

Lector Instructions

Before Mass

- Please review your readings in advance, including announcements and petitions. Ask someone in the sacristy if you don't know how to pronounce a last name.
- Dress is business casual, appropriate, and modest.
- Check in with the sacristy 15 minutes early.
- If there is a Deacon, he will read the petitions. Otherwise, you will.
 - Note: We have not had a Deacon in a while, so this will likely not be applicable.
- Take the lectionary, announcement binder, and petitions to the pulpit. Please keep the side shelves clear, as this looks neater and more reverent. If you need to stow anything, use the shelf beneath the pulpit.

During Mass

- When Father gives you a signal from the back of the church, please read the Announcements sheet. The script is written out for you – which includes Welcome, Announcements, Stand and greet, Prayer, and Opening Hymn. When finished, go and bow before the altar and return to your pew.
- After the Opening Collect, proceed to the front and center of the church, **bow reverently** before the altar, and go to the pulpit for the reading.
- Please read only what is written. For example:
 - Please do not greet the congregation. The Celebrant has already done this, in the name of Christ, when he says, "The Lord be with you."
 - Please do not say, "Our second reading is a reading from" or "Today's first reading is."
 - The correct wording is "A reading from _____" and "The Word of the Lord."
- If the psalm is to be sung, reverently take your seat after the first reading and resume your place afterward. Otherwise, read the responsorial psalm in this manner:
 - Read the verse, then read it again with the congregation.
 - Please do not raise your hand to indicate when the congregation should respond. A deliberate pause can accomplish this. Also, many congregations follow along in the Missalette, and their spoken response will lead the rest.
- After the second reading, go before the altar and bow, then return to the pew. There is no need to rush as we allow God's Word to settle in.
- If you are reading the petitions:
 - When we get to "I believe in the Holy Spirit," come and bow before the altar, then go to the pulpit and take out the petitions. Read them after Father introduces them.
 - After Father's closing prayer, go and **bow reverently** before the altar and return to your pew.

After Mass

- Please return the lectionary, announcement binder and petitions to the sacristy.