



FLORAL ARRANGEMENTS

St. Joseph Parish | Grafton, Wisconsin | (262) 375-6500

THE ENVIRONMENT OF THE WORSHIP SPACE

PLEASE MAKE SURE THE FLORIST RECEIVES A COPY OF THIS!

Many desire to place floral arrangements in the church. Please observe the following when making arrangements with your florist:

1) *“Flowers ... are particularly apt for the decoration of the liturgical space, since they are of nature, always discreet in their message, never cheap or tawdry or ill-made.”* (Environment and Art in Catholic Worship, #102)

2) Floral *“decoration should never impede the approach to or the encircling of the altar or any of the ritual movement and action, but there are places in most liturgical spaces where it is appropriate and where it can be enhancing”* (EACW, #102).

- Floral arrangements may be placed at either side of the altar on pedestals provided by the florist or ones that the parish furnishes, or in the front of the altar.
- Floral arrangements are **not** to be placed **on** the altar or **attached in any way to the unity candle stand.**
- Floral arrangements may be placed in front of the ambo (lectern) or on pedestals against the back wall of the sanctuary.

3) *The whole space is to be considered the arena of decoration, not merely the sanctuary.”* (EAWC, #102)

- Floral arrangements may be placed in the back of church at either side of the main aisle. These flowers, especially if they are fragrant, would be a gracious sign of welcome.
- If flowers are to be used to decorate the ends of pews, they should be used at regular intervals along the entire length of the aisles.

4) We welcome any floral arrangements you may wish to leave in the church after the celebration of the wedding. Your flowers would continue to enhance parish worship and be a fine gift to the Parish. We also respect your plans to take the arrangements to your reception hall.

5) In all instances, we remind you that there may be no alteration of any of the seasonal church decorations, especially that of the Christmas and Easter seasons.

6) As in most matters of Hospitality and Good Taste, **less** is more often better – Our Parish Liturgist has experienced hundreds of weddings and can offer suggestions that will make the Celebration of Matrimony the center of attention and prayer and not a showcase for the local florist.