

BUSSEI SCRIPT

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HOW TERRIBLE THE THREE POISONS ARE!

By Rev. Yushi Mukojima, Resident Minister

Last month, my daughter had bronchitis. My family and I were staying at a hotel in Los Angeles the day before the BCA Federation of Dharma School Teachers League Conference, when my daughter's health changed suddenly that night. She developed a terrible, wracking cough. Because lying down made her uncomfortable, she wouldn't stop crying unless she was held. We took turns holding her to see if she might feel better, but after a few hours, she did not improve but rather went from bad to worse.

Though it was already past two in the morning, we decided Mika and Kurumi would return to San Diego. I was really worried about Mika because she hadn't slept at all since the morning. But because this was the best way to ensure our daughter would be able to see the doctor early the next morning, I asked my wife to return home.

It took Mika two and a half hours to drive back to San Diego. She got no sleep at all that night. She took our daughter to the hospital at 9:00 a.m. where Kurumi was diagnosed with bronchitis and sent home with some medication. After two days of suffering through a bad cough and recurring fever of 104 degrees, Kurumi got much better because my wife really took good care of her.

When I returned from the conference a few days later, Mika looked as if she had aged ten years with all the anxiety and lack of sleep. After that, although I took over looking after our daughter, I really sensed my wife's love and worry, to be able to hold our toddler—20 months old and 28 lbs.—through two nights even at the risk of her own health. Through this experience, I was struck again by the magnitude of having a child and the gravity of our responsibility as parents. I would like to take this opportunity to thank my wife who cared for our daughter so devotedly.

As you can imagine, if we are childless but wish to have a child, we stress over this. But if we do have children, it means the heavy responsibility as parents brings even more to worry about. There is a famous phrase about this in the Infinite Life Sutra which I would like to share with you:

"If they have land, they worry about the land. If they have a house, they worry about the house. In the same way, they worry about...their domesticated animals, their men servants and maids, their money and wealth, clothes and food and furnishings. Accumulating worries and compounding sighs, they live in constant anxiety and fear."

It is a teaching that, whether or not they are possessed of fortune, all people suffer the same anxieties. Before marriage, I always felt lonely and suffered from solitude. And although I married a beautiful person, sometimes when we argue, I feel that she is a nuisance and miss my bachelor life. When we are single, we feel the pain of being alone. But once we marry, we face new problems never before experienced and we suffer from them as well. The teaching is not that we should carefully choose a way to live better, but that anxieties and suffering are ever present despite the way we live.

Although the environment surrounding us has changed greatly in comparison to eras past, human nature has not changed at all and

we continue worrying and suffering. Then why do we worry and suffer? It is because we all suffer from a serious illness of the mind.

There is a saying in the Notes on Once-Calling and Many-Calling written by Shinran Shonin: "We foolish beings are full of ignorance and blind passions. Our desires are countless, and anger, wrath, jealousy, and envy are constantly overwhelming. To the very last moment of life they do not cease, disappear, or exhaust themselves."

Blind passions are the workings of the mind which confuse people and make them worry and suffer. They are the cause of human suffering. Although there are various blind passions, the particularly terrible ones are called "Three Poisons": greed, anger, and ignorance. These blind passions always appear suddenly to disturb us, and make us lose stability, and make us suffer.

Of course, animals also are greedy, but it is because of their instinct to survive. When they feel hunger, animals eat other animals; but once full, they are satisfied. Humans will take beyond what is needed to sustain life. We display food in grocery stores where often it will go bad and be wasted. Our appetite has no limit. We always want to eat something more delicious than before, or wear a piece of clothing even more beautiful than the last. We always feel deprived of something and we never feel that we have enough. This type of greed and way of living is called the way of the hungry ghost.

And when we are cursed at or treated badly, we always get angry. Even on the road, if something disturbs our driving rhythm—being tailgated by an impatient driver, or when the car ahead is going too slowly, or when someone in the next lane suddenly swerves in front of us—we instantly lose our temper. I think that we probably get really mad about something or at somebody at least once a day. When we feel anger, it creates in us a hell of suffering. This is called the way of Ashura, which are fearsome spirits fond of fighting.

