

LECTOR

Guidelines for Proclaiming the Word at Mass

Ss. Peter & Paul Parish – Boonville

Updated 07-23-22

There are 2 Lector Workbooks in the Sacristy. Please use one to help you prepare for your readings. Pick up one of the workbooks the weekend before your assignment and return it when you come to Mass for your ministry. There are very helpful hints to enhance your proclaiming as well as a pronunciation guide in the workbook. PLEASE ARRIVE **AT LEAST 15 MINUTES** BEFORE MASS TIME TO SIGN IN AND PRACTICE. Also make sure the correct readings are marked in the Lectionary before you (or the servers) take it up and put it on the pulpit. (If you take it up, please bow before and after taking it up there). If there are options, ask Father which reading he needs you to proclaim.

You will then be seated (with your family) within the congregation—please sit in close proximity to the pulpit so the least amount of time and disturbance will be noticed.

At the time of readings:

- **Bow or genuflect to the altar when walking up to read** (if you are seated in the middle or on the south side of the altar, **bow in the center in front of the cross**; if you are seated on the north side, **bow at the corner by the pulpit toward the cross**. And then **bow in the same manner when you are through reading**.)

Proclaiming the Word:

- You are **proclaiming**, not reading nor performing. The workbooks are a great help with this.
- **Do not rush** through the readings. Make occasional eye contact with the crowd.
- **Pause approximately 3 counts before saying “The Word of the Lord!”**
- If there is **no music**, you will need to read the Responsorial Psalm.
- After 2nd Reading, close the lectionary and put it on the shelf in the pulpit. Pause 10-15 seconds between readings.

Prayers of the Faithful, Petitions, from the pulpit

Come up as the Creed *“I Believe in One, Holy, Catholic...”* Wait until Father completes the closing prayer.

Of course, when Deacon Dave is assisting, the lector will only need to go up at the time of the readings. He will read the petitions.

NOTE: If you are not signed in by 10 minutes before, the Coordinator may need find another lector to proclaim the word of the Lord or do that ministry themselves. .

If you are assigned and unable to fulfill your duty—You must get your own substitute in advance.

*A list of Lectors/Coordinators is in the vestibule, in the bulletin weekly/monthly and on the website.