

St. Patrick of Heatherdowns

Policy for Florists

The wedding couple celebrates a sacrament of the church. Florists should be mindful of this. Environmental changes reflect the liturgical season being celebrated (i.e. Advent, Christmas, Easter, etc.). Florists may not remove (even temporarily) the present environment decorations.

Four liturgical candles in the sanctuary are the only candles to be present. This means you may not have any candles of any other type (i.e. candelabra style) in the sanctuary or the main body of the Church.

The exception is the couples' unity candle. While the unity candle is not part of the Catholic ceremony, if a couple has chosen to incorporate this into the celebration, this candle is to be placed on a table to the side of the altar. It is never to be placed on the altar.

The liturgical procession of the wedding party will be down the main aisle from the narthex.

- The practice of dropping rose/flower petals is not permitted.
- Aisle runners are discouraged but permitted. If you are considering a runner, the following should be taken into account:
 - The couple will be asked to sign a release relieving the parish from all liability.
 - St. Pat's aisle is carpeted. The runners usually are made of paper or plastic, which punctures easily, especially under the pressure of spiked heels and have proven to be dangerous. The runner often tangles and proves hazardous to those walking on the runner. **If a runner is used, the runner must be pinned to the carpet, not taped. It is the responsibility of the wedding party to dispose of the runner immediately following the wedding.**

All flowers in the sanctuary while not at all necessary, if used at the wedding, are considered a donation to the church and are not to be removed after the ceremony.

Any decoration placed on the pew ends may never be taped. Over time, the tape pulls off the varnish. Decoration must be designed in a way that they are tied by ribbons (string) or the use of a rubber band, which easily stretches around the end of the pew.

**** Again, it is the responsibility of the wedding party to dispose of the few decorations immediately following the wedding.**

The throwing of rice, birdseed, confetti, rose petals, etc. is **not permitted** during the ceremony or at the conclusion of the ceremony. A Toledo City Ordinance prohibits the use of helium balloons.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Ron Prebe,
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