Ignorance means foolish knowledge. When we are ruled by blind passion, we cannot see or judge things correctly, so we tend to interpret reality in ways that are advantageous to us. Therefore, the rain that comes when we need it becomes a welcome rain; but the rain that comes unexpectedly is a hateful rain. The way of living in which a person can't tell what's what is called the way of the beast.

However we may live our lives, we always complain, get angry, suffer, and worry. It is because we are wandering ceaselessly through about the six realms of Samsara, pulled by the blind passions of the Three Poisons.

However, by encountering the teachings Amida Buddha, our true selves are brought out. We realize the foolishness of our selfish lives and we can reflect deeply upon our foolishness. And through the light of wisdom, our mind of greed, anger, and ignorance changes into the mind of knowing enough, rejoicing, and seeing things as they are. Then we will be able to accept all causes and conditions with the deepest feeling of gratitude. I believe that by leading with the workings of Amida Buddha, the mind of gratitude for everything softens our blind passions and brings us the mind of great peace, which allows us to transcend the life of suffering. The mind of gratitude for everything is the Nembutsu, "Namo Amida Butsu."

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The Nembutsu is the teaching that leads us to the life that accepts all things with a feeling of gratitude; that says that it is not natural to take everything for granted; that says it is a shame to see the world only through our selfishness; and that says we must reflect deeply upon ourselves.

I sincerely hope that with the Nembutsu each of us will try to transcend the realm of Samsara, and walk the path together toward the world of gratitude where we can accept everything and all events, even if they cause our worries and suffering.

In Gassho,

PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

By Michael Kinoshita

As we head into June, we are getting close to summer. We still offer many activities at the Temple for everyone to enjoy and participate. I would encourage each of you to look at the activities provided at the Temple and make the time to participate.

We have spiritual activities such as Study Classes held on Thursday evenings taught by our Resident and Retired Ministers and the Southern District Conference on June 12 at Senshin Buddhist Temple in Los Angeles.

We also have non-religious events coming up like the Dharma School Movie Night on May 29, our June 6 Japanese Cultural Bazaar, and our Temple picnic on Father's Day, June 20.

Please check these out and join us on one or many of these activities offered by the Temple. I feel once you have attended one of our events, you will appreciate the knowledge gained by the classes, lectures and cultural events and/or the satisfaction of volunteering to help at any of these events.

At our Hanamatsuri and Gotan-E Services, we recognized our new Temple members who had joined recently. It was great to see our membership growing. Please welcome our new members when you see them. This year, I would like to have our Membership Committee develop guidelines to enhance/increase membership. As a part of this, I would appreciate any insights or thoughts that you may have as it relates to membership. Please leave me a note or speak to me.

Again, if you have any questions or comments, please see me.

Gassho,

BOARD HIGHLIGHTS

On May 13, 2010, the Board of Directors met and the following items were discussed:

1. Three new members will be recognized at the Gotane Service.
2. There were no applicants for this year's Hatsumairi.
3. BWA will prepare Chiraishi for otoki for the Gotane service.
4. The President/W&M/Treasurers Committee will develop details on acknowledging donations from non-members as well as significant donations from members.
5. MAP candidates provided an update on the program serving the minister and the temple.
6. Buddhist Education Committee will host Rev. Yukawa's "Buddhism 101" lecture on May 15.
7. BEC and the minister's ongoing work with high school and college students was discussed.
8. The Improvements Committee will look at replacing the Sangha Hall water heater.
9. Eight members will attend the Southern District Conference on June 12.
10. Ken Muraoka and Richard Matsumoto will coordinate BTSD's involvement with the Japan Community Day, June 26. Michael Kinoshita is providing the event layout and Junko Kajita is coordinating a Bon Odori demonstration.

ABA NEWS

May started out very quiet for us ABA members. Some of us enjoyed a nice Mother's Day breakfast on the 9th put on by the Jr. YBA. We thank them!

We attended the Gotan-e Service on the 16th.

On the 6th of June will be the Temple's Bazaar, and most of us will be helping in one way or another.

