



Lector's Training 2017 *Checklist*

Scheduling

- You are responsible for retrieving your schedule from either the website or in the back of Church. It will not be sent to you.
- Verify that you are available to Lector on the date(s) scheduled.
- If you are unable to Lector the day you are assigned, you must find a substitute. Use the Lector Name and Telephone Number List as a guide to find a substitute.

Preparation (2-3 Days before Mass)

- Study and pray with both Readings and the Responsorial Psalm. You may do this by borrowing a missalette from church or by visiting www.usccb.org/bible/readings.
- Look up any words or names you are not familiar with in a pronunciation guide. The USCCB link above also has an audio version of the Readings. A pronunciation book is available in the sacristy in the cabinet above the Lectionary.
- Make note of any options in the Readings, i.e. short or long form, optional feast days. Check with the priest before Mass about his preference of reading.
- Practice the Readings aloud several times to get a feel for the rhythm, pacing, and meaning of the piece. Take it slow. The emotion and comprehension you put into the Word of God is evident and you can be much more effective if you understand what you are proclaiming.

Before Mass

- Arrive 20 minutes early for your assigned Mass.
- Sign in at the Southeast entrance of the Church.
- Ask the Priest his preference if there are varying versions of a Reading for that Mass.
- Check the Lectionary in the Sacristy to make sure the correct Readings are marked.
- Verify that a Cantor is present at Mass. If not, plan on doing the Responsorial Psalm.
- Coordinate with your partner lector about who will do which reading. Wait for them in the Sacristy until 10 minutes before Mass.
- Reread your Reading(s).
- Ten minutes prior to Mass, and/or after coordinating with the other lector, place the Lectionary on the ambo and sit in the designated

- lector pew. Your family may sit with you in the designated pew(s).
- If a Lector has not arrived by 10 minutes prior to Mass, find a replacement for him/her or do both readings yourself.
 - Say a prayer and reflect on the Readings you are about to share with the congregation.

Dress Code

- No Jeans!
- Men should wear dress slacks and a dress shirt. Tie and suit jacket are optional, but are recommended for Lectors serving at Christmas and Easter Masses.
- Women should wear modest skirts or dresses that reach the knee. Dress slacks are also appropriate. No sleeveless tops or leggings, please.

During Mass

- The First Reading is read following the Opening Prayer at the end of the Introductory Rites. Wait until everyone, including the celebrant is seated. Then, the Lector leaves the pew, bows toward the Altar before stepping into the Sanctuary, and proceeds to the ambo.
- If a Cantor is present, following the first reading, the Lector leaves the ambo, bows in unison with the Cantor at the base of the sanctuary, and returns to the Lectors' pew.
- If no Cantor is present, the lector who read the First Reading also reads the Responsorial Psalm.
- Following the end of the Responsorial Psalm, the Lector reading the Second Reading goes to the ambo in the same manner as the first Lector.
- When announcing the reading or ending it, do not add to the text:
 - Example: "Our second reading is from..." Don't do this
 - Example: "This is the Word of the Lord." Don't do this.

After Mass

- The Lector remains in the Lectors' pew until Mass and prayer time has ended.
- One Lector should return the Lectionary to the Sacristy before leaving the Church.

Thank you for your ministry! The Word of God, proclaimed well, can touch a lot of lives!

If you have any problems or questions, please contact:

Lector Coordinators
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