



JODO SHINSHU BUDDHIST TEMPLES of CANADA

NOTICE from the JSBTC to all Temples, Ministers and Members

RELIGIOUS SERVICES

At this difficult time there will inevitably be family religious services to be considered, namely funerals, makuragyo (pillow) services, cremation services, and memorial services.

We believe that the Canadian kyodan owes it to our ministers, our sanghas, and society as a whole to be proactive in protecting our ministers and our members during the pandemic. What we do now will determine how our society will look in three months.

Therefore, effective immediately, the Office of the Bishop, the Ministerial Association and the JSBTC Board join in recommending temples postpone or handle virtually the following until further notice:

- Funeral services
- Memorial Services
- Makuragyo (pillowside services)
- Urn Inurnment Services
- Cremation Services
- Weddings

Please remember that it is not safe for a minister to go to a hospital, hospice, or seniors' facility. These facilities are already limiting visitors to one designated family member or prohibiting visitors altogether.

The wellbeing of our ministers, and by extension, their families and their sanghas and our whole society, is paramount. Let us all work together to ensure that we are all kept safe and well.