ABA will be having our breakfast meeting at Jimmy's on June 5th at 9:00 am, and then we will go to the Temple to help with the Bazaar. If you can attend let Motoo know.

BWA REPORT

BWA MEETING HELD MAY 2

Chairperson Fumiko Ohara thanked everyone for attending the meeting. She also thanked members for their support of the Hanamatsuri bake sale with a special thank you to Kikue Graeber.

Treasurer Betty Torio was unable to attend the meeting due to an unfortunate accident. We hope that she will recover soon.

Sensei's report: (1) April 29, Sensei visited George Tsubakihara, Mary Yagura, Shizue Yamamoto; (2) Fujimatsuri guest speaker will be Rev. Yukawa; (3) May 29, Sensei and Fumiko Ohara will go to Imperial Valley for the Memorial Day services; (4) May 30, no service at the Temple. May 31, Tri-church service will be held at Mt. Hope Cemetery starting at 9:30 a.m. hosted by the San Diego Christian Church (Holiness Church).

BWA Activities:

1. May 16 (Sun), Gotane Service. We will prepare 175 boxes of chirashi for Otoki for attendees to the service.
2. June 6, Annual Bazaar. Keiko Negoro will be coordinating helpers and volunteers for the sushi preparation. Cooking schedule:
 - June 5 (Sat) Kumicho 9:00 a.m.; all others 12 noon
 - June 6 (Sun) Rice cooker 5:00 a.m.; all others = 6:00 a.m.
3. June 13 (Sun) 12:30 p.m. A welcome luncheon for new members will be held in the Sangha Hall. We will have a short service prior to the luncheon. Fumiko Ohara will order the food, Naomi Himaka will have the Hall set up for the luncheon. We will order a cake from LuAnn. New members are: Junko Kajita, Gale Kanashiro, Kikue Graeber and Quimiko Hagio. They will be presented with an Ojuzu and Montoshikisho selected by Rose Watamura and Fumiko Ohara.
4. July 10 (Sat), 12 noon. We will have a bridal shower for Temple secretary Mai Kawaguchi. She will be getting married on Aug. 8. The shower will be a potluck affair starting at 12:00 noon to be held in the Annex Hall. Junko Kajita will chair the event. Naomi Himaka will get the names of the stores where Mai has been registered. We will order a cake from LuAnn.
5. July 18 (Sun), Temple cleanup and omigaki. Omigaki from 9:00 a.m.
6. July 25 (Sun), Obon Service. Guest speakers: Rev. Kodani (English), Rev. Kakiyama (Japanese).
7. July 31 (Sat), Obon festival. Thank you Group "C" for the delicious refreshments. Next meeting is July 11 at 12:00 noon. Group "A" will be responsible for the refreshments.

DHARMA SCHOOL NEWS

On April 24-25, the Federation Dharma School Teachers League Conference was held in Los Angeles. Rev. Mukojima, along with seven Dharma School teachers and staff, attended and led the evening craft workshops. Thank you to Nancy Martinez for coming up with the Den Den Daiko and Jacob's Ladder (Buddha's middle path) craft projects and coordinating the entire project! Many thanks also to Daniel Martinez for cutting hundreds of kamaboko boards for us, Ken Muraoka for purchasing and cutting the cardboard rolls, and the crew who came out and helped with the craft prep before the conference: Karen and Roy Okuhara, Nancy Martinez, Sharon Sa-

saki, Lorin and Brian Sasaki, and Ann Ong. The participants enjoyed the crafts and had fun playing with their new toys!

For her 10 years of service as a Dharma School teacher, Ann Ong was presented a certificate from the BCA. Rev. Mukojima presented the award on May 2. During classes on May 9, Laura Henschen led a Mother's Day craft for the preschool-4th grade classes. The children made flower pens and cards for their moms. Thanks Laura!

At the Gotan-E Service on May 16, members from the Arizona Buddhist Temple and Dharma School joined us. Dharma School students from Arizona and San Diego participated in a craft led by Sue Moribe. Thank you Sue, and also thank you to Arlene Shimizu for providing the movie. Dharma School provided lunch for everyone after the service.

