

**Order of the  
Mass  
for  
Lectors and Proclaimers  
at**

**St. Patrick's Catholic Community**  
Scottsdale, Arizona

**October 2015**

## Order of the Mass for Lectors

### Procession (only if there is no deacon to carry the Book of Gospels)

- Lector #1 (L1) follows the CLOW teachers and immediately precedes the Presider.
- L1 carries the Book of Gospels, at least head-high, front cover facing forward.
- L1 stops at the foot of altar platform, to the left of the Presider
- The Presider bows; L1 does not bow.
- The Presider proceed to the altar; L1 ascends the steps once the Presider has reached the altar, and places the Book in the holder, facing outward to the congregation.
- L1 leaves the altar platform by the side and takes a seat in the congregation, in the “Lector Area” close to the ambo.

### First Reading

- After the Presider sits down following opening remarks, L1 **pauses 15 seconds\*** in his/her seat in the congregation.
- L1 goes to the ambo for the first reading; L1 does **not** bow to the ambo or the lectionary.
- L1 introduces the first reading by saying, “**A reading from the First Book of Kings**” or whatever is written in the Lectionary. Do not change any words.
- L1 proclaims the text of the first reading.
- At the conclusion of the text, L1 pauses one or two seconds, and then concludes the proclamation by looking at the congregation and saying “**The Word of the Lord.**”
- If necessary L1 turns the page to the second reading.
- L1 pauses 10 seconds and then leaves the ambo. (If the Cantor is waiting, L1 leaves the ambo immediately.)

### Second Reading

- Cantor leads the Psalm at the ambo.
- After the Cantor **leaves** the ambo, Lector #2 (L2) then pauses 15 seconds\* in his/her seat in the congregation.
- L2 goes to the ambo for the second reading; L2 does **not** bow to the ambo or the lectionary.
- L2 introduces the second reading by saying, “**A reading from the First Letter of Saint Paul to Timothy**” or whatever is written in

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\*Approximately the length of one slow *Hail Mary*.

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the Lectionary. Do not change any words.

- L2 proclaims the text of the second reading.
- At the conclusion of the text, L2 pauses one or two seconds.
- L2 concludes the proclamation by looking at the congregation and saying "**The Word of the Lord.**"
- L2 then waits for the music (*Alleluia* or *Gospel Acclamation*) to start.
- L2 places the book on the ambo monitor, or takes it to the pew.

### Prayers of the Faithful

- Prior to the Mass, Lector #3 (L3) ensures that the *List of Ill and Deceased* is the correct one for the Mass time.
- If there is a Creed,
  - L3 moves from the congregation to the base of the ambo when the Creed is almost over.
  - L3 moves up to the ambo at the conclusion of the Creed, awaiting the introduction of the Prayers by the Presider.
- If there is no Creed,
  - L3 moves next to the ambo during whatever rite has replaced the Creed;
  - L3 moves up to the ambo at the conclusion of the Creed, awaiting the introduction of the Prayers by the Presider.
- At the conclusion of the prayers, L3 remains at the ambo during the Presider's concluding prayers.
- When the concluding prayers are finished and the Offertory rite starts, L3 closes the binder and leaves the ambo.

### After Mass

- Each Lector returns the book or binder which he/she used, to the Vesting Room.

### Special Instructions for Handicapped Lectors

If it is too difficult to ascend the steps near the ambo, the lector may sit on the other side of the congregation and use the ramp to approach the ambo. If it is necessary to change the physical set-up of the altar or to use a lavalier microphone, please inform the A/V coordinator by email or telephone a few days in advance of your assignment.

# Order of the Mass for Lectors

## Do's and Don't's

### DO NOT ....

1. Bow at any time associated with Lector actions.
2. Add words to the introductory phrase or the closing phrase.
3. Change the text of the reading or intercession itself.
4. Move or even touch the microphone at the ambo

### DO

1. Practice the readings at home, including timing\*
2. Arrive at least 20 minutes ahead of time
3. Sit in the “Lector Area” of the church, on the ambo side and on the aisle near the front of that section.
4. Speak loudly and slowly

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\* Allow about 4 seconds per line as printed in the Lector Workbook