



Asian Catholic Initiative



SIMBÁNG GABI 2023 GUIDELINES

1. Communion at Mass
 - a. Follow whatever procedure your parish has put in place regarding Communion especially if you are planning to have Communion under both the Host and the Precious Blood
 - b. If you have questions about this, consult your pastor
2. Collection at Mass
 - a. First Collection always for parish
 - b. Second Collection (if taken) will be for the Asian Catholic Initiative. Checks should be made out to Holy Child Jesus Parish and sent to 2324 W. Chase Ave.; Chicago IL 60647 to the attention of Fr. Phi Nguyen.
3. Overall and Daily Themes
 - a. In this year of Eucharistic Revival, our overall theme for Simbang Gabi is “Growing in Love for the Eucharist”
 - b. Each day of the novena will be dedicated to Our Lady of the Eucharist and a particular saint with a strong devotion to the Eucharist
 - c. Sample intercessions and Closing to the Prayer of the Faithful can be requested by contacting Fr. Tirso at frtirso@stjulie.org
4. In the Archdiocese of Chicago, permission has been granted to sing the Gloria during all the Simbang Gabi Masses even those that fall on a Sunday of Advent.
5. In the Archdiocese of Chicago, permission has been granted for white vestments to be used on the weekdays of the novena. But, for Masses that will count for the Sunday obligation, the proper Advent color is to be used.
6. For Masses starting at 4 p.m. or later on Saturday evenings during the novena and ALL day on Sundays during the novena, the proper Mass for Sunday is to be celebrated. The Sunday celebration takes precedence over any weekday celebration. For example, on a Saturday evening, the Mass texts and readings must be for the particular Sunday. Likewise, on a Sunday evening, the Mass texts and readings must still be for the Mass of Sunday and NOT the Mass of the next day.
7. There is no Anticipatory Vigil Masses for weekdays of Advent. For example, it is not allowed to celebrate the Mass of December 16 on the evening of December 15. The same applies throughout the novena.
8. Even though some Christmas hymns may be sung during the novena, we are still to maintain the spirit of Advent and not to make any day of the novena equal to or greater than a Christmas Mass. Please be aware that not all Tagalog Christmas songs are truly religious in nature so may not be appropriate for liturgical use.
9. When choosing a presider/homilist for the Mass, it is best to start with the pastor of the parish. If he allows another priest to be the presider and/or homilist, please observe the following:
 - a. Choose a priest who has the proper faculties with the archdiocese. Priests who belong to the Archdiocese of Chicago are automatically given faculties.
 - b. Some religious order priests may not have been granted complete faculties by the archdiocese so please verify this and request that the proper documentation (Letter of Good Standing) be sent.
 - c. Priests from other dioceses also need to request a Letter of Good Standing.
 - d. Stipend checks for priests must be issued by the parish. Consult your parish’s financial staff person for proper amounts.
 - e. If Filipino group at a parish wants to give priests a gift over and above any assigned stipend, that is at the discretion of the group and its leaders
 - f. If you need a list of the Filipino priests serving in the Archdiocese of Chicago, please contact Fr. Tirso at frtirso@stjulie.org

When in doubt, call Father Tirso at 708.429.6767 or email at frtirso@stjulie.org.