Rev. Mukojima visited the 5th-8th grade class on May 23.

A dinner and movie night was held on May 29 from 5 to 8:30 p.m. in the Annex Hall. This event was held in place of our annual camping trip which has been moved to Labor Day weekend, September 3-5 at William Heise Park in Julian.

We are looking for one to a few volunteers to chair the weekend campout. Please contact any Dharma School staff member if you are interested, or would like to sign up! Thank you to Lorin Sasaki for making the reservation.

For the Temple Bazaar on June 6, Dharma School students will help at various booths, and also be good customers at the game and craft booths!

The STAR/PAL Fishing at Chollas Lake Park has been moved to Saturday, June 12. Please contact egarette@pd.sandiego.gov or 619-531-2668 if your child is interested in participating.

Classes will resume on Sunday, June 13, one week after the bazaar.

Dharma School will host the annual temple picnic and honor the dads on Father's Day, June 20. The event will be held at Rohr Park in Chula Vista starting at 10 a.m. We will have a barbecue, so please bring your Dad and grandfather (and the rest of the family) and your favorite side dish, salad, or dessert! There will be Dharma School participant and attendance awards, as well as special presentations to our two high school graduates and six college graduates. Congratulations to Charles Baker, Will Coppock, Doug Hiding, Elyssa Kinoshita, Isaac Martinez, Derek Shimizu, Christina Samons, and Lani Fuchigami. We're very proud of you!

There will be regular Obon practices on July 7, 11, 14, 18, 21, and 28. We will be having kids' odori practices on July 5, 12, 19, and 26. The Obon Service is on July 25, and the Obon Odori is July 31.

In Gassho,
Ann Ong, Assistant Superintendent

ZENBU

"Hachiko: A Dog's Story," our first Munch & Movie of 2010, was a very popular event, thanks to the efforts of coordinator Yasuko Kinoshita. The free movie, cheap eats (Alex's beef stew) and bake sale netted \$1,000 for the General Fund.

We heartily thank Yasuko's volunteers that day: LuAnn & Harold Lee, Tomi Huddleston, Aiko Yoshida, Toshiko Ogata, Akiko Matsumoto, Miki Honda, Nancy Martinez, Gale Kaneshiro, Junko Kajita, Quimico Hagio, Arlene Shimizu, Karen Okuhara, Kikue Graeber, Patty & Jake Nakamura, Jeanie Kashima, Joyce Teague and Michael Kinoshita.

Monetary donations were made by the following individuals: Ana Carvalho, Nolan & Karen Nelson, Motoo Tsuneyoshi, Keiko Kirby, Mildred Kawasaki, Ruth Voorhies and Yasuko & Michael Kinoshita.

2010 OBON ODORI PRACTICES

Please invite a friend and join us for our Bon Odori practices to be held in our Annex Hall. Being familiar with the simple dance

steps adds to our enjoyment and appreciation of the meaning of the Bon Odori. The practice sessions are free and open to the public.

We will be practicing on Wednesday evenings from 7:00-9:00 p.m. and on Sundays after the service at 11:45-1:45 p.m. Our special practices for kids will be on Mondays from 6:30-7:30 p.m. Remember to bring your kachi kachi (clackers) and tenugui (towel), and be ready to join in the fun!

- Wednesdays (7-9 p.m.):
June 30, July 7, 14, 21, and 28
- Sundays (11:45 a.m.-1:45 pm):
July 11, July 18
- Kids' dance practice: Mondays (6:30-7:30 p.m.):
June 28, July 5, 12, 19, and 26

COME OUT FOR BAZAAR JUNE 6!

We invite all of you to the temple's annual Japanese Cultural Bazaar. It will be held Sunday, June 6 from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. (There will be no service that day.)

This year we've chosen a theme which is Kimono. The featured displays will be kimonos and ikebana. Entertainment will include artist Billy Martinez, California Roll sushi demo, Introduction to Buddhism, Karate, Kimono demonstration, Koto Music, Suzuki Strings and a Taiko performance and workshop.

