

Okakae Jizo Statue

The Okakae Jizo, dressed in a red cape, is said to have been created in 1650. Since ancient times, the Japanese have believed that the color red defends against evil.

According to local legend, if you pick up and hold the statue while making a wish, and the statue feels lighter than you imagined it would, then your wish will come true. It is rare to have the chance to pick up and hold a Jizo statue, so this experience is unique to Takehara.

Jizo is a Buddhist guardian deity of children and travelers. Jizo's main role is to protect children, the souls of children who have passed away, and unborn babies. Statues of Jizo are commonly found on roadsides to protect travelers.

The Okakae Jizo Statue is housed in a small hut that was renovated in 2017. It is located on a small hill down a narrow alley just off the main street of the historic district.