

Extract from the Diocese of Coventry Chancellor's Churchyard Regulations (Nov 2021)

Flowers and other Items (paragraphs 87-90)

Incumbents are to discourage the provision of receptacles for flowers set within memorial tablets. However, if the incumbent believes that such provision is justified on pastoral grounds he or she may permit the inclusion of the same in a memorial.

Artificial flowers are not permitted and should be removed from any memorials on which they are laid. By way of exception to this prohibition the placing of wreaths and poppies is permissible in the periods of and leading up to Remembrance Day, Christmas, and Easter and on the anniversaries of birth, death, or marriage. Such items are to be removed not more than one month after those occasions. If the items are not removed by those who placed them on the memorials within that period they should be removed by the churchwardens or a person authorised by them.

No balloons or other portable items are to be left on a grave save that such items may be left in position for the period of one calendar month after interment. If the items are not then removed by those who placed them on the grave they should be removed by the churchwardens or a person authorised by them.

Cut flowers placed on graves quickly wither and become unsightly. The bereaved should be encouraged instead to have flowers placed in church on the anniversary of death or other appropriate occasions.