Please come and enjoy the delicious food while browsing the Crafts & Treasures booth, checking out the goodies in the Bakery, or putting in a bid at the Silent Auction. Don't forget to buy your chances for the bountiful 4 p.m. Raffle.

We will offer our traditional and popular food specialties including Pork Chow Mein (with pan-fried noodles), Chicken Teriyaki, Strawberry Mochi, Sushi, Angie's Tacos (beef), Mako's Tacos (veg.) and a refreshing Tofu Salad.

Kids and grandkids will enjoy the games, crafts and the Snack Shack.

We are asking for your help in requesting donations for our Raffle and Silent Auction. Please solicit donations from a business that you frequent or invite personal donations such as gift cards, zoo tickets, unused sporting event tickets, and so on. Please label who they are from and drop them off at the temple office or call LuAnn Lee at (619) 993-6497 if a pick-up is required. All donations will be acknowledged in the July newsletter.

So please tell your family and friends to come out for this fun event. See you there!
~Bazaar Committee

DADS & GRADS? THINK SCRIP!

Wondering what to get the father who already has too many ties, or the graduating senior who would probably prefer to pick out her own gift? The Temple's scrip program offers gift cards for so many great merchants and services.

Call Ruth at (858) 452-0990 and make a scrip order today. Order by Monday and receive your order by Friday. Solve all your June gifting problems and help BTSD at the same time!

ENDOWMENT COMMITTEE

In an effort to re-energize the Temple's endowment, four members met on May 21 to discuss strategies for continuing financial growth and ensuring the perpetuity of the Temple that serves both its members and Buddhist community as a religious organization.

Dennis Otsuji is serving as chairman. Other members currently on the committee include Holly Hiding, Ralph Honda and Akie Tomiyama.

The Endowment Committee will report regularly to the Temple's Ways & Means Committee and to the Board of Directors, as directed by President Michael Kinoshita.

JUNE 26 IS JAPANESE COMMUNITY DAY

BTSD will participate in the Japanese Community Day on Saturday, June 26, from 12 noon to 6 p.m. in downtown San Diego. The festival is being held to commemorate the USA-Japan Treaty of Mutual Cooperation and Security 50th Anniversary and will take place at the B-Street Pier (between Broadway and A Street) at the Port of San Diego on Harbor Blvd. The festival is free and open to the public.

In celebration of the treaty signed in 1960, the U.S. Navy, the Japanese Maritime Self-Defense Force (JMSDF) and the Japanese Consulate General have joined to present the community festival in San Diego.

Thousands of visitors are expected on the pier at this first-ever event. This should be a great event for families looking for a fun activity that weekend. Besides tours of the docked JMSDF ship and performances by U.S. and Japanese military bands, cultural entertainment and food sales by many local Nikkei organizations and merchants are expected to be offered.

As of this date, BTSD is scheduled to be represented by dancers demonstrating the Bon Odori, an information booth, snow cone (or soft drink) sales, and a big sale of assorted Japanese goods by the Obon Again Resale Shop.

Joyce Teague is asking for any Sangha members with interest in helping with the Obon Again Shop—either to sort items the week before the festival or to help with sales at the event—to call or e-mail (619) 527-7855 or e-mail zenbu@cox.net with their available hours. Because of the open layout of the sales area, we anticipate needing at least six helpers per three-hour shift that day. Proceeds of the Shop's sales at this event only will benefit the Temple.

For other questions regarding the temple's participation, please call (619) 239-0896. Find more info on the treaty or the festival at www.navycompass.com/usatreaty/.

TEMPLE SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS

The BTSD Scholarship Committee invites all graduating high school seniors and full-time college undergraduates to apply for a 2010 temple scholarship. To qualify for the award, the student or his parent(s) or guardian must be a current BTSD member.

Applications should be requested by e-mail from info@btسد.net or from committee co-chair Bill Teague at btpub@cox.net. The completed application can be submitted electronically (preferred) to either of the above addresses, or a hard copy mailed to BTSD, Attn: Scholarship Committee, 2929 Market St., San Diego, CA 92102.

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION IS JULY 1. If we don't confirm receipt of your application within 48 hours, please call (619) 239-0896 or (619) 527-7855 to confirm receipt. Late applications will not be accepted.

