

Ministry of Lector



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To proclaim the Word of God

*St Philip Neri Catholic Church
Revised September 2015*

You are a PROCLAIMER, not just a “reader”, of the Word of God which requires much preparation through Prayer and reflection over the Scriptures to be proclaimed. Please study the Scriptures with your Lector Workbook during the week, even if you are not scheduled to read.

Practice, PRACTICE, P-R-A-C-T-I-C-E!!!

Proclaiming aloud at home (maybe in a mirror)

Clear volume for projecting your voice (to the person in the last pew)

- ◆ Proper pronunciation and enunciation of words, (*t, d, st*, etc.)
- ◆ Emphasis of particular words
- ◆ Proper sentence phrasing and pauses (commas, semi-colons, periods)
- ◆ Expression of emotion through punctuation markings (! ? : .)

Dress code Preference:

Weekend Liturgy

Dress in such a manner that gives dignity to the ministry you are called to do:

- ◆ For women during weekend liturgy: a **modest** dress, dresses should be no shorter than knee length, tops should not reveal any cleavage, tight fitting clothing is discouraged, pantsuits are okay.
- ◆ For men during weekend liturgy: a coat and tie.

Daily Mass is a little more casual, but still modest

Procedure:

- Arrive at least 15 minutes prior to Mass start time (if possible).
- Lector 1 and Lector 2, please sign in (The book is located in the Sacristy)
- Lector 2 reviews the General Intercessions.
- Lector 1:
 - ◆ Go to the lectern (Ambo). Check to be sure the correct Lectionary is open to the appropriate place on the lectern.
 - ◆ Ensure the Intercessions (Prayers of the Faithful) are available on the lectern.
- At 10 minutes prior to Mass, sign in as Lector 2 if other Lector is not there.
- At 5 minutes prior to Mass, both Lectors, other liturgical ministers and Priest meet for prayer.
- After prayer, Lector 2 makes announcements before Mass and leads Hurricane Protection Prayer and then returns to pew seat. Lector 1 carries the Gospel Book, if no Deacon.

Opening Procession

- ◆ Lector 1 holds the Book of the Gospels a little above eye level, with ribbons at bottom, Do not bow at the altar, simply pause, then approach the altar, turn the Book of Gospels so that the front is facing the congregation and place it in the **book stand** on the altar. Bow at the waist on the **Red Cross** and then proceed to your pew seat by way of steps to your right.

At the Liturgy of the Word

- ◆ Lector 1 approaches the front of the altar, reverences with a bow at the waist at the **Red Cross** in the sanctuary and then walks to the ambo. Pause (1-2-3). During Baptisms, Lector 1 waits until after Father goes back up to the presider chair. Lector 1 should not turn page for Lector 2.

- ◆ Lectors 1 and 2 *Note: Microphone use - no need to lean in. Too close, not better
 - ◆ Project your voice to back pew, chin up. Move Lectionary up to top of Ambo.
 - ◆ Announce the Introduction memorized with eye contact, PAUSE after introduction sentence of the scripture reading (slow... 1 one thousand -2-3)
 - ◆ Liturgical language: no other greeting nor announcing of scriptural annotation

 - ◆ Then, PROCLAIM---- the Word of God ---- S-L-O-W-L-Y and L-O-U-D-L-Y.

 - ◆ Use eye contact with the congregation on all sides. Follow with finger if necessary.

 - ◆ ***PAUSE after the end of the scripture reading (slow...1-2-3) with eye contact - before saying, “The Word of the Lord.” The Lector is to step back from the Ambo and remain there for a brief time, *bow your head and silently, slowly pray then return to your seat. Bow on the Red Cross.***
 - ◆ ***(***If only one Lector, please step back from the Ambo and move back near the column to the altar to allow Cantor to approach Ambo. Following the Psalm by Cantor, pause for a brief time to allow Cantor to return, re-approach the Ambo for the second reading.)***

 - ◆ Responsorial Psalm will be sung by the Cantor ...

 - ◆ After the Psalm, Lector 2 begins to come forward, when the Cantor begins to move.
 - ◆ Lector 2 approaches the front of the altar, reverences with a bow at the waist, on the **Red Cross**, then walks to the Ambo. After the reading is complete, ***bow your head and silently, slowly pray***, close the Lectionary and place it on the shelf under the Ambo. Bow at the waist in front of the altar on the Red Cross and return to the pew.

 - ◆ The “Alleluia” will be sung, including the verse.

 - ◆ **General Intercessions**
 - ◆ Lector 2 approaches the front of the altar, reverences with a bow at the waist, and approaches the Ambo DURING “...I believe in the Holy Spirit...” and the Priest’s introduction of the Prayers of the Faithful for the reading of the General Intercessions. (**Note: During Baptisms, the Prayers of the Faithful following the Baptism after the priest returns to the Presider Chair.**)
 - ◆ **REMAIN AT THE AMBO** during the prayer after the intercessions. When everyone is seated, then the Lector returns to his seat after bowing at the waist before the altar on the Red Cross.
 - ◆ At this point, the Lectors have completed their ministry, therefore, recessional is not necessary.
- At the end of Mass,
- ◆ Ensure the Lectionary is placed back on the Ambo and opened to the correct readings for the next Mass. (After 10am Mass, return it to the Sacristy.)
 - ◆ Return the Book of Gospels back to the Sacristy.
 - ◆ Pray a Prayer of Gratitude to God for the honor and privilege to Proclaim God’s Word
 - ◆ Know of the deep appreciation of our faith community for you sharing your gift!

Thank You for serving as a Proclaimer Minister God’s Word

DAILY MASS

Before:

- ◆ Sign in on the liturgical minister sheet in the Sacristy.
- ◆ Check the Lectionary and open it to the proper reading for the day.
- ◆ Since the Lector will also be reading the prayer petitions, go over the prayer petitions in the Sacristy & make sure the Prayer Petitions book is at the Ambo.
- ◆ Be seated on the end of a row of or pew.

Proclaiming the Word of God during Mass:

- ◆ Approach the Sanctuary, reverence with a bow at the waist at the **foot of the steps** and approach the Ambo. Pause (1 one thousand-2 one thousand-3 one thousand).
- ◆ Liturgical language: no other greeting nor announcing of scriptural annotation
- ◆ Announce the Introduction with eye contact, PAUSE after introduction sentence of the Scripture reading (slow...1-2-3).
- ◆ After proclaiming the Word, pause...1-2-3...
**(refrain from announcing “Responsorial Psalm is...”)
- ◆ then, proclaim ...the Responsorial Psalm. Simply proclaim with a natural ending and pause after each stanza to indicate the invited response.
- ◆ Respond with refrain verbally, **in a softer voice**, with the people .
- ◆ Following the Prayers of the Faithful, remain at the Ambo during the Collect Prayer by the Priest.
- ◆ When the congregation begins to be seated, leave the Ambo, bow at the foot of the steps, then return to your pew seat.

After Mass:

- ◆ Return the Lectionary and the Prayers of the Faithful Book to the Sacristy
- ◆ Pray a Prayer of Gratitude to God for the honor and privilege to Proclaim God’s Word
- ◆ Know of the deep appreciation of our faith community for you sharing your gift!

******During hurricane season, the hurricane prayer will be prayed by the Lector just before Mass begins.***

******During the month of May and October, the Rosary is led prior to the Prelude song (if applicable) and the hurricane prayer.***

******During other times we will pray the Prayer of St. Philip Neri.***