# Konko Mission of Honolulu 2024 CHURCH SCHEDULE REMINDER



## **April**

Dear Konko Ohana,

As the gentle trade winds usher in the vibrant colors of spring, we are filled with a renewed sense of hope and excitement here at our church. We look forward to connecting with you, our beloved Konko ohana, and sharing in the blessings of this season together.

	APRIL	Spring Gra	and Service –Wahiawa 4/13(Sat.) 5:00 p.m., Waipahu 4/21(Sun.) 10:30 a.m.
6	Sat.	10:00a.m.	Mochi-Making & Preparation for the Spring Grand Service
7		11:00a.m.	Spring Grand Service for Tenchi Kane No Kami
14			Sunday Service
21			Sunday Service – Family Sunday
28	3		Monthly Service & Monthly Memorial Service Church Clean-up

### Spring Grand Service for Tenchi Kane No Kami, Our Divine Parent

The Spring Grand Service, emphasizing gratitude to the divine for nurturing all life and guiding humanity, will be held **on Sunday April 7, 2024.** It focuses on fostering the path of Kami and people living in an interdependent relationship, inspired by the Founder's transformation through divine interaction. This festival renews dedication to living in harmony with divine will, recognizing our current challenges stem from ignorance of this divine guidance. It's a call to embrace the teachings passed down through generations, integrating them into daily life to honor and share the Kami's blessings.

#### **March Sermon Summaries:**

March 3, 2024

In this heartfelt sermon, the speaker shared their fond memories of celebrating Hinamatsuri with his sister, highlighting the joy brought by hina dolls and the festive atmosphere created by their family and neighbors. This nostalgic recollection served as a gateway to a deeper message about recognizing and appreciating the blessings in our lives, a theme echoed in the teachings from the Voice of the Universe. It reminded us that, as fol-



lowers of faith, we should carry a heart as vast as the universe, embracing happiness and spreading positive vibes.

**The sermon** further explored this theme through two illustrative stories. The first recounted the Founder's challenge of balancing divine instructions with his wife's concerns, ultimately finding a way to honor both, showcasing the importance of cherishing and respecting all aspects of our lives. The second story, inspired by the teachings of the Fourth Konko-sama, used a family discussion to underline the value of understanding, listening, and respecting differences, emphasizing that these

practices enrich our lives and foster a positive environment.

**Concluding** on a profound note, the sermon reiterated the interconnectedness of our happiness with the happiness of others. It stressed that true contentment comes from a collective state of well-being, in alignment with Kami's vision of universal joy. The message underscored the significance of living with a broad, inclusive heart, capable of creating and sustaining a positive environment for oneself and others. Through these reflections, the sermon beautifully wove together personal anecdotes, foundational teachings, and universal truths, encouraging everyone to live joyfully and in harmony with the divine and each other.

https://youtube.com/live/OykXQGQFBHw

#### March 10, 2024

In our recent sermon, we were reminded of the simple yet profound joys and blessings that surround us every day, often unnoticed. A memorable potluck party we hosted not only brought us together over delicious food but also offered a heartwarming lesson on appreciating everyday miracles, like the rainbow that delighted our guests but went almost unnoticed by us who have grown accustomed to such sights.

#### Rediscovering the Wonder of Blessings

Living in Hawaii, where rainbows are a common sight, we sometimes forget to marvel at their beauty—a sentiment that resonates with how we sometimes take Kami-Sama's blessings for granted. Just as we've grown accustomed to the frequent rainbows in our skies, we might also find ourselves overlooking the daily blessings bestowed upon us by the divine.

#### A Personal Reflection

I shared a recent experience of food poisoning, a reminder of the incredible resilience of our bodies and the importance of mindfulness in everyday actions like eating. This personal ordeal highlighted the miraculous ability of our bodies to heal, a capability and blessing we often overlook.

#### **Lessons from the Founder's Disciple**

We also delved into a touching story from one of Konko Daijin's disciples, revealing the power of true faith and gratitude. This narrative illustrated how a shift in perspective, from focusing on deficiencies to embracing gratitude, can transform suffering into a profound appreciation for life's blessings.

#### Living in Gratitude

As followers of Konko faith, we're encouraged to live each day with a heart full of gratitude, recognizing and cherishing the divine blessings in the mundane. Whether it's a rainbow, the gift of health, or the air we breathe, every aspect of our existence is a testament to Kami-Sama's grace.

#### A Call to Mindfulness

Let us not forget the simple yet profound lesson of the rainbow at our potluck party. May we approach each day with renewed appreciation for the myriad blessings that enrich our lives. As we move forward, let's carry this awareness into our daily practices, ensuring we don't overlook the wonders that grace our everyday lives.

With this message, we invite you to join us in a journey of mindfulness and gratitude, celebrating the blessings that Kami-Sama generously bestows upon us. May we all find joy in the simplicity of life's miracles, just as we marvel at the beauty of a rainbow.



https://youtube.com/live/LzrW4G0X2c0