

# LOTUS

The newsletter of the Portland Nichiren Buddhist Temple

No. 294

2025 SE Yamhill St. Portland OR 97214 (503) 232-8064

November 2010

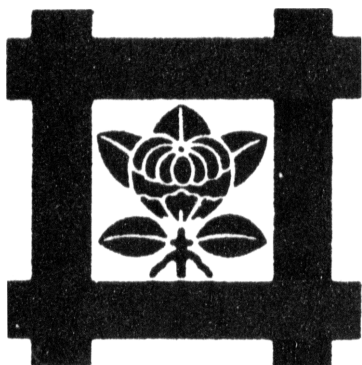
<http://nichiren-shu.org/portland/>

## Rev. Akahoshi Visits Nichiren Buddhist Temple of Portland

Rev. Ryuken Akahoshi and 19 members from Myokenji Temple in Fukuyama-Shi, Hiroshima Prefecture, Japan came to visit our temple at 10:00a.m. on November 1<sup>st</sup>. We welcomed them by chanting the Odaimoku while beating hand drums in front of the temple and then held a service in the main hall. We were so happy that they visited our temple and it was pleasure for us to chant the Odaimoku together with them. After the service, we held a luncheon downstairs. First of all, we toasted to our friendship with Sake. The guests and our members tried to speak to each other in Japanese and English during the delicious Japanese luncheon. We had a fantastic time. After the luncheon we bid farewell on Yamhill Street with a mixture of joy and sorrow. They left for Seattle at 1:00 pm by charter bus.

## S'chi-go-san

Literally this holiday means Seven-Five-Three. We celebrate children on this day with a special blessing and by eating goodies. Children ages seven, five and three are especially celebrated but all children are honored on this day. The service is planned for Sunday November 14th at 10 am. Sensei Obata was interviewed by the Yuuyaki Shinbun with front page coverage discussing our temple in general and the holiday in particular. Great publicity! We hope to see many children and families in attendance.



## Temple news

- O-Eshiki service was held on Sunday Oct 10th in the Portland Temple at 2 pm. The temple was beautifully decorated with cherry blossom festooned umbrellas to commemorate the unseasonable bloom that occurred at the time of Nichiren Shonin's death in the court of Muneneka Ikegami. Following the service, the Fujinkai treated all present to a dinner including soup, seafood rice, vegetables and home made pickles. Sensei Obata's sister Noriko Mosugi brought cakes and fresh mochi from Japan. She prepared Oshiruko, a sweet bean and mochi dessert- Delicious!
- Sensei Obata held O-Eshiki service at the Seattle Nichiren Buddhist Temple on Oct 17th. She was greeted by over 30 members and supporters. The Seattle Temple Fujinkai treated all present to a fine meal. Sensei Obata wishes to extend a hearty thank-you for a warm reception.
- The Garage sale was held the last week of August and first week of September. The event was very successful and will remain a fixture of our fundraising efforts. Donations are accepted at any time for next year's event. There is huge demand for vinyl LP records. We have a spot in the social hall for donated items. Permanent storage was built in the residence basement on Oct 9th. Thanks to all the volunteers that built 170 square feet of storage shelving in the residence basement to house items for future events. Also big thanks to everyone that made a fantastic lunch for the workers. Spam Musubi and Nigiri- yum!
- In September we reported a spike in vandalism on the Temple grounds. Since then the graffiti has been painted over and the issues relating to homeless encampments have subsided. Nevertheless, all members and supporters are authorized and encouraged to remove trespassers from Temple grounds. The non-emergency number for **Portland Police is 503 823-3333** and they can help in removing trespassers from the property. This month we had an abandoned sofa appear on the sidewalk near the Temple. Sensei Obata contacted Metro who removed it free of charge.
- The board meeting will be held Nov 7th. Since this newsletter is going out the first week in November, the Treasurer's report for November will go out with the December newsletter.

## **November Dharma Talk : Komatsubara Persecution**

Our founder, Nichiren Shonin encountered many persecutions. He made up his mind to endure any persecutions since he declared his vow with the Odaimoku. According to the teaching, he considered many persecutions to be proof of a true practitioner of the Lotus Sutra. Nichiren Shonin returned to his hometown Kominato in August, 1264 in order to see his mother who was sick. Miraculously, because of his prayer, she recovered her health. Nichiren shonin received an invitation from Yoshitaka Kudo who was one of his followers, the Lord of Amatsu. On the way to Yoshitaka's house, he and his disciples were ambushed by hundreds of the Nenbutsu followers entering Komatsubara Pine Forest. One disciple, Kyoninbo was killed and two other wounded seriously. Nichiren Shonin was cut on the middle of his forehead seriously and his arm was broken. Miraculously, he was able to escape. He stated in the Nanjo Hyoe Shichiro Dono Goshu,

**Chapter13 of the Lotus Sutra says, “ I do not care about my life, I only care about the Highest Path – the Lotus Sutra.” That is why I am the number one “ Practitioner of the Lotus Sutra ” in Japan.**

Nichiren Shonin was injured on the middle of his forehead on November 11<sup>th</sup>, 1264. Then each of Nichiren Temples covers the statue of Nichiren Shonin who is enshrined in the main hall with Wataboushi in Japanese from November to next March or April, because of the protect his injury from the cold weather.

We have covered Nichiren Shonin's head with Wataboushi . Please visit our temple and greet our founder, Nichiren Shonin.

Sincerely with Gassho,  
Rev. Myosho Obata

### **Shichi – Go – San Ceremony November 14<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m.**

Shichi-Go-san Ceremony will be held for children to pray for their growing up well.

**Children of any age are welcome to join the blessing.**

**Registration : 10:00a.m.**

**Ceremony : 10:30a.m.**

O-Fuda or Amulet will be bestowed on each of children for protect them. And we will offer Chitose Ame or longevity candy to children.

Please fill out an enclosed Shichi-Go-San prayer form and return it to the temple.

### **Memorial Service November, December 2010**

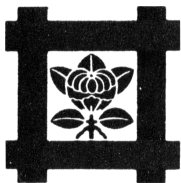
47<sup>th</sup> Year 1965 Asakichi Tanbara (Nov.16)

43<sup>rd</sup> Year 1968 Yae Yasutake (Nov.11)

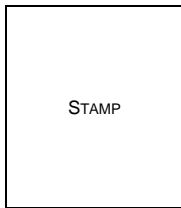
37<sup>th</sup> Year 1974 Tomeji Katayama (Nov. 17)

23<sup>rd</sup> Year 1988 Natsuno Kusano (Nov. 12)

If you would like to hold a memorial service for your ancestors, please plan it prior to their memorial date and make an appointment at Nichiren Buddhist Temple of Portland. Tel: (503) 232 – 8064



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**2025 SE Yamhill Street**  
**Portland OR 97214**



To:

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