

FLORIST INFORMATION

GENERAL GUIDELINES

- Nothing may be placed in the church until an hour and a half before your ceremony. Your Florist must be informed of where you want your decorations placed and act accordingly. The church office staff is not responsible for receiving your flowers, loss or damaged to your decorations, or for their placement.
- Please pick up all decorations and return the area to its undecorated state within one hour following the wedding. This is necessary to clear the space for other church services. You may denote your floral arrangements to the church if you like – please make arrangements with your Church Wedding Coordinator.
- We have no facilities available for your Florist to complete their work, therefore **NO flower arranging, spraying, or painting is allowed.** Clean up any liquid spills immediately.
- **Under NO CIRCUMSTANCES is the altar, podium, baptismal font, candlesticks, tables, plants, or musical instruments to be moved.**

FLOWERS

- If flowers are placed on the floor in front of the altar, they should not extend past the top of the altar.
- Flowers for the wedding party may include fresh, silk or silk mixed with fresh flowers.
- **No flower petals (silk or fresh) may be tossed by flower girls.** We recommend using a hot glue gun to adhere silk flowers to a basket if one is carried.
- Watertight containers are to be used for flower arrangements: any liquid spills should be cleaned up immediately.
- The Florist is responsible for cleaning up anything dropped from the flowers. They must leave the church in the same manner in which they found it.
- Rice, birdseed, flower petals, or confetti are not to be used inside or outside the church buildings. **THERE ARE NO EXCEPTIONS TO THIS RULE.**

DECORATIONS

- No candles, other than the Unity Candle will be allowed
- Nothing shall be pinned, taped, or wired to the altar or church furnishings, including the pews. Pew clips or ribbon hoops only, may be used. No tape on wood.
- Seasonal decorations, including banners of other liturgical items shall not be moved for any reason.
- We **DO NOT** allow the use of a wedding arch at St. Joseph.
- The use of an aisle runner is discouraged because of the safety hazard it presents.

SEASONAL CONSIDERATIONS

The seasons of Advent (the four weeks before Christmas) and Lent (46 days from Ash Wednesday through Holy Saturday) are penitential seasons in the worship calendar of the Catholic Church. Bright and colorful flower arrangements are not appropriate during these seasons. We recommend that you choose greenery or live plants to give beauty to your wedding ceremony during these seasons. During Christmas and Easter seasons, the church will be decorated in accordance with the season. Special decorations will not be removed for your wedding.

Note to Engaged Couples: Please provide your Florist with a copy of these guidelines so they may keep it and refer to it. Upon selecting your Florist, please give their name to your Church Wedding Coordinator. It is recommended that the Florist visit the church before the wedding to become familiar with the church and seating. This will allow for a better idea of the placement of flowers and decoration within the church.