



## Christmas Decorating



Tools needed: thin wire, wire cutters, garden gloves when working with branches

### Nativity Scene

1. Get out the round table and cover it with the red cloth
2. Place the stable on the cloth and cover the inside and roof with greenery (the greenery often will hold on its own on the roof, but use wire if needed.)
3. Place the figurines in and around the stable, except for the three wise men and baby Jesus
4. Place the three wise men and baby Jesus under the Readers' lectern where the Alms Basins are kept. Fr. John will put them in their proper place during Christmas Mass.

### Window sills

1. Hang (short) red bows beneath each window sill
2. Place a red glass candle holder (large ones) in the center of each sill
3. Place green branches on sills; place pine cones, if available on top. If you can get small pieces of juniper branches with red berries, it looks very nice tucked in now and then
4. Slide small white flowers in to the greenery for accent (not sure why, but it looks pretty)
5. Place ornaments on top of greenery

### Wall lights

1. Make swags with the green branches by bunching several branches together. Hold them together with wire.
2. Wire a (long) red bow to each swag and hang on wall under each light

### Tree and Poinsettias

1. The Christmas tree is placed on the second step of the altar on the left side. Fr. John and his helpers usually do this. The tree is not decorated.
2. Place large poinsettias on each side of the altar. The smaller ones (save four for the altar) may be placed around the tree and in other areas around the altar – wherever they look nice and are out of the way of the priest and servers. Place one or more in the Chapel. Others may be placed in the back by the choir, in the Narthex, next to the Baptismal font, etc.

### Altar

1. Place four of the smaller poinsettias in the gold containers and place them on the altar in between the candles
2. Place the Christmas frontals on the altar and lecterns. Use the "bean bags" to hold the frontals in place on the lecterns

### Polishing

1. Polish the following:
  - a. Brass altar pots for the poinsettias
  - b. Followers
  - c. Bell
  - d. Cross carried by the servers during procession
  - e. Alms Basins

DO NOT POLISH THE CANDLE HOLDERS. THEY HAVE A SHINY FINISH ON THEM THAT WILL BE REMOVED BY POLISHING THEM. SIMPLY WIPE WITH A CLEAN CLOTH TO REMOVE FINGER PRINTS, ETC.