

# 小野 心誠 (Shinryo Ono)



## Profile

The chief priest of "Hounzan Daikyo-ji Temple."

He was born in Usuki City, and after graduating from high school and training for two years at the "Seizan Jodo Shu Head Temple Komyoji," he worked for 8 years at "Daien-ji Temple" in Oita City, where his grandfather served as the chief priest, and later became the chief priest of the same temple. When his father became the chief priest of "Daikyo-ji Temple," he Shinryo returned to Usuki to assist him and became a monk for the same temple. He has been the 32<sup>nd</sup> chief priest since the 27<sup>th</sup> year of Heisei (2015). He is also a long-time fan of the Hiroshima Carp.

### ■What we value:

- Opening the temple to the public
- Connecting lives

### ■What you can learn and do:

- Temple tour

### ■Sights to see and flavors to savor

- Usuki's Streetscape
- Fish Cuisine

### ■My "SDGs×#〇〇"

#Noticing the importance of life

## Inheriting Lives and Thoughts While Connecting Bonds

Like many people born as the child of a monk, Mr. Shinryo Ono also grew up with the vague vision of "becoming a monk in the future." "I had conflicts when I was young, but as I grew older, I felt something from my father's figure as a monk and wanted to follow the same path," he said, sharing how he decided to become a monk on his own will when he graduated high school.

He became the chief priest of Daikyo-ji Temple in the 27<sup>th</sup> year of Heisei (2015). Although he has experience as a chief priest at a temple where he previously worked, becoming the chief priest of a temple supported by 1,200 households was a whole new level of work. Although he tries to serve as many people as possible, he said apologetically, "I still don't have enough time." When asked what he felt most when taking over a large temple, he immediately answered "the connection of lives."

"I felt once again that my life is connected to the lives of my parents, grandparents, and beyond, and that I exist now because of that connection. I also feel that I can interact with many lives by coming into contact with the thoughts of successive chief priests and supporters of the temple." He will pass on the lives and thoughts of many people who have been connected with this temple over its long history as a whole and connect with even more bonds. This is exactly what Shinryo engraves in his heart as a chief priest.

In May 2023, Shinryo and his wife were blessed with a child. As they have been facing the connection of lives every day, their joy is even greater. As a chief priest and a father, Shinryo's gaze becomes even kinder and deeper.



A temple known for its graceful view from across the river."



The marks of bullets fired by the Satsuma army during the Satsuma Rebellion still remain in the room.



The main statue is Amida Buddha. The temple is open to the public and anyone can drop by casually.

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