

Liturgical Ministry Description of Duties for Sts. Peter & Paul Lector

Preparation: Always be prepared for the readings before coming to Mass. Take a missalette home and practice the readings out loud for best results. Extra missalettes are in the closet in back of church. Please do not take them from the pews. *Please make sure you know how to pronounce the name of the Mass Intention. These are published in the bulletin the previous week. If unsure, contact the parish office.*

Appearance: Lectors should dress appropriately. This includes no tennis shoes, jeans, sweatshirts, tee shirts, shorts, short skirts or spaghetti straps.

Duties of Lector:

- Please arrive in the sacristy fifteen minutes before Mass begins so that any last minute instructions can be given concerning the celebration and the readings.
 - Take the announcement folder out to the lectern and place it on the shelf. Place the lectionary on the lectern, opened to the day's readings. Return to your seat.
 - If the deacon is not present, return to the sacristy to process in at beginning of Mass, the lector should enter first holding the Gospel book above his/her head, walking slowly and with dignity. If there is a cross bearer, the lector should walk following the cross bearer.
 - Proceed into the sanctuary around the altar and place the Gospel book in the middle of the altar. Return to the bottom step with the servers and priest and genuflect. Then return to your seat.
 - Immediately after the opening prayer, after the priest has sat down, bow to the altar, go to the lectern and proclaim the first reading.
 - All the readings are announced with a short "a" sound, not "a" as in the first letter of the alphabet. Pause for a silent prayer between each reading.
 - When the responsorial psalm is sung, not read, step away from the lectern. You may have a seat on the chair by the credence table, or stand next to the wall near the lectern.
(Always check to see if the response is going to be sung or read.)
 - After the second reading, place the lectionary on the shelf of the lectern, bow to the altar and return to your seat.
 - If the deacon is not present, the lector will read the petitions by approaching the lectern towards the end of the Nicene Creed. After the priest ends the prayers of the faithful with a prayer, bow to the altar and return to your seat.
 - As the priest returns to his chair after the distribution of Holy Communion, please approach the lectern. After a moment of silence, please lead the stewardship prayer which is in back of the missalette binder. The priest will then stand for the Prayer after Communion. Immediately following this you will read any announcements. You may then return to your seat.
 - Always remember to bow towards the altar when approaching & leaving the lectern.
- After Mass, please return the Lectionary, Gospel book, and prayers of the faithful folder to the sacristy. This will help in preparation for the next Mass.**
- If you cannot be present at your scheduled time, please find a substitute.**

Thank you for serving in this ministry.

(Revised September 2016)