

## Ceremony for Returning a Dharma Center's Focus of Devotion (Gohonzon)

- Homage (*Recite the O-daimoku three times.*)
- Meditation on the Place of the Way
- Taking Refuge in the Three Treasures
- Invocation

We put our faith in

The Eternal Buddha Shakyamuni—Great Benevolent Teacher, World-Honored One;

The Tathagata Abundant Treasures, witness to the Lotus Sutra;

The separated embodiments of the Buddha in the ten directions in the past, present, and future;

The four great bodhisattvas: Superior Practice, Boundless Practice, Pure Practice, and Steadfast Practice;

The bodhisattva-mahasattvas: Manjushri, Universal Sage, Maitreya, and all other bodhisattva-mahasattvas;

Great Bodhisattva Nichiren, revered practitioner of the Lotus Sutra;

Founder Nikkyo, Great Teacher of the One Vehicle;

Cofounder Myoko, Bodhisattva of the Way of Compassion;

The guardian spirits of Rissho Kosei-kai;

And the countless heavenly spirits in the ten directions.

May you all be present among us and know our deep devotion.

At this ceremony for returning the Focus of Devotion of [*Dharma center name*], we reverently recite the sutra.

We earnestly pray for guidance in all things through the profound, sublime meaning of the Great Vehicle Sutra of the Lotus Flower of the Wondrous Dharma.

*(Strike the gong and recite the O-daimoku once.)*

- Opening Verse
- Sutra Recitation
- Universal Transfer of Merit
- Recitation of the O-daimoku
- Transfer of Merit

Having respectfully recited the Great Vehicle Sutra of the Lotus Flower of the Wondrous  
Dharma, may we transfer its merits to and thus reciprocate the boundless compassion of  
The Eternal Buddha Shakyamuni—Great Benevolent Teacher, World-Honored One;  
The Tathagata Abundant Treasures, witness to the Lotus Sutra;  
The separated embodiments of the Buddha in the ten directions in the past, present, and future;  
The four great bodhisattvas: Superior Practice, Boundless Practice, Pure Practice, and Steadfast  
Practice;  
The bodhisattva-mahasattvas: Manjushri, Universal Sage, Maitreya, and all other bodhisattva-  
mahasattvas;  
Great Bodhisattva Nichiren, revered practitioner of the Lotus Sutra;  
Founder Nikkyo, Great Teacher of the One Vehicle;  
Cofounder Myoko, Bodhisattva of the Way of Compassion;  
The guardian spirits of Rissho Kosei-kai;  
The guardian spirits of [*Dharma center name*];  
The guardian spirits of member families of Rissho Kosei-kai;  
And the countless heavenly spirits in the ten directions.

*(Strike the gong once.)*

On [*month/day/year*], the Focus of Devotion was enshrined at this Dharma Center. Since that day  
until today, it has bestowed the Buddha's innumerable fruits for our sacred work, such as sharing  
the Dharma, liberating living beings, and purifying the society.

With the compassionate eyes of his honored face, the Focus of Devotion freed those who paid  
homage from various sufferings and gave them comfort. All the members of the Sangha who  
have gathered here respectfully express our sincere gratitude and vow to pursue further  
bodhisattva practice.

We earnestly pray that with the help of sagely guidance and boundless protection, all living beings  
may awaken to their buddha nature and world peace may be achieved.

- Homage (*Recite the O-daimoku three times.*)