

JIZO MATSURI & SHICHI-GO-SAN CELEBRATION SERVICE

Dear Members and Friends:

The KOBOJI SHINGON MISSION would like to invite you to its "JIZO MATSURI" and "SHICHI-GO-SAN" Celebration Service for Children.

These are special services for children ages 7, 5, and 3 years old. Traditionally, it would be 7 for girls, 5 for boys, and all 3 year olds. Because Shichi Go San has been cancelled for the past 3 years, we are inviting all children who may have missed this opportunity to be honored this year.

Date: **November 20, 2022 (Sunday)** PLEASE NOTE CHANGE IN DATE
Place: Koboji Shingon Mission
Time: "Jizo Matsuri" 9:00 a.m.
"Shichi-Go-San" blessing 9:30 a.m.
Picture Taking 10:30 a.m. (Please bring your cameras)
Lunch 10:45 a.m.
Sermon: Archbishop Esho Yagi - Myojo-In Temple, Hiroshima, Japan

*Note: The traditional attire would be kimono for girls and the kimono/hakama for boys. However, regular dress attire is acceptable. Individual dressing times will be assigned after receiving your application.

We look forward to your presence at this special celebration service.

In Gassho,
KOBOJI SHINGON MISSION

THE MEANING OF SHICHI-GO-SAN

The celebration of the "SHICHI-GO-SAN" was originated many centuries ago in Japan as the ceremony for children ages 7, 5, and 3. It is a time in their lives when they become self-conscious and aware of life.

At age 7 for girls, it is called the time of "obi musubi" (the tying of the obi sash). The soft type of obi sash worn since the age of three, is replaced with the larger hard material type of obi sash.

For boys, the age of 5 is the celebration called "hakamasuke". This is the first time since birth he is allowed to wear the hakama pants and kimono like an adult man does. It is the time of his arising manly consciousness.

For the 3 year old boys and girls the celebration is called "himo naoshi" which is when the child passes the stage of drinking milk from a bottle and the baby bib is no longer used. Himo naoshi means instead of using the himo (strings) to tie the child's kimono together, the himo (strings) are replaced with the soft type of obi sash.

The "SHICHI-GO-SAN" Service is to celebrate the important growth stages of our children; praying for the continuous guidance for our children's growth, protection, education, happiness and good health.

2022 "SHICHI-GO-SAN" CHILDREN'S FESTIVAL

CONTACT PERSON'S NAME: _____ PHONE: _____

| <u>AGE</u> | <u>CHILD'S FULL NAME</u> (Please Print) | <u>SIZE</u> | <u>HEIGHT</u> | <u>* HAORI or KIMONO</u> |
|------------|---|-------------|---------------|--------------------------|
| _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ |

No. Adults Attending _____

No. Children attending _____

KIMONO RENTAL

* For a donation of \$100.00 (per person) Koboji can dress participants in the traditional "Kimono" or "Haori Hakama". An unforgettable rare experience.

***Please submit this bottom form before October 28, 2022. Thank you.

地蔵まつり並びに七五三子供まつり