

# Parish Ministry of Lector

This ministry may also be called Reader or Proclaimer of the Word. A lector is the person who proclaims the first or second reading at Mass. This ministry in the Church requires a person who is of excellent character, and serious about the practice of their faith. The lector must believe that Sacred Scripture is the Word of God and have deep respect for God's presence in that Word. The Sacred Scriptures in their liturgical proclamation are the source of life and strength. As a Proclaimer of the Word, you are the instrument of the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit works through your being and your voice to accomplish, in the Sacred Scriptures proclaimed aloud, the spiritual transformation of those listening. This person also may lead the Prayers to the Faithful at Mass.

## Who may be a Lector?

Members of the parish who are 18 years old or older, who have completed the sacrament of Confirmation, and who are also compliant with the Parish Safe Environment Policy (clearances) are welcome to become a Lector. Such a person is in full communion with the Catholic Church and serious about the practice of their faith. And, who is willing to complete the training to be IHM Lector. A lector must have the qualifications and desire to minister to this capacity at the Eucharistic liturgy. For more information on how to become a Lector, please contact Deacon Sam Bianco or Sidney J. MacLeod, Jr.

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

### How do I know which reading and how to prepare before Mass?

At the training you will receive a Lector's workbook. This book will have the reading for the day you are assigned and will help you practice your readings and look up any pronunciations you may be uncertain. Come to Church 15 minutes prior to Mass to make sure you review the same reading in the Lectionary placed in the sacristy. Before every mass, you are responsible for checking your name off in the sacristy. The lector is also invited to be a part of the entrance procession at the start of mass.

### Which mass will I be assigned to?

Primarily, it is based on your preference - typically the weekend Mass you attend more regularly; but we ask that all Lectors help cover Masses when there is a need, especially on Feast Days, Holy Days, and occasionally when Lectors is unable to serve their scheduled Mass.

### How often do I serve?

IHM is not yet blessed with many Lectors so you may serve twice a month or more. You will also serve on a rotating basis. You can also choose to serve as a substitute or trade off with the other Lector.

### What's the time commitment?

Generally, the time commitment is your personal spiritual preparation time and the practice time prior to the Mass you will read, and arriving about 15 minutes before Mass.

### Are there meetings?

Generally, the meetings are very few and average once or twice a year. A training session is provided for all new Lectors.

### Whom should I contact if I have more questions?

Feel free to speak to any of the Lectors that read at our Masses and talk with them about their experience as lector. If you have any further questions, please contact the Parish Office by phone: 215-483-1000

## REQUIREMENTS

- A registered member and a good public reader

- Love and reverence for the Eucharist/Prayerful disposition
- Attend the training session (no more than 1 hour) and retreat

You are welcome to sign-up if you can serve as a Lector or are interested in becoming a Lector. Please call the parish office at 215-483-1000