



March 11, 2020

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Coronavirus Update 3/11/20

Based on new recommendations from the White House and the Santa Clara County Health Department about the Covid-19 coronavirus, the San Jose Buddhist Church Betsuin has decided to suspend Sunday services and Dharma School for four weeks.

We do not take this action lightly. This decision was reached after much discussion and consideration. Among the many recommendations from officials, two White House recommendations for faith-based groups helped guide our decision.

- For organizations that serve high-risk communities, cancel gatherings of more than 10 people and stagger access to support services.
- Consider canceling faith-based and community gatherings of any size or move to video-accessible venues or postpone/cancel.

Rinban Sakamoto and Rev. Mikame will be conducting virtual services at 10 a.m. on Sundays during this period. You will be able to watch the services at <http://bit.ly/2VYqSoV>, by clicking on a link on the Betsuin's Facebook page at www.facebook.com/sjbetsuin or by looking for SJBETSUIN.videos on YouTube.

The Betsuin office and Nokotsudo will remain open as usual. The decision does not affect funerals and memorial services.

At this time, the Betsuin is not requiring church organizations and other groups to cancel activities scheduled between now and April 12. We strongly recommend that you consider cancelling them, but leave the final decision up to you. Please let the office staff know if you are cancelling an activity.

If you do decide to continue with your activities, please follow the recommendations from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Santa Clara County Health Department. Please be aware these recommendations may change from day-to-day.

Santa Clara County Public Health Department
<http://sccphd.org/coronavirus>

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Center for Disease Control and Prevention <http://www.cdc.gov>

Services will tentatively resume April 12, which will be a scaled-back Hanamatsuri Service. Dharma School will resume April 19.

As the situation is constantly changing, we will be evaluating any new recommendations from health officials and may take additional actions as needed.

Please take care. If you or someone you may know are hesitant to go outside to buy food and other essentials or need help in other ways, please contact us. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the office at 408-293-9292 or sjbc@sjbetsuin.com.

In Gassho,
San Jose Buddhist Church Betsuin