Lector
St. Nicholas of Myra Catholic Church

As Lector, your ministry is not just to read the scripture to the assembly, but to proclaim the story and tell of the event from salvation history. This ministry should be approached through prayer and reflection as you share with the assembly a message that they will take from the church and reflect on throughout the week.

Guidelines:

Pick up your ministry schedule the last Sunday of each month. Schedules are available in the stand by the sacristy in the gathering space. If you have e mail, the schedule will be e mailed to you.

There is a great difference between reading the scriptures and being able to proclaim the scriptures. Practice your reading daily so you will be able to proclaim the word well. A copy of the readings is included with the schedule.

On the day that you are scheduled, be at the church 15-20 minutes before Mass. This assures the other Lector that you are present, you can get any last minute instructions, it is a good time to take your song book to your pew in the front, 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 when a Deacon is 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.
  - Stop before the bottom step of the sanctuary and bow your head. (It is only necessary to bow your head.)
  - Proceed to the altar and place the Book of the Gospels on the bookstand located on the altar.
  - Return to your pew on the ambo side of the church.
- ☐ Following the opening prayer, as people are beginning to sit, approach the sanctuary and before stepping up, bow to the altar and then proceed to the ambo.
  - During the 9:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. Liturgy, listen/watch for Father to announce Children's Liturgy of the Word before moving.
  - Look at the assembly before you begin your reading.
  - This moment of silence is a powerful sign that something important is

about to happen.

☐ 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, wait a moment.

☐ Say, "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.

☐ After you finish, immediately return to the bottom step, turn and bow to the altar and proceed to your pew.

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

☐ Proceed to the ambo when the Responsorial Psalm has concluded.

☐ Wait until there exists a quiet readiness for the Word of God to be shared.
- Look at the assembly before you begin your reading.
- This moment of silence is a powerful sign that something important is about to happen.

☐ 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, wait a moment.

☐ Say, "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.

☐ When finished, immediately take the lectionary and prayerfully close it and place it on the bottom shelf in the ambo.

☐ Return to the bottom step, turn and bo to the altar and proceed to your pew.

Gospel Reading:
(The Gospel Lesson is proclaimed by the priest celebrant or a deacon.)

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

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