

## FROM THE PASTOR SUNDAY, AUGUST 27<sup>TH</sup>

The transition and restructuring continues. This week, our focus is on replenishing the ranks of our Lectors and Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion (EMC's). If you, or someone you know, is interested in these essential ministries, please contact me, Father Mark, at the parish office (504-834-9977, ext 3), or email [mraphael@archdiocese-no.org](mailto:mraphael@archdiocese-no.org).

After attending an Archdiocesan training session, you will be asked to serve twice per month, to be available for substitution as needed, and to serve on Holy Days of Obligation as needed. While we need help at all masses, we particularly ask for those who normally attend the 4 pm vigil on Saturday vigil, and 5 pm Sunday evening masses to consider helping.

These are the qualifications from the Archdiocesan website:

- “1. *Only adults (18 years and older) are to serve as extraordinary ministers of Holy Communion (EMC's). [Age is more flexible for Lectors, especially in the context of youth/school masses].*
2. *EMC's and Lectors manifest a devotion to the Eucharist in both their public and private lives of prayer.*
3. *EMC's and Lectors manifest a sense of presence and self-confidence in their liturgical decorum and in their relationships with others.*
4. *EMC's and Lectors are exemplary in their living out the Christian life, faith and morals.*
5. *EMC's and Lectors are aware of and responsive to the Church's view of the importance of lay ministries.*
6. *EMC's and Lectors are in good standing with the local Church community.*
7. *EMC's must be fully initiated into the Catholic Church (i.e., have received the sacraments of Baptism, Eucharist, and Confirmation).” [Youth who have not yet received the Sacrament of Confirmation may serve as Lector in the special context of youth/school masses.]*

Please prayerfully consider service in these ministries, and feel free to contact me for more information.