NICHIREN SHOSHU HONSEIJI TEMPLE

March 1st, 2017

Dear Honseiji Members,

I have enclosed a copy of the monthly Gosho passage along with the Honseiji Temple activity calendar for March 2017. Among other significant activities this month, I would especially like to inform you that **the Spring Higan-e Ceremony will be conducted on Sunday, March 19th at 10:00am.**

The Higan-e is a Memorial Service on the Equinox, and a time set aside for people to make Toba memorial offerings in order to pray for the peace, happiness and enlightenment of their deceased family, friends, and ancestors. "Higan" is a translation of the Sanskrit word "Paramita," and means, "arriving at the other shore." The sufferings of this world are likened to a great river, and crossing to the other shore signifies the attainment of Buddhahood. It is through the practice of Nichiren Daishonin's Buddhism that we can cross this river of suffering, karma, and earthly desires to the other shore of enlightenment. On the occasions of the spring and fall equinoxes, the hours of night and day become equal, signifying the inseparability of darkness and light. At these significant times we respectfully, and with deep gratitude, present memorial offerings for our ancestors.

Please submit your Toba application form for the Higan-e Ceremony along with your Gokuyo offering to the temple, in person or by mail, by **March 13th, 2017.** Thank you for your understanding.

Chief Priest of Honseiji Temple

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Toba Application form for the *Spring Higan-e Ceremony* on March 19th, 2017

Name of Family or Deceased	Date of Deceased	Name of Applicants