



Republic of the Philippines
City of Cebu
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 111
Series of 2020

**"AN ORDER ESTABLISHING THE GUIDELINES ON THE OBSERVANCE OF
MISA DE GALLO IN ALL CHURCHES WITHIN THE CITY OF CEBU**

WHEREAS, one of the expressions of Filipino Catholic faith is the practice of novena Masses or Misa de Gallo, traditionally held at dawn from December 16 to 24 of every year;

WHEREAS, under the Omnibus Guidelines on Community Quarantine issued by the National Inter-Agency Task Force for the Management of Emerging Infectious Diseases (IATF-MEID), mass gatherings should be regulated so as to prevent the spread of COVID-19;

WHEREAS, the City of Cebu is currently under a State of Modified General Community Quarantine (MGCQ) for the entire month of December 2020;

WHEREAS, in compliance with government protocols, the Catholic Bishops' Conference of the Philippines (CBCP) has issued on November 27, 2020 instructions on the celebration of Misa de Gallo, Aguinaldo Masses, or Simbang Gabi;

WHEREAS, there is a need for the City Government of Cebu to establish guidelines to be followed during the Misa de Gallo while maintaining order and ensuring strict observance of public health and safety standards;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, EDGARDO C. LABELLA, City Mayor of the City of Cebu, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby order:

SECTION 1. SCOPE AND APPLICABILITY. The guidelines and policies contained in the succeeding section shall cover all churches and areas within the City of Cebu that are authorized to conduct Misa De Gallo from December 16 to 24, 2020.

SECTION 2. GUIDELINES AND POLICIES. In the conduct of Misa de Gallo, the following guidelines shall be observed by all persons who go to churches and other places authorized to conduct Misa de Gallo within the City of Cebu:



Republic of the Philippines
City of Cebu
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

- A. Votive masses in the evenings in honor of the Blessed Virgin Mary (Simbang Gabi) from December 15 to 23, 2020 shall only be allowed between 5 P.M. and 9 P.M.;
- B. Dawn masses from December 16 to 24, 2020 shall only be allowed between 4 A.M. and 6 A.M.;
- C. The number of persons allowed inside the church or area authorized to conduct Misa de Gallo, at any given time, should not exceed fifty percent (50%) of its total capacity. In this regard, the church officials shall ensure that social distancing shall be strictly observed.
- D. Should the Archdiocese of Cebu or the city parishes request to celebrate the Misa de Gallo in open spaces, covered courts, gyms, and barangay complexes, among others, the same may be allowed subject to the approval of the Office of the Mayor, upon the recommendation of the Cebu City Emergency Operations Center;
- E. Church officials and personnel shall provide markers inside and outside the venue of the Misa de Gallo to ensure that social distancing protocols are enforced;
- F. Wearing of face masks and face shields shall be mandatory;
- G. Persons above 65 years old, those below 15 years old as well as those with immunodeficiencies, comorbidities or other health risks, and pregnant women, are prohibited from going to churches for the Misa de Gallo;
- H. Churches are encouraged to do live streaming of the Misa de Gallo for those who are unable to physically attend;
- I. The kissing or touching of images shall be absolutely prohibited during this time. As such, attendees are encouraged to bring their family image of the infant Jesus during the Misa de Gallo;
- J. Any form of selling, as well as serving and/or giving of food and drinks such as, but not limited to "painit" shall be prohibited within a 50-meter radius of churches and other areas authorized to conduct Misa de Gallo from December 16 to 24, 2020.
- K. The requirement for city-issued Quarantine Passes (QPass) shall be temporarily suspended starting 12:01 A.M. of December 15, 2020 until 11:59 P.M. of December 25, 2020.



Republic of the Philippines
City of Cebu
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

L. From December 16 to 24, 2020, the curfew hours in the City of Cebu is hereby adjusted to 11 P.M. until 3 A.M. of the succeeding day.

SECTION 3. ENFORCEMENT. The Cebu City Police Office (CCPO), Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP), City Health Department (CHD), Cebu City Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Office (CCDRRMO), Cebu City Transportation Office (CCTO), PROBE Team, church officials and administrators, with the assistance of barangay officials are hereby directed to implement this Order.

SECTION 4. SEPARABILITY CLAUSE. Should any provision of this Executive Order be declared by a court of competent jurisdiction as invalid or unconstitutional, the remaining provisions not otherwise adversely affected thereby shall remain in full force and effect.

SECTION 5. REPEALING CLAUSE. Any and all executive orders, issuances, rules and regulations, memoranda of the City of Cebu or any part thereof which are inconsistent with the provisions of this Executive Order are hereby repealed, amended or modified accordingly.

SECTION 6. EFFECTIVITY. This Executive Order shall take effect immediately upon signing hereof and shall remain effective until revoked.

Done in the City of Cebu, this 9th day of December in the year 2020.


EDGARDO C. LABELLA
Mayor