

# *Sōtō Zen Ekō*

Dedications of Merit, recited by chant-leader (dōan) alone, after assembly's chanting

## Morning Service Dedication 1

Looking upward we deeply wish for Buddha's true compassion,  
Bowing down we ask for the illumination of Buddha's understanding.  
Now that we have chanted the Heart of Great Perfect Wisdom Sūtra,

(*or*: the Maka Hannya Haramita Shin Gyō,)

Let us offer this merit with highest gratitude to: •

Our Great Original Teacher in India, Shākyamuni Buddha,  
Our first woman ancestor, Great Teacher Mahāpajāpatī,  
Our first ancestor in China, Great Teacher Bodhidharma,  
Our first ancestor in Japan, Great Teacher Eihei Dōgen,  
Our first ancestor in America, Great Teacher Shōgaku Shunryū,  
All Buddhas and Ancestors who have transmitted the Dharma to us,  
The great compassion Bodhisattva Avalokiteshvara,  
And the perfect wisdom Bodhisattva Manjushrī, •

We vow to return their compassion and carry it to the future.

May our intention be directed toward:

Lasting peace in the sangha,  
Tranquility in daily practice,  
Dissolution of all misfortune,  
And fulfillment of all relationships •

All buddhas, ten directions, three times •

All honored ones, bodhisattva-mahāsatvas •

Wisdom beyond wisdom, mahā prajñā pāramitā

## Morning Service Dedication 2

May all awakened beings extend with true compassion their luminous mirror wisdom.

Having chanted the Merging of Difference and Unity

(*or*: the Song of the Jewel Mirror Samadhi, Song of the Trusting Mind, *etc.*)

We dedicate this merit to:

Bibashi Butsu Daioshō

Shiki Butsu Daioshō

Bishafu Butsu Daioshō

...

Shōgaku Shunryū Daioshō / Tenshin Zenki Daioshō

Now we have dedicated our practice to the great teachers  
who have transmitted the lamp through four countries.

May our life reveal their compassion.

Thankfully, let us honor their true being •

All buddhas, ten directions, three times •

All honored ones, bodhisattva-mahāsatvas •

Wisdom beyond wisdom, mahā prajñā pāramitā

## Morning Service Dedication 3

May all awakened beings extend with true compassion their luminous mirror wisdom.  
Having chanted the Hymn to Prajñā Paramita, we dedicate this merit to:

Achāryā Mahāpajāpatī  
Achāryā Mittā  
Achāryā Yasōdharā  
...  
Achāryā Chiyono

Now we have dedicated our practice to the great women teachers  
who have encouraged open-hearted devotion to the all-inclusive Way.  
May our life reveal their compassion.

Thankfully, let us honor their true be~e~ing ●

All buddhas, ten directions, three times ●  
All honored ones, bodhisattva-mahāsatvas ●  
Wisdom beyond wisdom, mahā prajñā pāramitā

## Dharma Protector Idaten Service Dedication (after morning service)

(Shōsai Myō Kichijō Darani & “Om Idateta Mokoteta Sowaka” (x3) [*Idaten’s mantra*])

Having chanted the Shōsai Myō Kichijō Darani for removing hindrance,  
and the Idaten Konpon Darani,  
we dedicate this merit to this temple’s Dharma protector Idasenten.  
May this temple be peaceful and harmonious, stable and free from calamity,  
and may all who come here be free from the hindrance of dualistic thought  
and awaken to naturally present open awareness, originally perfect empty clarity~y~y

All buddhas, ten directions, three times (*etc.*)...

## Noon Service Dedication

May we awaken Buddha’s compassion and luminous mirror wisdom.  
Having chanted the Jijuyu Zammai (*etc.*),  
we dedicate this merit to:

The eternal, all-pervading Triple Treasure,  
The innumerable wise sages in the ocean of enlightenment,  
The sixteen Great Arhats and everyone on the noble path.

With their understanding and strength,  
may the true Dharma be renewed in the age of decline.  
May their power and liberation sustain us in our unceasing effort  
to free all beings so they may dwell in peace.  
May the wheel of Dharma and wheel of nourishment forever turn in this temple.  
May this land be peaceful and free from calamity,  
and may we practice joyfully together with all be~e~ings ●

All buddhas, ten directions, three times ●  
All honored ones, bodhisattva-mahāsatvas ●  
Wisdom beyond wisdom, mahā prajñā pāramitā

## Evening Service Dedication

May all awakened beings manifest through the Three Treasures their luminous mirror wisdom. Having chanted the Great Compassionate Heart Dhāranī (and the Gate of Sweet Dew), we dedicate this merit to:

The deceased practitioners of this temple,  
All the deceased sangha members in the field of dharma,  
The deceased benefactors of the world,  
The myriad spirits of the three realms,  
To the members and supporters of this temple,  
And to all sentient beings.

May they realize the Great Awakened Wa~a~y ●

All buddhas, ten directions, three times ●  
All honored ones, bodhisattva-mahāsatvas ●  
Wisdom beyond wisdom, mahā prajñā pāramitā

## Well-Being Ceremony Dedication

May all awakened beings manifest through the Three Treasures their luminous mirror wisdom. Having chanted the Enmei Jukku Kannon Gyō for protecting life, we dedicate this merit to:

The complete healing, well-being, and equanimity of our dear friend(s) \_\_\_\_\_ .

May (he/she/they) be supported deeply by the Dharma, be peaceful and free from suffering, and, together with all beings, realize the Great Awakened Wa~a~y ●

All buddhas, ten directions, three times ●  
All honored ones, bodhisattva-mahāsatvas ●  
Wisdom beyond wisdom, mahā prajñā pāramitā

## Memorial Service Dedication

Life and death come and go like spring, summer, fall, and winter,  
a bolt of lightning in the empty sky,  
waves disappearing in the vast ocean.

Now, having chanted the Great Compassionate Heart Dhāranī,  
we dedicate this merit to:

Our great abiding friend(s) \_\_\_\_\_ .  
To all those in the transition of death at this time,  
To the myriad spirits of the three realms,  
And to all sentient beings.

May they realize the Great Awakened Wa~a~y ●

All buddhas, ten directions, three times ●  
All honored ones, bodhisattva-mahāsatvas ●  
Wisdom beyond wisdom, mahā prajñā pāramitā

## Universal Dedication

May this merit equally extend to every being and place,  
so that all may realize Buddha's Wa~a~y ●

All buddhas, ten directions, three times ●

All honored ones, bodhisattva-mahāsatvas ●

Wisdom beyond wisdom, mahā prajñā pāramitā