

Lectors

How should you prepare?

- 1) It is important to remember that your ministry is 'proclaiming the Word of God'. Careful consideration should be given ahead of time to the meaning of the scripture and how best to proclaim it in a way that helps the community to both hear and understand the Word.
- 2) Arrive at least 15 minutes prior to the beginning of mass. As a minister of the Liturgy, we encourage you to participate in greeting and welcoming people before mass.
- 3) Verify that the Lectionary and Prayer of the Faithful are properly set for mass.
- 4) Sometimes it can be confusing to find where on the page the readings or petitions begin so please familiarize yourself with it before mass begins.
- 5) On rare occasions the readings may be different due to a Feast Day being celebrated or there may be more than one option for a particular reading. Please feel free to verify with the priest or deacon ahead of time which readings will be used, so that you may properly prepare.

When do you bow?

- 1) Unless otherwise requested, the Lector does not process in if a Deacon is serving at mass.
- 2) If no Deacon is present, the Lector should process in with the book of the Gospel, pause as the other ministers bow in front of the Altar (neither the Cross bearer nor the Lector holding the book of the Gospel should bow at that time).
- 3) Once the other ministers have bowed the Lector approaches the Altar from the Ambo side and places the book of the Gospel in the center of the Altar before the Priest reverences the Altar. After the book is placed upon the Altar, the Lector should return to his or her seat from the Ambo side of the Altar. If returning to their seat they must go in front of the Altar (such as by way of the center aisle or opposite side of Church) then it is appropriate for them to bow at that time.
- 4) When approaching the Ambo from the music area or side aisle of the same side of Church, go directly to the Ambo without bowing to the Altar.
- 5) If you must cross from the opposite side of church or approach from the center aisle, then it is appropriate to stop and bow in front of the Altar.

Other notes:

- 1) If you are doing both the first and second readings, stay in the sanctuary, step back from the ambo and be seated for the psalm response (a chair or seat will be available).
- 2) Return the book of the Gospel to its stand and reset the Lectionary and petitions for the next mass.