

Belmonte: Follow health protocols

The Philippine Star · 25 Dec 2020 · 6 · – Janvic Mateo

Amid the rising cases of COVID-19 in Metro Manila in the past days, Quezon City Mayor Joy Belmonte yesterday appealed to residents to follow health protocols during the Christmas season.

“Keep in mind that we are all responsible for our health and the health of others around us, especially our families and friends,” Belmonte said. “We must act responsibly by obeying health protocols so we can have a safe and happy Christmas celebration despite the pandemic.”

Citing the recent report of the OCTA Research Group, Belmonte noted a spike in the average number of daily COVID-19 infections in the city, from 90 cases from Dec. 9 to 15 to 120 from Dec. 16 to 21.

City epidemiology and disease surveillance unit head Rolly Cruz also cited an increase in the reproduction rate of the virus. From 0.92 early this month, Cruz said it rose to 1.54 on Dec. 20.

Quezon City had an average reproduction number of 0.79 in November.

Joseph Juico, head of the city’s Task Force on COVID-19, said the local government has intensified its contact tracing capability.

Juico said the city government is prepared for a surge in COVID-19 cases, but the people should do their share by taking safety precautions.