

# “Amida Buddha and Our Lady of Guadalupe”



*Free and Open to the Public*  
**Buddhist Catholic Dialogue**

**April 29, 2018, Sunday 1 p.m.**

**Berkeley Higashi Honganji Temple  
1524 Oregon Street  
Berkeley, CA 94703**

**Guest Speaker:  
Father James Fredericks, Ph.D  
(Professor emeritus, Loyola Marymount University)**

## Background:

In 1531, the Blessed Virgin Mary appeared to a poor Indian in what is today Mexico City and left her image imprinted miraculously on his cloak. This image quickly became the center of Mexican Catholic faith and devotion. Today, Mexican immigrants have brought their devotion to Our Lady of Guadalupe with them to the United States.

The same can be said of Japanese Buddhist immigrants who have brought their devotion to Amida Buddha to the United States. Given the importance of immigration for us today, Mexican Catholics and Japanese-American Buddhists should build solidarity by sharing their faith with one another. This presentation is a first step toward this goal. A group of Mexican Catholics will share stories about their devotion to Our Lady of Guadalupe and ask questions about Shin Buddhist devotion to Amida Buddha and the Primordial Vow.



Father James Fredericks, Ph.D., is a Catholic priest and professor of Catholic theology who has been a student of Shin Buddhism for many years. He has lectured internationally in Japan, China, India, Iran, and Europe and his work has been translated into Japanese, Chinese, German, and Spanish. Currently, he is collaborating with Vatican officials and Shin Buddhists in Japan in the effort to establish closer relations between Catholics and Shin Buddhists. He serves a Mexican Catholic community in Sonoma, his home town.

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