

# LECTOR OVERVIEW

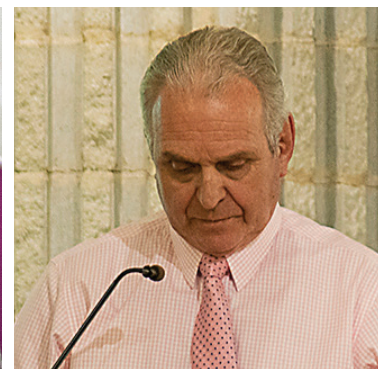
April 2025

## OUR LADY OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT PARISH

Being a lector isn't just about reading words on a page. It's about **bringing Scripture to life** so that **hearts are moved** and **faith is deepened!**

As Lectors, we have the important job of **proclaiming God's Word** with clarity, conviction and reverence.

**Let the Word take root in you** so you can share it with power!



## Preparation

1. Review **email messages from Scheduler** with the **upcoming Lector Schedule**. The monthly schedule is generally sent out two weeks or so in advance, and schedules or signups for Holy Days of Obligation or special liturgies are sent as needed. Record date and time of your assigned Masses in your calendar.
2. If you are unable to attend your assigned Mass, please use the Lector roster from Lisa to call and find a substitute. It is **your responsibility to find your substitute**.
3. Review the **Sunday and Holy Day email messages from Parish Office** with **Liturgy Script and Notes**. Review and practice the Universal Prayer/Prayer of the Faithful and ensure proper pronunciation of family names.
4. **Practice your readings** as you review the direction and reflections offered in the **Workbook for Lectors**. Include your personal prayer as part of your preparation.

## Protocols for Mass

1. Arrive to Mass **at least 10-15 minutes prior to Mass**.
2. **Sign-In** using the sheet in the Usher's Room (QR)/Sacristy (SJ). If you are a substitute, please indicate so next to your name. **Review Universal Prayer** to view any updates. Check the Lectionary to identify and memorize the page number for the First Reading.
3. **Check the Lectionary on the ambo** to ensure the correct readings are ready for the Mass and turn to the correct page number if needed. Also, ensure that the **binder with the Universal Prayer/Prayer of the Faithful** is in the pocket (QR) or on the shelf (SJ) on the Ambo.
4. With time remaining prior to Processional, **greet/welcome people** as they arrive for Mass.
5. **Process in the Gathering/Opening Processional**. As each person arrives at front of Altar, pause and bow, then proceed to the Altar.
6. **Reverently approach ambo** for the first reading.
7. **Pause** after saying "A reading from..." and before saying "The Word of the Lord." After first reading, step back with head bowed and wait for music to begin before moving to the chair. Your cue to move is when the music begins (the Psalm, Alleluia/Gospel Acclamation).
8. Sit in **adjacent chair during the Psalm**.
9. After proclaiming the second reading, **close the Lectionary** and place it in the pocket (QR) or on the shelf (SJ) on the ambo. Step back with head bowed, pause, & wait for the music/Alleluia to begin, then walk back to your seat on the Altar. NOTE: the Presider or Deacon will proclaim the Gospel using the Book of the Gospel.
10. You are responsible for reading the Universal Prayer unless a Deacon is participating in Mass. If a **Deacon is present, he will read the Universal Prayer**.
11. When reading the Universal Prayer, **begin approaching the ambo at the last section of the Creed**, "I believe in one holy, catholic, and apostolic Church...". Approach the ambo and open the binder with the Universal Prayer. After the Creed concludes, the Presider will begin the Universal Prayer, and you will pray the Intentions. After finishing the Intentions, please do not leave the ambo until after the Presider's concluding prayer. After the concluding prayer, **close the binder** with the Universal Prayer, return it to the pocket (QR) or lower shelf (SJ) on the ambo, descend the stairs of the Altar, turn and face the Altar, bow reverently, and take a seat among the congregation.
12. At the conclusion of Mass and after the Presider gives the Final Blessing, those on the Altar will descend the stairs and form a line down the front aisle—in order starting closest to the Altar: Presider, Deacon, Altar Servers, Altar Server carrying the Cross. All face the Altar and bow reverently, turn and face the congregation then process out of church. Note: The Lector will NOT process out at the conclusion of Mass.

**Notes on bowing.** A **profound bow (deep bow at the waist)** is completed when approaching the Altar at the beginning of Mass and during the Nicene Creed as we say "and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man." A **simple bow (slight bow at the waist with bow of the head)** is completed at all other times.