Awards will be announced and presented at the Obon Service on Sunday, July 25.

TEMPLE PICNIC IS ON FATHER'S DAY

The annual temple picnic will be held on Father's Day, June 20. It will be at Rohr Park in Chula Vista from 10 a.m.–2 p.m. Everyone is welcome—please come out and enjoy the day!

Hot dogs and burgers will be the main fare. We'll also provide the drinks. Please bring a favorite side dish, salad, or dessert to share. We'll have some group games and activities. Dharma School will present its attendance and participation awards. Our high school and college graduates will also be honored.

REV. SHIN'S CARE PACKAGES

Thanks you to everyone who contributed to the latest mailing to Rev. Jeanette Shin in Afghanistan. We sent three boxes of "care" items for her and her fellow soldiers on May 24. The collection box will be put out again at the beginning of June and another shipment of goodies will go out to Rev. Shin at the end of the month.

Thanks again to Maribeth "Smitty" Smith for packing and mailing the care packages on behalf of the Sangha.

LABCC CAMP

Registration is being accepted for the Los Angeles Buddhist Coordinating Council (LABCC) Summer Camp program. The camp will be held August 8-14 at Camp Morningstar group camp near Barton Flats in the Angelus National Forest.

The camp, for youth ages 8-13, draws up to 150 children representing many of the Buddhist Temples in Southern California. Registration fee is \$250 per camper.

Children participate in numerous activities over the seven-day camp, including archery, canoeing, hiking, swimming, nenju (ojuzu) making, sleeping under the stars, and drinking delicious hot chocolate. The campers sleep in cabins. Ministers from the various temples give Dharma messages each day.

Counselors are Jr. YBA and YBA-age volunteers. All counselors are well-trained to serve many capacities at camp. All meals are prepared by a great staff made up of volunteers from participating temples.

This will be the third year for Dharma School students Breven Honda, Trevor Muraoka, Davis Ong and Sean Tokunaga to attend the camp. They encourage their Dharma School pals to join them for a great experience.

Registration forms are available in the temple office. Registration deadline is June 30.

For more information regarding camp, please contact either Avis or Ralph Honda or the parents of the children mentioned who have participated.

Please register your child today!

YOUR MEMBERSHIP PLEDGES

Since early last year, monthly membership payments have not been listed in the *Bussei Script* as the temple began transitioning to a new accounting program. Now that the new system is being utilized, acknowledgments for pledge commitments will once again be listed in the newsletter. Thank you for your understanding and patience as we continue to improve our member services.

Monthly membership payment receipts were replaced by a donations statement mailed to each member at the end of the year. If you need a separate receipt at the time of payment, please make that request on your Membership Pledge form or call the temple secretary and leave a message for the Membership Chair who can mail you the receipt.

The following individuals have made recent pledge payments for 2010:

Miki Tsuneyoshi,
Kisae Ohara,
George Tsubakihara,
Steven Marx,
Akiko Matsumoto,
Yuriko Terusaki
Tad Muraoka.

Thank you for your support of the Temple.

二〇一〇年 六月 会報
サンディエゴ仏教会

信心正因

さんどく おそ
三毒して恐ろしい

住職 向嶋 諦史

先月、娘が気管支炎を患いました。四月末に開催された北米仏教団のタルムスクール連盟大会に出席する為、大会前日から妻と娘を連れてロサンゼルスのホテルに宿泊していたのですが、その日の夜、娘の体調が突如急変しました。肺を痛めるのじやないかというほどの酷い咳が襲われ、よほど苦しいのか横になるのを嫌がって抱っこをしない泣き止みませんでした。数時間ほど娘を抱きながら様子を見ていたのですが、容態は一向に良くなりません、益々酷くなる一方でしたので、妻と相談し合った結果、妻が娘を連れてサンディエゴに帰る事になりました。その時既に深夜の二時を過ぎていたと、妻が朝から一睡もしていないから、二時から彼女の身を心配したのですが、朝一番で掛かり付けの病院に娘を連れて行くにはこれが最善の策と考へ妻にお願ひしました。

