

Art and Environment

Purpose

In a formal way the purpose of the art & environment committee is not so much to “decorate” the church but to “enhance” the liturgical space so that the meaning of the season or occasion, the action of the liturgy, the celebration of the Eucharist and the prayer of the people are elevated or heightened. The simplest way to put it would be to say that we work to help people to pray better.

Responsibilities

The Art & Environment committee:

- proposes and discusses ideas to enhance the liturgy and interpret the season or holyday
- orders, arranges and maintains the flowers and plants indoors and the planters outdoors
- arranges appropriate symbols in the worship space, niches and gathering space
- selects and purchases materials, designs and sews seasonal and holyday banners
- changes banners and altar cloths as necessary
- maintains candles
- checks vestments, linens and other worship related articles for repair and replacement
- cleans the church

Qualifications

Although we are called the “Art & Environment” being “artistic” is not the main qualification. We are in need of people with a variety of skills including:

- Appreciation of the beautiful; an artistic sense
- Design, painting, floral care and arrangement, gardening, sewing
- Helping hands to make ideas a reality

From Our Members

“I so appreciate the wonderful worship environment we have at Holy Trinity. I’m not artistic myself, but it is very rewarding to lend a helping hand to those who do have the talent and vision to bring ideas to life and make our church a welcoming, lovely place to gather.”

“Every hour of time spent with this group has been extremely enjoyable and genuinely appreciated. It’s like the perfect job! Artistic talent is not a prerequisite, the hours are flexible, the work environment is great and hidden blessings make for a nice incentive package. For a bonus, one receives expanded knowledge of church protocol and parish community relationships!”

From Our Church

“...[T]he altar...brings heaven into the community assembled on earth, or rather it takes that community beyond itself into the communion of saints of all times and places...leads it into the eternal liturgy.”

The Spirit of the Liturgy, Benedict XVI

“The tradition of decorating or not decorating the church for liturgical seasons and feasts heightens the awareness of the festive, solemn, or penitential nature of these seasons. Human minds and hearts are stimulated by the sounds, sights, and fragrances of liturgical seasons, which combine to create powerful, lasting impressions of the rich and abundant graces unique to each of the seasons.”

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“Art is meant to bring the divine to the human world, to the level of the senses, then, from the spiritual insight gained through the senses and the stirring of the emotions, to raise the human world to God, to his inexpressible kingdom of mystery, beauty, and life.”

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