

Lectors

History: The lector is instituted to proclaim the readings from Sacred Scripture, with the exception of the Gospel.

In the celebration of the Eucharist, the lector has his own proper function (cf. nos. 194-198), which he himself must carry out. (GIRM, no. 99)

In the absence of an instituted lector, other lay people may be deputed to proclaim the readings from Sacred Scripture, people who are truly suited to carrying out this function and carefully prepared, so that by their hearing the readings from the sacred texts the faithful may conceive in their hearts a sweet and living affection for Sacred Scripture. (GIRM, no. 101). In the absence of a deacon, the lector may also announce the intentions for the Universal Prayer and, in the absence of a psalmist, recite the Psalm between the readings

Guiding Principles: To reflect proper reverence and annunciation of the words of Sacred Scripture to the faithful.

Updates to prior instructions:

The First and Second readers should take their seats in or near the choir area prior to the start of Mass.

When introducing the reading, Lectors should read what is written. **Do not** add defining words such as, "The first (second) reading today..." Likewise, during Daily Mass, there is no need to say, "Responsorial Psalm".

Be clear; Manage pace; Speak to the back of the congregation; Not necessary to look up and make eye contact; Resist the urge to be theatrical.

Both readers: Please step down from the ambo right after the congregation responds, "Thanks be to God". No long pause.

1st Reader should return his/her seat in the choir area.

2nd Reader: After reading, Close and place the book spine side up in the small shelf inside the ambo (on the right).

After the 2nd reading: When the congregation stands up for the Gospel antiphon both readers take their seats in the congregation. Bow together in front of the altar.