

# Garden Maintenance Tips

Thank you for helping to make the St. Irenaeus grounds beautiful!  
“The LORD God then took the man and settled him in the garden of Eden,  
*to cultivate and care for it.*” Genesis 2:15

## Recommended Garden Tools to Bring...



## Weeding and Deadheading...

1. Check your flower bed **approximately once per week** (if you just signed up to help for one week—choose any day) to remove weeds, grass, and deadhead flowers (remove the spent or unattractive flower blooms).
2. Be sure to dig out and remove the entire weed or grass, including the roots.
3. Also weed areas covered by rocks or mulch near the building.
4. When deadheading, the spent bloom can often be snapped off with your hands, but if that does not work, just cut it off with your hand pruners.
5. Place weeds and deadheaded flowers in one of the two green yard waste bins that are stored by the brick trash dumpster enclosure at the northwest corner of the parking lot. Feel free to move a yard waste bin to the area you are working, and use the lid while working to collect the weeds and plant material as you remove it. Return the bin to its storage location by the trash dumpster enclosure when you are done working.



## **Watering...**

1. Check your flower bed at least once per week to make sure it is not drying out, especially during hot periods.
2. Check and water pots more often—possibly daily or every other day during hot periods.
3. The parish has a sprinkler system that waters all flower beds, and usually hand-watering is *not* required.
4. If the sprinkler system watering schedule needs adjusting, contact Dick Marcy, or the parish maintenance staff to request a change.
5. Some hand-watering may become necessary during hot periods. Use the water spigot and hose on the front of the Activities Building just to the south of the office doors. For rectory beds, use the water spigot and hose by the front door to water. Or, bring and use a watering can to water as needed.

## **Keep the Flower Bed Tidy...**

1. If there are perennials in the flower bed you maintain, please deadhead spent flower blooms and trim plants back as needed to keep them attractive.
2. Shrubs will be trimmed by the landscape crew, so do not trim shrubs.
3. Keep the edge of the flower bed tidy, and remove grass that may start growing into the bed.
4. Keep mulch groomed evenly throughout the bed.
5. Rake any mulch that gets out of the bed and into the grass back into the flower bed.
6. Remove the annuals in the fall as they die back and become unattractive.

## **Pollinator Garden...**

1. Perennial plants to attract bees, butterflies and hummingbirds, will be added around the statue of St. Francis in front of the Activities Building (#9 Middle Alcove) throughout the summer of 2021.
2. The perennial pollinator plants will be identified with markers.
3. Do not remove the pollinator plants.

***Thank you for your help! It is very much appreciated!  
HAVE FUN!***