その後、二時間半かけてサンディエゴに戻った妻は、一睡もする事なく明朝九時に来実を病院に連れて行ってくれました。そこで、お医者さんから気管支炎を患っている

と診断され、薬をもらって帰ったのですが、それから二日間、度々の高熱と激しい咳、苦しむ娘を妻は二十四時間付き切りで看病しました。そのお陰で、娘の体調は徐々に回復していったのですが、私が二日後に帰宅した時には、心労と寝不足で疲れ果てた妻の顔は十歳位老けたようによつていました。その後、妻に代わって娘の面倒を見ましたが、生後二十カ月といえど、二十八パウンドもあるふくよか娘を夜通し抱いていた妻の姿を思い浮かべると、我が身を犠牲にしても娘を養育する母親の深い愛情がひしひしと伝わってまいりました。

この一件を通して、改めて子を持つことの大きさと、親としての責任の重大さを思い知らされました。この場をお借りして、妻の娘に対する献身的な看病に感謝を述べさせて頂きます。

さて、今更言うまでもありませんが、私達人間は、子供がいない時は、子供がいないことで悩み、その反対に、子供を持つ時は、子を持つが故に生じる数多くの問題に直面し悩み、そして苦しみます。

この事について「仏説無量壽経」に有名な文がありますので紹介したいと思います。

「田畑や家が無ければ、それらを求めて苦しみ、有れば、管理も維持のためにまた苦しみ。その他のものにしても、みな同じである。地位、名譽、財産、家族、これらがなければないことを苦しみ、有れば有ることで苦しむ」

これは「有無同然」という教えなのですが、あればあったでなければなかつたで、いずれも同じように悩みは生じるんだという事です。結婚する前は孤独で

寂しいと嘆いていた私でしたが、これほど美しい妻と結婚したにも拘らず、喧嘩をすれば妻を邪魔に思つてともありますし、独身生活を懐かしく思つてこそあります。独身の時は独身であることに悩み、結婚すれば、独身の時にはなかつた新しい問題に直面し、悩み苦しむのです。これは、どちらの悩みを持つた方がまだ恵まれているという問題ではなく、いづれの道を生きても人間の悩みや苦しみが尽きることがないという事です。

私達を取りまく環境は昔に比べて大きく様変わりしましたが、人間の心は昔から何ら変わる事なく苦しみを積み上げていきます。では、なぜ苦しみ、悩むのでしようか。それは、私達人間は心に病氣を持しているからだとはいわれています。

親鸞聖人が著された「一念多念文意」というお書物の中に、「凡夫といふは、無明煩惱われらがみちみちて、欲もおおく、いかりはたらき、それみ、わたむこころにおおく、ひまなくして臨終の一念にたのみておしまはず、きえず、たえず……」と記されています。

煩惱とは、人の心を騒わせたり、悩ませ苦しめたりする心のはたらきで、人間の苦しみを作り出す原因です。様々な煩惱がありますが、特に大きな煩惱を「三毒」と呼んで、貪欲と怒りと愚痴が挙げられます。この煩惱が人々の心の中に生じ、心を乱し、安全を失わせ、苦しませていくのです。

勿論、動物にも欲はありますが、それは本能欲としてお腹が減れば、他の生命を喰らいますが、お腹を満たさなければ満足します。それに比べて人間は、必要以上の生命を奪っては、スーパーに並んで腐らしてもありません。少しでもおいしいものを食べた、少しでも美しい

ものを着たいなら、その欲望には限りがありません。心は常に飢えて足ることを知りません。これを食欲といひ、そのよつな生き方を餓鬼道と呼びます。

また、気に入らないことを言われたり、されたりすると、無性に腹が立ちます。車を運転していても、後ろから速い車が煽ってきたり、前の車がひどく遅かったり、横の車がいきなり前に割り込んできたり、自分の運転ペースを乱されるというカッとなつてしまいがちです。少なくとも一日一回は何かに腹を立ててゐると思ひますが、腹を立て、怒り狂つて、心の中に地獄のよつな苦の世界を作り出すよつな生き方を修羅道と呼びます。

