures that will be announced in the near future. Applications will be handled through the Sampai Center (see III. Additional Information, F. *Sampai* (Visitors) Center).

2. February 2022–March 2023

The Second Application Period

The seats that still remain vacant after the deadline of the first application period will be available for anyone who would like to participate in the Joint Celebration.

F. *Sampai* (Visitors) Center

In order to centralize coordination and information, a Joint Celebration *Sampai* (Visitors) Center will be set up by August 2021. The Sampai Center will operate in cooperation with the designated *Kanji* (managing) companies. All travel agencies or bus companies that intend to make arrangements for a group of delegates who will participate in the Joint Celebration will need to be registered as a Sampai Kyoryoku Kaisha (Participation Cooperating Company).

III. Additional Information

G. Participation of ministers

New ritual(s) for the Joint Celebration will be arranged and finalized by the end of March 2022. Jodo Shinshu Hongwanji-ha priests who have fulfilled specified requirements are eligible to apply to participate in the services as a chanting priest or ritual musician. Further details (qualifications, necessary attire, etc.) will be announced at a later date.

H. Services for Specific Affiliated Organizations

Specific services for the following Jodo Shinshu Hongwanji-ha affiliated organizations will be arranged respectively for each association. The schedule is as follows,

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. Dharma School Association | March 29 (Wed), Afternoon Observance |
| 2. Scouts Association | March 31 (Fri), Afternoon Observance |
| 3. Monto Suishinin (lay leaders) | April 10 (Mon), Morning Observance |
| 4. Adult Buddhist Association / Young Buddhist Association | April 15 (Sat), Afternoon Observance |
| 5. Federation of Buddhist Women's Associations | May 10 (Wed), Morning Observance
May 10 (Wed), Afternoon Observance
May 11 (Thu), Morning Observance |

Note: Separate invitations will be distributed to each unit from the respective association headquarters.

I. Individual participation

In order to encourage those who have had no chance to encounter either general Buddhism or Jodo Shinshu Buddhism up until now and to become familiar with the Buddhist tradition as well as the Hongwanji Temple, we encourage individual participation in the Joint Celebration. We plan to accept applications for individual participation starting from April 2022.

1. Any individual or tour groups are welcome to apply to attend the Joint Celebration. Applications must be submitted through the *Sampai* (Visitors) Center.
2. Individual participation will be possible based on available seating.
3. Donations from individual participants will be greatly appreciated. There is no set donation amount.

Note: Additional procedures and information will be forthcoming.

J. Joint events

In cooperation with various institutions, co-sponsored joint events at the Hongwanji have been planned for April 29 (Sat), May 6 (Sat), and May 7 (Sun). Details will be forthcoming.

Exhibition on Shinran Shonin

The Shinshu Kyodan Rengo, or Shinshu Federation will co-sponsor a special exhibition, "Life and Mementos of Shinran (TBD)," together with the Kyoto National Museum and others to mark the 850th anniversary of Shinran Shonin's birth. This exhibition will also commemorate the 50th anniversary of the Shinshu Kyodan Rengo. The Federation's affiliated temples will jointly display their religious or cultural artifacts related with Shinran Shonin for the exhibition

Dates: March 25 (Sat)–May 21 (Sun), 2023

Place: Kyoto National Museum, Heisei Chishinkan Annex

Sponsors: Kyoto National Museum, The Asahi Shimbun Company, NHK Kyoto, NHK Planet Kinki

K. Facilities within the Temple Precinct

Detailed information will be forthcoming.

1. North Parking Lot

We would appreciate attendees taking public transportation when possible. If using chartered bus (either motorcoach, medium-sized bus or mini bus), prior arrangements and notification to the Sampai (Visitors) Center is required. In case of congestion, you may be directed in waiting your turn.

2. Rest area

In addition to the rest area which will be set up in the Monbou Kaikan, a temporary tent where visitors can relax will be available in the temple courtyard. Lunch venue should be reserved separately.

3. Lunch

Groups have the option of making their own lunch arrangements. Bento lunches prepared by designated catering companies can be ordered through the Sampai (Visitors) Center.

4. Picture taking

Locations for group photos will be designated.

IV. Historical sites related to Hongwanji

L. Otani Mausoleum

1. Visitation

a. Office hours

9:00 AM–5:00 PM (Commemoration Observance Period)

Gates open: 5:30 AM Gates close: 5:00 PM

b. Registration

Special group registration desk will be made available

c. Time frame (approximate)

Visitation only:

- Approximately 50 minutes (excluding time getting on and off bus)

Interring of remains:

- Approximately 70 minutes (excluding time getting on and off bus)

Note:

At least 30 minutes should be added when visiting *Odabisho* (cremation site)

Congestion is anticipated especially during weekends and holidays.

2. Interring of remains

a. *Sodan Nokotsu*: Interring alongside the remains of Shinran Shonin

b. *Muryojudo Nokotsu*: Interring of remains within a designated temple niche

c. *Eitaikyo*: Perpetual Memorial Service

- Information for interring of remains is available upon request by the International Center.

3. Bus parking

- Parking is not available. Visitors are asked to get on and off their bus at the stop along National Route 1 that runs on the south side of Otani Mausoleum.

- The designated bus waiting area and other information will be forthcoming.

M. Hino Birth Place

1. Visitation

a. Office hours

9:00 AM–3:30 PM

b. Guide

Ministers will be on-site to share the history of the temple.

c. Time frame (approximate)

- 20–30 minutes (excluding time getting on and off bus)

- At least 20–30 minutes should be added when visiting Hokkaiji Temple.
(located next to Hino Birth Place)

- If you plan on visiting the Hokkaiji Temple, a separate reservation through the Sampai (Visitors) Center is required, as Hokkaiji is not an affiliate of Jodo Shinshu Hongwanji-ha.

2. Bus parking

- Limited parking will be available at the adjoining affiliated Nursery facility.

- Special safety concerns must be taken if the bus drop-off and pick-up takes place when the school is in session.

- Streets in the neighboring area are also very narrow with local bus service routes channeling through them. Please instruct your driver to drive slowly with care.

N. Suminobo Temple

1. Visitation

a. Office hours

9:00 AM–4:00 PM

b. Guide

Ministers will be on-site to share the history of the temple.

c. Time frame (approximate)

20–30 minutes (excluding time getting on and off bus)

2. Bus parking

- A section of the temple precinct will be made available for limited parking.
- Adjoining the temple is the Nishi Hongwanji Nursery School, so special safety concerns must be made if your bus drop-off and pick-up takes place while school is in session.