

Celebrate Holy Holiday By Sending Flower Gifts

A Christmas gift that has spiritual significance, yet is so easy to select is a gift of flowers. Along with greens, flowers have played a role in the celebration of the holy holiday since earliest times.

Whether your garden is covered with snow, or palm trees form the holiday background, flowers can be wired all over the country.

A colorful catalog which pictures 24 "see-before-you-send" arrangements is now available at members of Florists' Telegraphic Delivery association to simplify shopping. There's also no need for wrapping, or waiting in long post office lines to send off your greetings gift.

You can express a variety of personal holiday sentiments with your floral, or greenery gift. Holly, when

worked into the familiar wreath shape, conveys the hope of eternal life. Red-blossoms, say, in effect, "be joyous" and white flowers stand for spiritual calm and purity.

Popular Poinsettia
If you are looking for popularity, the nation's number one choice during the Yuletide is the star-shaped Poinsettia. FTD members report wiring more of these plants as gifts than any other holiday floral offering.

Although most people select the Christmas-colored variety of the plant, those with a desire for something a little different can choose from among pale pink and white Poinsettias.

The florist's shop is also a place to find a gift that will put Christmas stars in a

child's eyes. A lollipop and blossom bush is a present that a child can sniff as well as eat. Candy canes and greenery can be made up into a child's own Christmas tree.

Trim Bushes
The florists usually trim these little bushes or trees with sleigh bells and tiny Santas to add extra cheer. Gardeners will be delighted with a chrysanthemum or azalea plant which can be enjoyed indoors and later transplanted outdoors.

From this point on, there is only one thing left to do. Make up your list carefully and let your florist do the rest with lovely, living Christmas gifts.

Choose perfume and colognes in exquisite bottles, fine fragrant soaps, yummy bath oils, handsome jewelry boxes, quilted boxes or bags for storage of personal things—for these are some of the wonderful things girls love.

Musical Instrument As Christmas Gift Can Lead To Lifetime of Enjoyment

A \$4 ukulele and a \$4,000 grand piano have something in common. Both can lead to a lifetime of enjoyment for anyone on your Christmas list. Here are some tips from the American Music Conference on how to strike the proper note.

INSTRUMENT FOR A CHILD? Easy-to-play instruments are ideal for introducing even the very young to the fun of music. Among the most popular and suitable are melody bells, xylophones, triangles, colorful drums and rhythm sticks. Give first- to seven-year-olds plastic flutes, harmonicas or ukuleles. All are used in elementary schools as pre-band or rhythm band instruments. . . \$1 to \$10.

Good Age
NINE AND TEN - YEAR-OLDS? This is a good age to start youngsters on band and orchestra instruments, especially if they have had musical instruction in primary grades. Most woodwinds, brasses and stringed instruments come in half and three-quarter sizes to accommodate small hands.

Transition to standard instruments—usually by age 12—is easy.
TEEN-AGERS' FUN? Instruments that go where the fun goes—guitar, ukulele, banjo, accordion or mandolin—are most popular with teens. Guitars are the most popular and teen-agers are responsible for making the guitar the nation's second most popular music maker.

ADULT HOBBY?? Selecting an instrument for an adult is generally a matter of matching the instrument with the personality. The violin, flute and classical guitar are natural for serious-minded individuals. The more gregarious may prefer a recreational instrument—guitar, ukulele, accordion. These instruments are not classified as family instruments, but help spark songfests to Mom and Dad's accompaniment.

A FAMILY GIFT? Instru-

ments best suited for multipurpose use by all members of the family are piano and organ. The piano is the most popular and versatile instrument in the United States. Many families purchase pianos because it affords youngsters a sound understanding of music's fundamentals.

Easier To Learn
The organ is easier to learn to play and recently has been used as a jazz instrument. It is ideally suited for parents who think they could never learn to make their own music.

Spinnet pianos with good tone and action range from

\$500 to \$2,000; grand pianos from \$1,500 to \$4,000 and up. Portable electric organs begin at \$50; console organs suited for home use range from \$600 to \$4,000.

Something new for Christmas shopping lists is an easy-to-play mouth instrument that's fun for young and old alike—the "Melodica."
The Melodica has joined the ranks of the traditional recorder, bell and block in the school music classroom. It is also a favorite "beginner's" instrument for the at-home musician.

A two-octave, chromatic reed instrument, the Melodica

is blown into and played with a piano-like keyboard. With very little difficulty, anyone can play songs such as "Long, Long Ago" and "Jingle Bells."

Unique Gift
Or, if there's a young child who likes to make music or a serious musician on your Christmas shopping list, why not consider giving a truly unique gift this year? A recorder.

Whether in the music classroom or on the concert stage, the recorder has won for itself a permanent ranking role.

The beauty of this woodwind instrument is that a young child can spend hours

listening to the sounds he can produce on the recorder. The accomplished musician knows and respects the versatility of woodwind concert works.

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Pipe Buying Tips Given So Gift

The ever popular gift of pipes and smoking tobacco will be even more welcome this Christmas as more pipe smokers are on the scene this year. Along with this increase in pipe smoking popularity has come a greater variety of attractively packaged tobaccos, pipes and accessories to make Christmas shopping for the pipe smoker easy and pleasurable.

Every pipe smoker heartily welcomes a new pipe for his collection, and every man has the urge to try one, while surveys indicate that most women prefer the appearance and aroma of a pipe—so what better Christmas gift?

According to the Pipe and Tobacco Council, when shopping for a pipe, the woman shopper should know a little about pipe styles. The council suggests that the man's interests, personality and looks should be considered when selecting a pipe.

While the tall man looks well with a large bowled pipe, his shorter brother prefers the small bowl. Students and heavy readers welcome a long stemmed pipe which keeps the smoke out of their eyes, while a sportsman enjoys a pipe of the sandblast type. There are also unusual shapes and grains for the collector as well as the popular corn cob and aluminum shank-briars.

Specific Tips
A few specific tips offered by the Pipe and Tobacco Council for consideration when purchasing a pipe are:

—Thinner walls on the bowl give a cooler smoke.

—A grainer bowl supposedly provides a sweeter smoke.

—A fairly large bowl smokes longer and gets that prized cake.

There's a good smoking brand-name pipe to fit every individual and every budget. When doing your Yuletide shopping, let your local tobacconist or sales clerk assist you in selecting pipes and smoking tobacco for your gift list. He will help you pick the right pipe and smoking tobacco to please your pipe smoker.

Since every man wants "to light up" as soon as he sees his new pipe, give him a tin of his favorite tobacco at the same time. There are also blending kits available for men who like to experiment with tobacco flavors.

And with a pipe gift for Christmas you pave the way for future gifts throughout the year—humidors, racks, pouches, smokers, pipe lighters, smoking tobacco and many other accessories as well as more pipes are always welcome.

There's a symbol of peace and contentment when a man smokes his pipe—an appropriate for the spirit of Christmas.

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