



Florist Guidelines

Welcome to St. Vincent Ferrer Catholic Church

North Avenue and Lathrop, River Forest, IL 60305
(708) 366-7090

- The Roman Catholic Liturgical norms require that the church environment remains appropriate for the season. The environment may not be taken down or changed for a wedding, funeral, etc.
- Included in this are the flowers (such as poinsettias during the Advent/Christmas season and lilies during the Lent/Easter season) that decorate the church.
- Additional arrangements may be used if you desire. The most convenient areas to place floral arrangements without disrupting the rite are:
 - 1) the communion rail
 - 2) behind the enthronement of the bride and groom
 - 3) on second stand in front of the ambo (pulpit)
- Unity candles are not part of the Roman Catholic Marriage Rite. They are blessing rite that takes place during the reception. (If used at church, they are on a small table in the sanctuary near the ambo; however, they should never be placed on the altar.)
- Arches, trellises, lighted Ficus trees, etc are not permitted because they damage the integrity of the space and present difficulty in setup and cleanup.
- Aisle candles, bows, etc may not be attached with tacks or tape, as this damages the wood. If aisle candles are used, hurricane lamps are necessary. These candles are *not* lit during the service or procession. All aisle decorations must be removed immediately following the rite.
- Candelabra, if used, must have floor coverings protecting the marble from wax drippings. This parish does not supply the Candelabra or candles. Candles are part of all for all weddings. The Candelabra are discouraged.
- Due to safety concerns and the damage tape causes to the floor, aisle runners are not used. Although the bridal party walks in on this, the entire assembly will be exiting on it. Most present runners are paper or plastic, which is more hazardous than fabric.
- Florists are welcome only half an hour before the wedding rite. Everything is to be removed immediately following. If the wedding couple is leaving their florals for the church, they may tell the coordinator.
- No tape is ever used on church wood, tile, etc.