

LECTOR

PROCEDURES

AT

HOLY TRINITY

CHURCH

March, 2004
Lenexa, KS
Revision: 1

Lector's Prayer

Lord, as I accept Your calling to be a Lector,
Bless me with passion that I may keep doing it with fervor,
Bless me with inspiration that I may keep doing it with excellence,
Bless me with wisdom that I may keep doing it with prudence,
Bless me with humility that I may keep doing it with servitude,
And bless me with love, that I may keep doing it for You.

Amen.

LECTOR PROCEDURES AT HOLY TRINITY

BEFORE MASS:

When your assigned Mass time arrives, report to the Liturgical Gathering Room 15 minutes before the beginning of Mass.

(Hopefully, you knew you were scheduled and had the opportunity to become familiar with the readings before arriving at church. The Lector's workbook provided to you FREE by the parish is a good preparation tool.)

Sign up on the sheet for the Mass – space for three lector's names

Lector #1 – reads the First Lesson

Lector #2 – reads the Second Lesson

Lector #3 – reads the petitions (General Intercessions) following the Creed.

- *If you are lector #1, check that the Book of the Gospels is on the window ledge. You will carry that Book in procession as Mass begins.*
- *If you are Lector #3 (reading petitions) look over the Liturgical Guide for the weekend. It will have the petitions printed in them.*

Remain in Gathering Room until after the celebrant leads everyone in prayer before the Service. Then lector #3 returns the church and his/her pew. *(Suggestion: Try to sit close to the altar and on an aisle seat.)*

Lector #1 will carry the Book of Gospels in procession into the Church and place it on the stand on the altar. Lector #2 walks next to #1. *(Suggestion: Lector #1 should check before the Mass to make sure the stand is positioned correctly on the altar).*

PROCESSION:

Lector #1, carrying the Book of the Gospels, and Lector #2 walk directly behind the servers carrying the cross and candles. When you reach the sanctuary area, move to the right a bit so celebrant and servers are in the middle area. After candle bearers and cross bear place their items in their proper holders, the celebrant genuflects with the servers. Lector #1 may either genuflect or make a profound bow. Then Lector #1 carries Book of Gospels to the altar and stands it upright in the holder. Lectors #1 & #2 then return to their pews to await the time for come forward for the readings.

AFTER OPENING PRAYER OF THE MASS:

Be prepared to come forward. Some celebrants invite people to “be seated as we listen now to the Scriptures for today.” Some do not. No matter, be prepared to come forward. Approach the Ambo from right side *(official name for lectern used for proclaiming the Word)* Bow before going up the steps, and then assume a comfortable, reverent position behind the ambo.

If ambo light is not on, reach under the top. Switch is on the right side of the lamp ~ it turns clockwise. Adjust the microphone so that you are looking out over it (*making sure it is not obstructing your view.*) You should NOT have to place it so close to your mouth that you could actually bite it.

(At Saturday 5 pm and Sunday 9:30 am, Lector invites children to come forward for a blessing before they are dismissed. After they leave the Church, lector proceeds.)

Proclaim the reading ~ then pause before saying: **The Word of the Lord.** Return to your pew.

AFTER FIRST READING:

Rarely will the Lector have to read the responsorial psalm at a weekend liturgy. Usually the cantor or choir will proclaim it in song. On the rare occasion that a lector would have to read it, it would be the responsibility of Lector #1.

FOLLOWING RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

When the responsorial psalm is finished, Lector #2 makes his/her way to the ambo. Be prepared to make your move immediately when responsorial psalm ends. Don't dally. Approach the ambo ~ bow and proceed up the steps. Adjust microphone if necessary and proclaim your reading. Pause before concluding with "The Word of the Lord."

FOLLOWING CREED:

Lector #3 makes his/her way to ambo like others and after the celebrant gives the introduction to the petitions, Lector #3 reads various petitions from Liturgical Guide on the ambo. After celebrant's concluding prayer, lector #3 invites the children to bring forward their canned food items for the poor. Lector #3 then returns to his/her pew.

AFTER FINAL BLESSING & DISMISSAL:

Lectors #1 and #2 join celebrant and servers at foot of the altar. Lector #1 DOES NOT carry out the Book of Gospels in the recessional. REASON: The Word of God is carried in through the Book. The Word is proclaimed. It now resides in our hearts - and at the end of the Mass we then personally carry out the Word residing in our hearts.

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