Although its scent still lingers on, the form of a flower has scattered away. For whom will the glory of this world remain unchanged?

Arriving today at the yonder side of the deep mountains of evanescent existence, we shall never allow ourselves to drift away.

—Iroha Uta – Written by Kukai (Translation by Ryuichi Abe)

The temple Nokotsudo was completed in 1993. It is a great comfort in our hectic world to know that the memory of our ancestors is being sanctified every day with the proper rituals. It is, in fact, a double blessing. Through prayer and the simple offering of rice and vegetables, we are not only honoring our obligation to past generations but in celebrating that sacred bond, we help to keep ourselves from drifting away into the illusion of this evanescent existence.

1993

● Reverend Taisen Miyata succeeds Bishop Chiko Inouye.

● Nokotsudo (columbarium) Shrine is installed at the east side of the main hall.

● Kannon Pilgrimage to 13 Temples of Saikoku is led by Reverend Temotsuka Nishikohi.

● Girl Scout Troop 379 is organized under the leadership of YABA members.

1999

● Visit by a large group of delegates from Mount Koya Headquarters touring both South and North America.

1995

● Koyasan High School students and delegates from Mount Koya Headquarters visit.

● Memorial service for victims of the Hanshin earthquake is conducted.

1995

● The Shingon Buddhist Service book is published.

● The Kenshusei program comes to an end. Yasumasa Fukushima is the last Kenshusei to train in Los Angeles.
Hoshimatsuri - 1992 and 1993


Hoshimatsuri - 1994 and 1995

1994 – Bishop Taisen Miyata offers an omamori to the 1993 Nisei Week Queen Naomi Ono.

1994 – Naomi Ono, the 1993 Nisei Week Queen.

1995 – The congregation enjoys watching the guests of honor ward off double oni, Kenshusei Yasumasa Fukushima and Takashi Miyamoto, with fuku-mame.

1995 - The congregation enjoys watching the guests of honor ward off double oni, Kenshusei Yasumasa Fukushima and Takashi Miyamoto, with fuku-mame.
Hoshimatsuri - 1996 and 2001


2001 – From left, Fujin-kai President Frances Nakamura, 2000 Nisei Week Queen Tricia Tanaka and Bishop Taisen Miyata enjoy the traditional ritual of mamemaki (bean tossing).

Shukan Inauguration Procession - 1993

1993 Shukan Inauguration Procession - 1993

Kannon-gyo Sutra Scroll - 1993

Reverend Tomotaka Nishikubi and Bishop Taisen Miyata display a framed scroll of the Kannon-gyo Sutra.
On June 6, 1993, the Temple celebrates both the Nokotsudo Shrine Dedication and the promotion of Reverend Taisen Miyata to Shukan (Head Minister) of Koyasan Beikoku Betsuin.

COURTESY OF TOYO MIYATAKE STUDIO
Above:
Completion of the Nokotsudo.

Left: Roy Takei, chief architect for the Nokotsudo, with Bishop Taisen Miyata.

Before the Nokotsudo Dedication service on June 6, 1993, Temple President Noboru Yonemoto, Bishop Taisen Miyata and Fujin-kai President Yachiyo Kato stand before the newly installed pillar that reads Koyasan Beikoku Betsuin.

A handicap ramp is installed. Bishop Taisen Miyata stands in background.
The members of the Temple welcome a contingent of Koyasan High School students at the Spring Ohigan service in March of 1995.
At the Fall Ohigan service, the congregation welcomes Reverend Suen Tanjo, a former residential minister from 1959 to 1964. Reverend Suen Tanjo, who hails from Hyogo Prefecture, Japan, is seated on the left next to Bishop Taisen Miyata and Bishop Emeritus Ryosho Sogabe.

Director of Education, Yukou Kitahara, and several delegates from Mount Koya visit the Temple during their goodwill trip through North and South America in 1999.
A luncheon is held at the Temple for delegates from Mount Koya after they attend a commemorative service in Brazil.
Commemorative Service and Banquet for Delegates of Mount Koya - November 18, 1995

Visiting priests from Mount Koya begin a service in the Temple courtyard.

Koban Dedication Service LABCF - May 1996

Ministers of the LABCF, from left, Reverend Shomyo Kojima (Zenshuji), Head Minister Ryosho Kokuzo (Long Beach), Bishop Ryosho Kawai (Jodo Shinshu), Bishop Kenko Yamashita (Zenshuji), Bishop Taisen Miyata, Reverend Shokai Kanai (Nichiren), Bishop Noriaki Ito (Higashi Honganji), Reverend Myojo Yokota pray for the success and safety of the Little Tokyo Koban and Visitor’s Center.
Goodwill visit between Los Angeles and Hawaii - A contingent from Liliha Shingon Mission of Honolulu comes to visit the Temple on Aobamatsuri in 1997.

