

Lector Guidelines

- The lectors of each mass must arrive at least 15 minutes before the mass.
- Be seated at the left side – in the first pew which is on the right side facing the Altar.
- After the ‘Amen’ of the opening prayer, first and the second readers leave their seat together, **gently bow at the steps and proceed to the Altar.**
- First reader goes to the lectern; the second reader sits on the seat provided at the Altar.
- The reading pattern:
 - **(do not say first reading)**
 - Start the reading by looking at the congregation
 - Say ‘A reading from (and pause for about 3 seconds - in your mind count 1001, 1002, 1003)
 - **(do not read the theme)**
 - Start proclaiming the Word of God
 - At the end of the reading..... (pause for about 3 seconds - in your mind count 1001, 1002, 1003) and looking at the congregation say ‘**The Word of the Lord**’.
 - **(do not say responsorial psalm or please repeat or any other instructions)**
 - If the choir does not sing, read the responsorial psalm and look at the congregation.
 - The congregation will repeat after you.
 - Read the verses one by one. After each verse, look at the congregation, they will repeat the responsorial psalm.
 - After the end of psalm, come down from the lectern and sit on the seat provided at the Altar next to the second reader.
 - Second reader goes to the lectern - starts reading.
 - **(do not say second reading)**
 - Start the reading by looking at the congregation.
 - Say ‘A reading from (pause for about 3 seconds - in your mind count 1001, 1002, 1003)
 - **(do not read the theme)**
 - Start proclaiming the Word of God
 - At the end of the reading..... (pause for about 3 seconds - in your mind count 1001, 1002, 1003) and looking at the congregation say ‘**The Word of the Lord**’.
 - **(do not say Gospel acclamation or please stand or any other instructions)**
 - If the Choir is present, they will sing ‘Alleluia’
 - If Choir is not present then read/sing the ‘Alleluia’
 - Begin reading the acclamation (once congregation has joined in, read softly).
 - At the end of the ‘Alleluia’, come down from the lectern and stand besides the first reader at the Altar.
 - After the gospel reading, **both the lectors come down from the Altar, gently bow facing the Altar** and occupy their seats at the first pew.
 - After the Amen of the “Creed”, the PoF lector to proceed from the first pew (do not hurry, walk at the normal pace), **gently bow at the foot of the Altar and go to the lectern and read the prayers of the faithful.**
 - Once finished reading all the prayers, stand at the lectern facing the congregation until the priest finishes the closing PoF prayer. **Come down, gently bow at the foot of the Altar** and return to the seat at first pew.
- If the scheduled lector for the particular mass does not reach before the mass starts – **STEP BACK** - do not go up for the reading, unless there’s not a single lector present. If there is a single lector present – that lector will do all the three readings.
- If need be, the coordinator can appoint any other inducted lector for the present mass.
- Very strictly - Always dress modestly and in formals only during readings.
- Remember – you are setting an example and the congregation is watching you.
 - Do not wear short skirts, short dresses and sleeveless.
 - Do not wear body hugging cloths, jeans & T-shirts, slippers and casual wear.
- The coordinators must ensure that the late lectors and un-appropriate dressed lectors do not go up to read.