



Dharma Lei



Bishop's Office Newsletter

Soto Zen Buddhism Hawaii Office

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Bishop's Message:

Aloha from the Bishop's Office,

I would like to extend my fondest holiday greetings to everyone as we close the year 2021 and welcome the new year, 2022. "Time" is an interesting thing... For some, 2021 went by so slowly, as the extended the restrictions continued to limit the things people could do, like travel and interact with others face-to-face. For others, the day-to-day activities in life kept them busy, and 2021 went by quickly. Whatever your perception of "time" may be, one thing is for sure—time continues to move on.

Therefore, no matter what our situation in life may be, it is imperative that we do our best to make the most of each moment in life. Do everything—big or small, exciting or mundane, for the first time or the thousandth time—with full effort both physically, mentally, and spiritually. These little moments in life that we string together make up our various experiences of each day. These experiences strung together make up the various chapters of our life. We should all reflect upon the words written in *The Golden Chain of Love*: "knowing that what I do now affects my life and the lives of others."

2022 is the Year of the Tiger. The tiger, or "tora" in Japanese, is the third symbol in the Japanese Zodiac. People born in the Year of the Tiger are proud, courageous, and generous. Since they are confident and decisive, they have the potential to be great leaders. However, they do not like to follow orders, so Tiger people must be careful to avoid interpersonal friction.

Tigers are compatible with horses and dogs and can benefit from relationships with boars. Beware of the monkey, as they are the least compatible with tigers. It is said that those born in the Year of the Tiger are not good at making plans, and sometimes fail because of overconfidence. However, they offer great sympathy for those they love.

So, in the spirit of the Tiger in 2022, let's all do our best to act decisively in doing our best to beat the COVID-19 pandemic together. Please continue to take care of yourself and your loved ones. I wish all of you a very Happy New Year!

In Gassho,

Bishop Shugen Komagata



12 classes via ZOOM

Saturdays from 8:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m.

First class: Saturday, January 8, 2022 (No class on February 19 & March 12)

Receiving the precepts & one's Buddhist name and formally becoming a disciple of the Buddha is an important event in the life of a Soto Zen Buddhist. One will go through a process of study and reflection together with Rev. Jikō and a group of Sangha friends. The sharing of one's life is done in an atmosphere that is gentle, accepting, and compassionate. Many have found their lives illuminated and enriched by this inner journey.

In January, Rev. Jikō will be starting a new series of precepts study sessions using ZOOM. This 3-month course is comprised of 12 weekly one-hour sessions. It is an opportunity to learn about the 16 Bodhisattva precepts, which form the moral and ethical foundation of the Soto Zen tradition.

Once it is safe to travel and gather, Bishop Shugen Komagata will be going from temple to temple to offer Soto Zen Buddhist Lay Confirmation ceremonies.

These sessions are open to all who are interested in studying the precepts and do not require participation in the precepts ceremony.

There is no class fee. Donations to Daifukuji Soto Mission are appreciated. For more information or to sign up, please contact Rev. Jikō at (808) 322-3524, rev.jiko@daifukuji.org.

The application deadline for the classes is on December 31, 2021.

Online Baika workshop

From October 24, we are having online Baika workshop once a month led by **Rev. Shinryu Okuma** via Zoom. He teaches us how to use the bell and how to sing the songs in English. It's easy to understand. You can join the workshop at your house or Taishoji with Rev. Hata. If you are interested in his workshop, please contact Rev. Hata (935-8407) It's good time to start BAIKA!

Following is the schedule.

Every month on the Fourth Sun, until Mar 27, 2022, 6 occurrence(s)

- 1, Sunday Oct 24, 2021 3:00pm
- 2, Sunday Nov 28, 2021 4:00pm
- 3, Sunday Dec 26, 2021 4:00pm
- 4, Sunday Jan 23, 2022 4:00pm
- 5, Sunday Feb 27, 2022 4:00pm
- 6, Sunday Mar 27, 2022 3:00pm



Rev. Shinryu Okuma