Former Los Angeles minister, Reverend Shuho Jishi (seated next to Bishop Taisen Miyata) and his family visit the Temple on Obon in July 1997. Standing from left are Reverend Taishu Hosokawa, Reverend Akio Okuni and Reverend Myojo Yokota.
Reverend Eisho Okawa, Reverend Myojo Yokota, Bishop Emeritus Ryosho Sogabe, Shikako Sogabe and Reverend Taishu Hosokawa pose before a new life-size Baby Buddha diorama created by the YABA for the Hanamatsuri service.

Above: For the second consecutive year, students from South High School in Torrance assist at the Shichi-Go-San service in 2001.

Left: Volunteer Rika Itami gives a balloon to one of many children who attend the service. The Shichi-Go-San service is a blessing for the healthy growth of those children in attendance. The children are often in traditional Japanese garb - boys in hakama and girls with their first obi.
Proudly presenting colors before a Dodger game are from left, Assistant Cub Master Ken Fujimoto, Gilbert Guevara, Jeffrey Takimoto, Quincy Yamada, Wayne Aono, Yamato Ota, Cub Master Robert Narumi.

Junichi Nakagawa, Eagle Scout Alumni, watches Yamato Ota having fun pounding mochi.

Richard Narumi shows scout Leo Nakano the proper way to do mochitsuki.


From left, Shaun Oshita, Go Ogawa, Derek Norimoto, Yoshi Nakazato, Ricky Kotani.
Troop 379
Year-End Party - 1993

Girl Scouts, Mai Suzumori (foreground), Sallien Kaneko and Susan Keefe (in background) give a performance at the annual Year-End Party.

Boy Scout/Cub Scout Troop 379 Award Celebrations - 1997

Sangha Award Recipients - November 19, 1993

Nine Boy Scouts are awarded the Sangha Award in 1993. Standing from left, Kazutaka Osumi, Roy Yamamoto, Shogo Takayama, Youki Terada, Kirk Yamada, Shingo Kusama, Jyun Tosa, Ryotaro Isobe, Ben Okazaki. Seated in front are Bishop Taisen Miyata and Reverend Myojo Yokota, acting Troop Minister.

From left, Boy Scouts, Derek Kusagaya, Yamato Ota and Gilbert Guevara celebrate their Eagle Scout Awards with their mothers, Susie Kusagaya, Etsuko Ota, and Sugiko Guevara.

Chikara Ota and Christopher Chu celebrate their advancement from Cub Scouts to Boy Scouts.
A reunion at the Japanese restaurant, Sambi, in Downey, California. Colorful displays in the banquet room chronicle the history of Troop 379, while past scouts, mothers and wives of scouts reunite and tell stories, recounting their past memories as if it were yesterday.

The Boy Scouts Drum and Bugle Corp accompany the Girl Scouts in a performance at the Nisei Week Parade. From left, Candy Lee, Alice Lee, Heather Iwata, Michele Shimabukuro, Jennifer Koga.

Girl Scout Troop 379 at Nisei Week -
August 8, 1998

Boy Scouts Reunion at Sambi -
November 2, 1997
Junior YBA Installation - 1994

Teen members are installed as Cabinet members of the Jr. YBA by Bishop Taisen Miyata. Johnny Kuramoto (far left) is elected as President of the association.

YABA Chibi 5K Fair - 1999

Students of South High School and members of YABA sell drinks and hurricane popcorn at the Chibi 5K Fair in the Summer of 1999.

Cabinet - November 1, 1998


YABA - December 2000

Members of the YABA celebrate the winter holidays at Empress Pavilion Restaurant. From left, Craig Harada, Pei Eto, Naomi Kariyama, Kevin Eto, Regina Sakurai, Pat Murakami, Kenneth Ito, Hope Fujita, Haruko Harada, Paul Kaneta.
A group from Saifukuji Temple of Kagoshima, Japan, visits the Temple on July 8, 1996. The head priest of Saifukuji Temple, Bishop Ekan Ikeguchi, seated between Bishop Taisen Miyata and Bishop Emeritus Ryoshio Sogabe, is a high ranking minister renowned for his elaborate Goma Fire Ritual.

Ministers - 1992 through 1995


1994 – From left, Reverend Tomotaka Nishikubi, Kenshusei Hirotsugu Okuni, Bishop Taisen Miyata, Reverend Myojo Yokota.


1992: Reverend Tokusei Miyake from Seattle Koyasan (top row second from left) visits the Temple.

Ministers - 1997 through 1999

1997 – From left, Reverend Akio Okuni, Reverend Taishu Hosokawa, Bishop Taisen Miyata, Reverend Myojo Yokota.


1999 – From left, Reverend Shinyu Masuda, Mine Fujinami (cook), Reverend Eisho Okawa, Bishop Taisen Miyata, Fumie Ito (bookkeeper), Reverend Myojo Yokota.