



PinoyGlobal Online News
FILIPINO IMAGE MAGAZINE
SINCE 1987 • WASHINGTON, D.C.

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"Simbang Gabi," a popular Philippine tradition, at OLV Church on Saturday, Dec. 20 starting at 5:00 p.m.

WASHINGTON, D.C., Nov. 24 (PinoyGlobal) - The preparations of "Simbang Gabi" Holy Mass and Pageantry on December 20, 2008, starting at 5:00 p.m. with the "Pununuluyan" pageantry at Our Lady of Victory Catholic Church located at 4835 MacArthur Blvd., NW, of this city, are in full gear preparing with several parishioners and key Filipino community leaders working together.

This third annual "Simbang Gabi" to be held at the OLV church is one of the nine churches of the DC archdiocese participating in the nine-day novena celebrating the Advent Season birth of Christ. (See flyer attached)

Rev. Father David Werning, OLV Pastor, and Father Jaime Noel Deslate, a visiting Filipino priest who just graduated summa cum laude with a degree of Doctor of Philosophy in Clinical Psychology at the Catholic University recently, and who will be departing for the Philippines the following day, will be concelebrating the traditional "Simbang Gabi" Holy Mass.

The Choir Directors are Tony A. Viduya and Edith Fuentes Viduya, both seasoned choir trainers and choral group singing instructors, visiting the District from Cagayan de Oro City, Cagayan, Philippines. The Viduyas are award-winning professional choir trainers since 1972 and have been winning awards in the Cagayan Province, Region 10, and other major cities in the Philippines including Metro Manila where they have been garnering national accolades. Visiting their son, Michael, a nurse at the Georgetown University Hospital, Tony and Edith heard the predicaments that the usual Filipino choir that sing every third Saturday are unable to participate this year, they were gracious to offer and volunteer their God-given talents. Key Filipino leaders in the immediate vicinity, specially the various Filipino prayer groups, rallied and volunteered to assist the OLV Filipino parishioners with the once-a-year "Simbang Gabi" Holy Mass.



Tony Viduya, tenor and base trainor, and Edith Fuentes Viduya, soprano and alto trainor and accomplished pianist. Edith is a music teacher at Cagayan de Oro City Central School and a graduate from Cebu Normal College with a degree in Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education. (PinoyGlobal Photo)

Mike Viduya and wife, Cherry Jean, also a nurse at Georgetown University, together with their two children, Farrel May and Fave Allen, spearheaded the weekly practice.

Filipino community leaders in the area are rallying support to the "Simbang Gabi" Holy Mass. Among the Fil-Am leaders supporting the project are Dr. Ben Oteyza, Dr. Bambi Lorica, Tessie Calderon-Alarcon, Emilie G. Dearing, Jun Pedery, Mike & Ging Aquino, Mel & Lolit Villegas, Pablito Alarcon, and the Philippine Embassy staff headed by Consul Rico Fos.

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OLV FILIPINO CHOIR TO SING AT "SIMBANG GABI" MASS

Rehearsing several Filipino songs for the "Simbang Gabi" Holy Mass Pageantry under the directions of trainers Tony and Edith Viduya of Cagayan de Oro City, are some of the newly organized choir group members. Seated from left: Beng Valdelolon, Aida J. Mendoza and Dr. Bambi Lorica. Second row from left: Ric and Meldy Macatangcay, Maria Annabelle Dy, Emma Capule, Virginia Picardo, Marye Salud, Tony Viduya (tenor and base trainor), Edith Viduya (soprano and alto trainor, and pianist), Mike Viduya, John Foz, Ben Alcalde. Third row: Cherry Viduya and Farrel May Viduya. (PinoyGlobal Photo)



Choir Trainor Extraordinaire

Teaching choral groups since 1964, after she graduated from Cebu Normal College, ***Edith F. Viduya*** has won awards in choral group singing, and as a choir trainor, including winning the Philippine National Champion Trophy in the Philippines held in Manila. She trained many personnel of business firms and several schools since 1972, all learning choral presentation techniques. Her choral group in Cagayan de Oro City is the undefeated champion in Christmas Chorale competitions in Region 10. (PinoyGlobal Photo)

"Simbang Gabi"

A Philippine Tradition of Advent

Sponsored by the
Filipino Communities of Washington DC Archdiocese

"Simbang Gabi" Holy Mass

Saturday, Dec. 20, 2008 • 5:00 p.m.

Our Lady of Victory Church

4835 MacArthur Blvd., NW • Washington, D.C. 20007

Fr. David Werning, Pastor • Fr. Jaime Noel Deslate

(Concelebrating)

*Potluck Dinner Reception at Hess Auditorium
Every one is welcome !*

December 15 to 23rd is the usual tradition of celebrating Christmas, the coming of the birth of Jesus. Known as the "Misa de Gallo" (Rooster's Mass), it is called as "Simbang Gabi" or "Night Mass", a very important Filipino Christmas tradition. It is considered as the nine-day novena by the Catholic faithfuls. In some parishes, the masses begin as early as five in the morning; others start in the late afternoon or in the evening. Completing the nine-day novena is a manifestation of the Catholic faith to most devotees.

"Simbang Gabi"

-Filipino Contacts-

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Mel & Lolit Villegas: (301) 942-2694
Mike & Ging Aquino: (301) 603-8388
Edith & Tony Viduya (202) 333-0810
Tessie Calderon-Alarcon: (571) 333-5327
Emilie G. Dearing: (571) 432-8716
Drs. Victor & Bambi Lorica (301) 767-0375
Dr. & Mrs. Ben Oteyza (410) 838-2424

Archdiocese of Washington
Complete Schedule of the Filipino
"Simbang Gabi" 2008 Advent

December 15 • Monday • 6:00 P.M.
Church of Annunciation
3810 Massachusetts NW

December 16 • Tuesday • 12:00 noon
St. Anne's Catholic Church
4400 Wisconsin Ave., NW

December 17 • Wednesday • 5:30 P.M.
St. Matthews Cathedral
1725 Rhode Island, NW

December 18 • Thursday • 6:30 P.M.
St. Stephen's Catholic Church
Pennsylvania Avenue NW

December 19 • Friday • 7:00 P.M.
Epiphany Catholic Church
2712 Dumbarton St., NW

December 20 • Saturday • 5:00 P.M.
Our Lady of Victory Catholic Church
4855 MacArthur Blvd., NW

December 21 • Sunday • 3:00 P.M.
Shrine of the Blessed Sacrament
6001 Western Avenue, NW

December 22 • Monday • 5:00 P.M.
Nativity/St. Dominic Church
16th St., NW

December 23 • Tuesday • 3:00 P.M.
St. Margaret of Scotland
410 Addison Road, NW

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