



Guidelines for Ministry of Lector

On the day that you are scheduled, be at the church 15-20 minutes before Mass. This assures the other Lector (Priest or ministers) that you are present, you can get any last minute instructions, and you can check to see that the lectionary is opened to the right reading, so you will not have to find your reading when you approach the ambo to read.

First Reading:

(The person who is assigned the first reading will be responsible for taking in the Book of the Gospels during the processional except if a Deacon would be present, in which case the Deacon processes the Book of Gospels.)

- ❖ Process after the altar servers.
 - Hold the Book of the Gospels in front of you, a little above eye level.
 - At the foot of the sanctuary step together and perform a head bow to the altar.
 - Proceed around the back of the altar and place the Book of the Gospels in the middle of the altar.
- ❖ Following the opening prayer, as all are seated approach the ambo, making a profound bow to the altar before proceeding into the sanctuary.
- ❖ Wait until all the assembly is seated and there exists a quiet readiness for the Word of God to be shared.
- ❖ Begin with "A (pronounced "Uh") reading from ..."
 - This is not a part of the reading. It is an announcement. There is no need to read it from the page. Look at the assembly as you say these words.
- ❖ Wait a moment before proceeding.
- ❖ Proclaim slowly and with deliberate changes in speed and emphasis.
- ❖ At the conclusion of the reading, pause a moment.
- ❖ Then proclaim, "The Word of the Lord."
 - This is not a part of the reading. It is an invitation to a response from the assembly. Look at the assembly as you say these words.
- ❖ At the foot of the sanctuary, turn back and make a profound bow to the altar.

Second Reading:

(The second reading begins right after the Responsorial Psalm.)

- ❖ Proceed to the ambo during the singing of the last refrain of the responsorial psalm.
- ❖ All the same as the First Reading, except after the reading close the Lectionary and place it on the shelf below.

Intercessions:

- ❖ Exit your pew and approach the altar towards the end of the Creed so that you will be at the ambo by the time the praying of the Creed is complete.

Thank you for sharing your time and talent in this ministry.