

## Asian Catholic Initiative

# 36TH ANNUAL SIMBÁNG GABI 2021 GUIDELINES AT A GLANCE

1. Please follow whatever COVID guidelines that may still be in place.
  - a. Church capacity and mask requirement as mandated by the archdiocese
  - b. Communion by the host only—NO Communion by the chalice for the people
  - c. Follow Archdiocesan guidelines for Communion on the tongue
  - d. For Communion of concelebrating priests, either
    - i. Have priests use intinction OR
    - ii. Have individual chalices for each priest (if parish has enough chalices)
  - e. Choir
    - i. Singers must be masked and spaced apart at least 3'
    - ii. Cantors may remove mask when singing
  - f. Reception
    - i. This year, parishes are asked to refrain from having a formal reception after any of the Simbáng Gabi Masses because of the continuing COVID concerns
    - ii. If a pastor allows a reception, there is to be no buffet line—food must be packaged in individual containers for each attendee—and follow all other COVID guidelines of the archdiocese regarding indoor activities
2. Collection at Mass
  - a. First Collection always for parish
  - b. Second Collection (if taken) will be for the Asian Catholic Initiative—checks to 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. Novena prayers for each day in honor of 500th Anniversary (refer to resource provided on website)
  - a. Use prayers as part of a rosary prior to Mass
  - b. Use prayers as the closing prayer to the General Intercessions at Mass
4. In the Archdiocese of Chicago, permission has been granted to sing the Gloria during all the Simbáng 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. The priest himself should know the proper channels by which to request this letter. Please include a copy of this letter with your registration form or submit it 2 weeks prior to the start of the novena.
  - c. Priests from other dioceses also need to request a Letter of Good Standing. Please include a copy of this letter with your registration form or submit it 2 weeks prior to the start of the novena.
  - d. Stipend checks for priests must be issued by the parish
    - i. If presiding priest and/or homilist is assigned to the parish, no stipend check is needed
    - ii. If presiding priest and/or homilist is a visitor, the following applies
      1. Weekday Mass: \$10 for stipend plus \$35 for the Mass
      2. Sunday Mass: \$10 for stipend plus \$75 for the Mass
    - iii. Amounts may be increased ONLY at the discretion of the pastor
    - iv. No stipend checks are needed if a priest is only a concelebrant
  - 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. In the Archdiocese of Chicago, please be aware that there are only 19 Filipino priests who already have faculties in the Archdiocese of Chicago (this does not include some of the religious orders). With just 19 priests and about 60 parishes participating in Simbáng Gabi, please give consideration and realize that it will be difficult for all 19 Filipino priests to make themselves available for all requests and invitations. The list of the Filipino priests in the archdiocese are:

Alcantara, Father Radley	St. Mary, Lake Forest	847.234.0205
Bautista, Father Arthur	Holy Child Jesus, Chicago	773.764.0615
Belocura, Father Roy	St. Mary, Des Plaines	847.824.8144
Beltran, Father Andre	St. James, Highwood	847.433.1494
Beltran, Father Jake	Mundelein Seminary	
Cambe, Father Don	St. Mary of the Annunciation, Mundelein	847.223.0010
Fajardo, Father Ramil	residing at Holy Name Cathedral	312.787.8040
Funtilla, Father Aloy	St. Padre Pio, Chicago	773.561.3474
Hallegado, Father Salvador	St. Odilo, Berwyn	708.484.2161
Jamesson, Father Matthew	St. Theresa, Palatine	847.358.7760
Ong, Father Tony	Addolorata Villa, Wheeling	847.537.2900
Reyes, Father Noel	St. Jerome, Chicago	773.262.3170
Reyes, Father Xamie	St. Anastasia, Waukegan	847.623.2875
Ricafranca, Father Joel	St. Jerome, Chicago	773.262.3170
Rondael, Father Mariano (Bubot)	St. Peter, Skokie	847.673.1492
Salera, Father Al	retired	
Santiago, Father Leoncio	retired	
Suero, Father Jay	St. Francis of Assisi, Orland Park	708.460.0042
Villaverde, Father Tirso	St. Julie Billiart, Tinley Park	708.429.6767

When in doubt, contact Father Tirso at 708.429.6767 or [frtirso@stjulie.org](mailto:frtirso@stjulie.org).