

Konko Mission of Honolulu

2024 CHURCH SCHEDULE REMINDER



March

Dear Konko Ohana,

As we step into the month of March, it brings with it a renewed sense of community and worship at our beloved Konko Mission of Honolulu. We are excited to share with you the upcoming church services and activities planned for this month.

MARCH SCHEDULE

3	Monthly Service – Shintokai Meeting
10	Sunday Service – Rotary Hanashikai via Zoom (10:30 a.m.)
17 10:00a.m.	Monthly Service & Spring Memorial Service
24	Sunday Service
31	Church Clean-up for Spring Grand Service

Spring Memorial Service

Join us for the Spring Memorial Service to honor our ancestors, families, and friends on **Sunday, March 17, 2023, at 10:00 a.m.** Following the service, refreshments will be served.

Remember: *"Place fertilizer at the roots of a tree, then its branches will grow lush. Respect your ancestors and parents, then you will prosper."* (Gorikai II Takahashi Tomie 33)

We look forward to seeing you there as we come together to pay our respects and reflect on the importance of our heritage and connections.

Welcome Potluck Party for Kirakira Hikaru Arts Japan

Date: **Saturday**, March 2, 2024

Time: **approximately 5:00 p.m.— 7:00 p.m.**

We are thrilled to share the news that the dance group Kirakira Hikaru Arts Japan will be visiting Hawaii from Tokyo! Led by Sensei Ishii, the founder of the group, Kirakira Hikaru Arts Japan has a special connection to Konkokyo. Sensei Ishii's dream of bringing her dance studio students to Hawaii for a performance was realized in 2012, thanks to a Toritsugi mediation with Rev. Masahiko Yoshino. Since then, they have a strong bond with Hawaii, having visited Honolulu five times.

This time, Kirakira Hikaru Arts Japan will be gracing Lanakila Elementary School and Aliamanu Elementary School on March 1, followed by performances at Hale Pulama Mau and the Ala Moana Shopping Center Stage on March 2. Let's extend a warm aloha and give them a heartfelt welcome as they share their talent and passion with us once again. In celebration of their visit, we invite you to join us for a potluck party filled with joy and friendship.



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February Sermon Summaries:

The sermon delivered in February 2024 emphasizes the profound interconnection between human endeavors and divine support, illustrating this through narratives and teachings that underscore the importance of faith, cooperation with the divine, and gratitude. It draws upon teachings from the "Voice of the Universe," personal stories of overcoming hardships with divine aid, and reflections that tie these experiences to broader spiritual principles.

Introduction: Acknowledging Divine Support

The sermon begins by challenging the notion of solitary faith practice, suggesting that true blessings emerge from a partnership with the divine (Kami). It highlights three teachings which collectively underscore the idea that human efforts, when aligned with a sincere heart and divine support, can overcome challenges and lead to success in endeavors such as starting a business or overcoming personal troubles.

Body 1: The Founder's Experience with Kami

The first narrative centers on the founder's experience, where Kami directly communicates tasks to him and his family, offering support in seemingly mundane tasks like threshing rice and picking cotton. This story illustrates how divine assistance transforms difficult tasks into manageable ones, emphasizing the importance of following divine instructions and the tangible help that Kami provides, making seemingly impossible tasks achievable.

Body 2: Rev. Yukawa's Test of Faith

The second narrative shares Rev. Yukawa's experience of falling ill right before a significant memorial service. Despite his physical weakness and doubts, he finds strength in his faith, resulting in a miraculous recovery that allows him to fulfill his duties. This story serves as a testament to the power of faith, the importance of spiritual training, and the transformative impact of gratitude towards Kami. The comfortable weather in February and the Rev.'s recovery are portrayed as divine blessings that enable him to conduct the service, reinforcing the theme that faith and gratitude can bring about divine assistance in times of need.

Conclusion: Living in Harmony with Kami

The sermon concludes by reinforcing the message that living in harmony with Kami enables individuals to find joy and fulfillment in all aspects of life. It stresses that divine support is not just about overcoming hardships but also about enjoying everyday tasks and responsibilities. By believing in and working alongside Kami, individuals can navigate life's challenges with a sense of peace and satisfaction.

Summary

In essence, the sermon for February 2024 teaches that faith is not a solitary journey but a collaborative endeavor with the divine. Through stories of personal challenges and divine interventions, it illustrates that when individuals align their efforts with a genuine heart and divine will, they can overcome obstacles and find joy in their endeavors. It encourages the congregation to embrace faith, seek divine support in their lives, and remember to express gratitude for the blessings received, promising that with Kami's support, every task and challenge can be met with success and joy.

