

# Tsukiji Hongwanji Buddhist Temple



## ◆ Activities

### *Hanamatsuri* - Birth of Sakyamuni Buddha April 8 (Celebrated on April 9, 2023)

This year, Hanamatsuri or “flower festival” (April 8) commemorating the birth of Siddhartha Gautama (Sakyamuni Buddha) was held on April 9 at Tsukiji Hongwanji.

In the main temple hall, the Kanbutsu-e service recognizing Sakyamuni Buddha’s birth included sutra chanting and priests playing gagaku court music. Those in attendance also poured sweet tea over the statue of Baby Buddha, as it is said that nectar rained down from the sky at the time of Buddha’s birth. Flower offerings also beautifully decorated the hall as the Headmaster of the Mishoryu-Sasaoka school of flower arrangement conducted a flower offering ceremony and exhibition.



Another highlight of the Hanamatsuri festivities was the annual parade with a marching band and procession of priests and chigo, or young children dressed in traditional formal attire.

On the temple grounds were also game booths for children, food and drink stalls, a taiko drum performance, and soap bubble performance on stage. The Embassies of India and Sri Lanka also took part in the day’s event with special booths for international exchange and performances of classical dance and music.

◆ Next

**Gotan-e – Birth of Founder, Shinran Shonin May 21 (Celebrated on May 28, 2023)**

Shinran Shonin, who is the founder of Jodo Shinshu Buddhism is said to have been born on May 21, 1173. Gotan-e is the service conducted in observance of Shinran’s birthday. On Sunday, May 28, Gotan-e and the offering of tea by Headmaster of the Yabunouchi school of tea ceremony and performance of gagaku court music will take place in the main temple hall.



◆ Pipe Organ Concert (Free Admission)



A pipe organ concert is held on the last Friday of every month from 12:00 PM in the main temple hall. The concert includes performances of classical and Buddhist arrangements and a Dharma message is also presented. Live streaming of the concert is also available on our official YouTube channel. The next concert will be held on June 30.

◆ English Dharma Service (Free Admission)

English Dharma gatherings are conducted in the Kodo Hall on the last Saturday of each month. It is open to the public and anyone is welcome to attend. The service program includes sutra chanting, singing of Buddhist gatha, and Dharma talk. Fellowship and light refreshments are offered following the service. Schedule is listed below.  
We also have a YouTube Channel. Please come and watch!



◆ Service Schedule for May – July 2023

Date	Speaker	Topic
<b>2023</b>		
20 May	<b>Rev. Dr. Kenneth TANAKA</b> Prof. Emeritus, Musashino University, Tokyo	"Letting Go of Our Clinging: A Metaphor of a Person Clinging to the Edge of a Cliff"
24 Jun	<b>Rev. NANJO Osamu</b> Resident Minister, Kyogakuji Temple, Shizuoka	A message from Sakyamuni Buddha
29 Jul	<b>Rev. MURAIISHI Esho</b> Resident Minister, Korinji Temple, Kanagawa	Have access to the Realm beyond Ignorance, Greed and Anger; Live towards Light of Awakening

◆ Information

**Visiting hours : Main Hall - 6:00am to 4:00pm (the doors will close following the evening service)**

**Official Website** <https://tsukijihongwanji.jp/>  
**English Website** <https://tsukijihongwanji.jp/global/guide>  
**English YouTube Channel** <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCVBY1rzHwzjnpCR-0IGdYnA>

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