愚痴とは、愚かなる知識という意味です。人間の心は病んでいきますから、明らかに物事を見たり、判断することができません。いつも自分の都合で物事を見たり考えたりします。ですから、自分にして都合の良い時の雨は、恵みの雨で、都合の悪い時に降つた雨は、憎い雨となります。このよつな道理をわきまなきな生き方を畜生道と呼びます。

このよつな転んでも又句を言つて、怒り、苦しみ、悩んでゐるのは、これら三毒の煩惱下として、毎日飽きもてなく六道輪廻の世界をさまよつてゐるからなのです。

しかし、阿彌陀仏のみ教えに出遇わせて頂くことで、そんな煩惱に覆われた我が身の姿が浮き彫りになり、自己中心であった自分の愚かさが気付かされ、その愚かさに反省をせよとされます。そして、智慧の光に導かれて、食ひ、怒り、愚痴の心が、足る心、慶びの心、物事を止めて見る心に変わり、全体的に縁を感謝一杯の心で頂けるよつたになります。阿彌陀仏のほたけの中を導かれて、一切感謝の心が煩惱を和らげ、大きな安らぎとなつて、人生の苦惱を越えさせて頂くのです。この一切感謝の心こそ、

が「南無阿彌陀仏」のお念仏です。

お念仏の教えは、これまで当たり前と思つていたものが当たり前でないと気づき、物事を自分中心に見てたことを恥すかしく思い、深い反省の中から、全体的に縁を有難く受け入れることのできる人生へと導いて下さいます。

お念仏を称えながら、六道輪廻の世界を離れ、いすれの悩みも苦しみも有難く受け入れられる一切感謝の世界へと皆さんと共に歩んでまいりたいと思ひます。

合掌

木下理事長からのメッセージ

早いもので六月を迎え、夏が近づき迫つてまいりました。これから夏休み明けの行事が予定されておりますので、皆様へお知らせいたします。

数学面では、毎週開かれる向島先生と柳原先生の勉強会を始め、六月十二日(土)に洗心公教会で開催される南無阿彌陀仏信託大会などがございます。

五月十九日(土)の夜開かれる日蓮学校主催の映画鑑賞会、六月六日(日)の日本文化祭り、六月二十日(日)のクワガタ展などがございます。

これらの行事に参加するメンバーは、日替りで開催される縁を感謝し、勉強を受けたいというお気持ちです。また、仏教のホリメンを通して、豊かな充実感と達成感を感じて頂くことが趣意でございます。ぜひ、ご家族、友人をお誘い合わせの上、ぜひご参加ください。お待ちしております。

理事会レポート

五月十三日(木曜日)、仏教会に於いて理事会が開催され、次のことが協議されました。

- 一、 監事会法議案の際に新監事三名を紹介いたします。
- 二、 今年初の参拝申し込みはほぼ完了いたしました。
- 三、 降誕会終了後、婦人会は毎年恒例のちらし寿司をのちのちの参拝者へお贈りいたします。
- 四、 当仏教会監事会の特設寄付口座について非会員からの一般寄付金に対しては礼状を送るようが承認されました。その為、理事会始め、W&M委員会にて会計監事会が、非会員に対しては礼状内容の詳細な説明をいたします。
- 五、 開教使アミンノ下候補者より駐在開教使と公教会を主宰する職新アロクノ分教使が選ばれました。
- 六、 数学部は、五月十五日(土)に開かれる瀧川先生の勉強会に10名を主催いたします。
- 七、 数学部と駐在開教使が現在進行中である公教会に来る高校生と大学生を対象とした公教会勉強会「アミーゴ」の報告がなされました。
- 八、 向上委員会がサンガホールの浄土が、築の交換を検討しております。
- 九、 六月十一日(土)に洗心公教会で開催される開教使と南無阿彌陀仏信託大会に当仏教会より八名の方が参加される予定です。
- 十、 六月二十八日(日)、日安寺本陣築約五〇周年記念行事として「日茶」/「日舞」/「日歌」/「日舞」の4つの種別で開催いたします。当日は於ては公教

