



Little Flower Catholic Church

1264 Arch Terrace
Richmond Heights, Missouri 63117

Lector Guidelines

Thank you for your acceptance of this ministry as Lector here at Little Flower. As you are aware, since Vatican II, the people play a vital role in the celebration of the Eucharist. A role that allows the beautiful words of the Old and New Testaments to be proclaimed as the prophets of long ago.

As a lector, you have the responsibility to:

- ✓ Prepare yourself by reading the passages that you will proclaim in advance
- ✓ To speak in a clear and distinct voice
- ✓ To only proclaim what is written in the Lectionary

When you arrive for your time to proclaim the scriptures, proceed to the sacristy and you will find the Lectionary on the center table. You may want to review the readings one more time to make sure what you prepared is the same as what is in the Lectionary. If you are unsure of a pronunciation, there is a small book on the counter by the mailboxes called Lector's Guide to Biblical Pronunciations that you can use to help you.

There are also scripture study manuals that are kept in the sacristy that you may borrow for a few days to prepare for the readings. Please return them when you come to Mass on the day you are scheduled to read.

When it is time for Mass, you will process out immediately after the servers from the Blessed Mother Chapel. When you enter into the sanctuary, move to either the left or right and allow the deacon and priest to come forward. When Father reverences the Altar by bowing, you do the same. When the deacon and priest walk down the steps proceed to the chairs on the right side of the Altar. Continue standing.

When it is time for you to proclaim the word, walk over to the ambo, adjust the microphone. Before speaking, take a deep breath and relax. The Holy Spirit will be with you.

If you are the first reader, say to the congregation "A reading from the Book of Genesis" or "A reading from the first letter of Saint Paul to the Corinthians".

DO NOT...

- ✓ ...Say "The first reading" or the "The Second Reading".
- ✓ ...Add any additional information such as what the reading is about. Let the Holy Spirit tell the audience what the reading is about.
- ✓ ...Lift the Lectionary up when you are finished with the reading.

When you are finished reading the scriptures, simply close by saying "The Word of the Lord".

When both readings are completed, and the Alleluia is begun, you may then return to your pew.

If no Deacon is at the Mass, one of the readers will have to read the petitions that have been prepared. You can come up so that you are prepared to read towards the end of the Creed. If a Deacon is present, you may stay in your pew until the announcements need to be made at the end of Mass.

If there are announcements, come up after everyone has received communion. When father has completed the closing prayer and right before the final blessing is given is the time when you will make the announcements if any.

General Notes:

If there is no Deacon at the Mass, decide amongst yourselves, who will read the petitions after the Creed.

If there are announcements, it does not make any difference who makes them, just make sure that both readers understand who will make them.

If there are no announcements, or you are not the one that is not responsible for the announcements it is up to you to decide if you want to process out with the priest, deacon and altar servers. If you do process out, when Father, Deacon and altar servers come to the front of the altar, you to will move to that location. When everyone bows, you to will make a slight head bow. When it is time to process out, you follow the altar servers.