

Every Christmas promises to bring an abundance of seasonal blooms and greenery to brighten the lives of plant appreciators. Like the lily of Easter, this wonderful winter holiday boasts some special living symbols of its own that contribute a splash of natural beauty to all facets of the festivities. In fact, the brilliant red and green hues of these Yuletide plants are the very colors of Christmas itself.

The versatile roles that Christmas flowers and foliage can play in your holiday productions range from decorating the house to posing prettily under the tree as unique and thoughtful gifts for family and friends.

Probably the most popular plant of all is the Poinsettia. The large, exotic leaves inspire a multitude of dramatic displays throughout the world. Used for many years to adorn homes and churches in Mexico at Christmas, they were first introduced to the United States by Joel Roberts Poinsett, our first Ambassador to Mexico. He was so taken with their winter-blooming loveliness that he brought cuttings home to his greenhouses in South Carolina more than 100 years ago.

Poinsettias with fiery red leaves are the most familiar although some new varieties show leaves of white, pink, pink with white stripes, and the pink with red specks that characterizes the dazzling newcomer, "Jingle Bells."

The traditional duty of decking the halls belongs to the Holly plant. Considered sacred in early days, it got its name from the word "holy." This present-day symbol of good will features clusters of bright red berries set against green, scalloped-edge leaves.

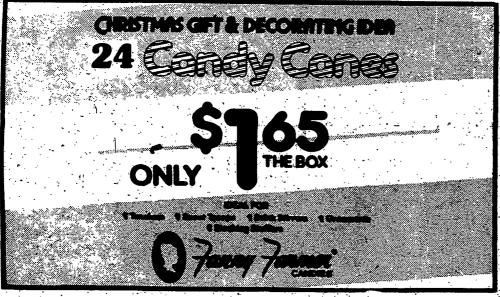
The Jequirity Bean, a striking black-tipped scarlet bean, can be found in a variety of dry centerpiece arrangements.

The Jerusalem Cherry, a small shrub native to the Old World, bears a slight resemblance to holly with its bright tomato-like balls of fruit and shiny green leaves.

The colorful Christmas Pepper plant combines seasonal beauty with a more practical appeal. The small, red hot peppers produced can be dried and used for seasoning food.

When it comes time to spread some good cheer and great color over your Christmas season, nothing surpasses the delightful presence of plants.









Sew of Ro their Berch Mary Helen Leona Helfric Sister Specka

Siste Ghent perform duties Joseph 1929-1 she su work a and putransf Acade active

of A Roche Xavies and S She Patrice France John's teache superior missio Yan; Elmira Moun he I remed Joseph

> native Roche

St. Fra and N taugh Web: Conc Franc Mary Alpho princi super Conce Patric bresei math Schoo Sist native

> Ambr (foren Schoo Anne Blesse served St. Jo Antho Patric I 963 ( classif Our I and t Roche Roche

taugh

Patric was conve Trinit

He age of Cathor the ag

Ma was c Church

was ç

Chur B. (Sr meml died I