

# NEW YEAR'S EVE BELL-RINGING CEREMONY

Every year, December 31, 11:30 pm, rain or shine!



The Buddhist Temple of San Diego cordially invites you to its traditional year-end events:

~ DEC. 31, 7:30 pm (at BTSD) ~

The JOYA-E (Year-end Service) will be held at the Buddhist Temple at 7:30 pm New Year's Eve to all us to contemplate and express gratitude for the past year and mark the beginning of a new one. Resident minister Rev. Yushi Mukojima will help give 2009 perspective during his Dharma message.

Afterwards, attendees may ring the Temple's Kansho bell which hangs inside the Hondo hall. Everyone is then invited to enjoy a bowlful of traditional soba (buckwheat noodles) prepared by the Mukojimas to warm the tummy till the Bonsho bell ringing at Shelter Island. All welcome.

~ DEC. 31, 11:30 pm (at the Friendship Bell) ~

YEAR-END BELL-RINGING CEREMONY at the Japanese Friendship Bell on Shelter Island,

1402 Shelter Island Drive, hosted by the Buddhist Temple of San Diego. Because it is alcohol-free and family-friendly, this Buddhist ritual has become a meaningful year-end tradition for many San Diegans, Buddhist or not.

The program, which begins promptly at 11:30 pm, includes a brief history of the Friendship Bell and the ceremony, followed by sutra chanting and incense offering led by Rev. Yushi Mukojima. Attendees will then have the rare chance to "ring out the old, ring in the new" by striking the huge Bonsho bell, a gift to San Diego by Sister City Yokohama, Japan. The bell is rung 108 times to symbolize purging of the previous year's misdeeds and a new start with the coming year.

The coincidental view of the fireworks across the bay will highlight the first hour of the New Year. Free and the public welcome. Dress warmly, drive safely!

For more information, call 619/239-0897 or e-mail [info@btsd.net](mailto:info@btsd.net).