



When the Sacred Scriptures are read  
in Church, God Himself  
speaks to His people,  
and Christ, present in His word,  
proclaims the Gospel.

Therefore, the readings from the Word of God  
are to be listened to reverently by everyone,  
for they are an element of the  
greatest importance in the liturgy. (No.28)

Chapter Two: No.29 Excerpt from the General Instruction  
Of the Roman Missal

*Revised Guidelines for St. Teresa's Parish Lectors October 2011*

## The Privilege and Responsibilities of Lectors

- During the week prior to your proclaiming the Word of God in church, read **all** the readings set for that particular Sunday, especially the one assigned for you. It is important to become familiar with each of these scriptures, personally pondering their meaning and reflecting on any message which you received from having so closely attended to these scriptures.
- It is recommended that, as Lector, you should arrive at the church at least fifteen (15) minutes before Mass begins.
- On the bulletin board there is a copy of the current schedule for Lectors. Go there and place a mark that indicates you are present. **If you are substituting for another Lector, write in your name under that person's name.**
- In the event that you are unable to serve as Lector at the time for which you have been scheduled, please make every effort to contact another Lector to take your place.
- Please note that only out of absolute necessity should one Lector proclaim both readings.
- On the table at the back of the church you will find the **Lectionary**, opened and marked by a ribbon to the readings for that Sunday. Nearby will be a page showing the intercessions of the **Prayer of the Faithful**. **These will, usually, be prayed by the second Lector.** Also there is a **Pronunciation Guide** as a check for any word(s) about which you are doubtful.
- Both Lectors remain with the other ministers until the Priest leads the group in prayer in preparation for Celebration of the Eucharist .

### ENTRANCE PROCESSION

Usually, the first Lector, holding the Lectionary walks in procession, always allowing a comfortable space behind the Cross and candle bearers. **If possible, the Lectionary is carried, reverently raised in the sight of the people. Please do not carry any other item during the procession.** The second Lector goes to his/her place, reasonably near the front of the church. Feel free to sit with family or friends. You don't need to sit near the Presider as was the custom.

- As the first Lector reaches the step leading into the Sanctuary, he/she pauses, bows, and then proceeds to the ambo upon which the Lectionary is placed, **unopened**.

### **Proclamation of the Word**

#### **First Reader**

- Open the Lectionary to the page marked by the ribbon.
- Wait until you have the people's attention.
- Do not adjust the microphone.
- Proclaim the Scripture passage clearly and audibly. When you have completed the reading, **pause and then say:** "The Word of the Lord." Pause slightly. Then return to your place in an unhurried manner.

**Next follows the singing of the Responsorial Psalm.**

#### **Second Reader**

- After the Cantor has concluded the Responsorial Psalm, the second Lector pauses, stands and approaches the ambo to proclaim the second Scripture passage. Follow the same procedure as did the first Lector.

**After the Gospel and Homily are concluded,** the Priest leads the people in the **Creed**. At the words: "... I believe in the Holy the Spirit ...." the second Lector proceeds to the ambo. The Priest introduces the **Prayer of the Faithful**. The Lector prays each intercession, after each of which the congregation responds: "**Lord hear our prayer.**" The Lector remains at the ambo until the Priest concludes the prayer. **Then the Lector closes the Lectionary and returns to his/her place.**

#### **Final Procession**

- The Lectionary is not carried out, nor do the Lectors join in the final procession.

**After all Sunday Masses, (except Sunday evening)** please return the **Lectionary** to the table at the back of the church. After the Sunday evening Mass the Lectionary is brought to the sacristy.