



*CHURCH OF ST. JOHN*

**JMJ**

AUGUST 16, 2011

The Bible does not simply talk about God, but is God’s own speech. In the Liturgy of the Word, therefore, we encounter the words of God Himself spoken personally to each of us. To hear the words of God is a serious matter. In order to appreciate the profound nature of what is really happening in the Liturgy of the Word, we consider the amazing role played by the lector who reads the Scriptures to us. As a lector, you are not simply a public reader of the Bible. At Mass, the Lord uses the lector as the instrument through whom he proclaims his Word to the people. Think of this as the lector lending God his human voice so that God’s words can be spoken to us at Mass. What an amazing honor and privilege it is to read the Word of God! Along with this honor and privilege, there are some responsibilities:

**QUALIFICATIONS:**

Must be baptized, receive Eucharist, and must be in good standing with the Roman Catholic Church.

Must be registered as a member of St. John’s Church.

**PREPARATION FOR THIS LITURGICAL MINISTRY:**

Prepare the reading before you come to Mass to help you better understand what you will be reading. Please enunciate, read slowly and clearly.

Please call a sub if you are unable to be here for your appointed time.

Dress appropriately. For men - please wear slacks (not jeans) with a button shirt and tie. A coat would be a nice touch. For women - skirts and dresses which are below the knees and slacks are appropriate. Please keep shoulders and midriff covered. For all, advertising on a shirt is a distraction.

Traditional jewelry is fine - nose rings, tongue rings, etc would be considered distracting. The focus must be on the readings, not on how good or bad we look. Be as transparent as possible.

Arrive at the sacristy 15 minutes before Mass to pray together. This will give you time to check pronunciation of words and names in the Scripture (found in a book in the sacristy) as well as in the intercessions. It also gives everyone peace of mind to know all the roles are filled.

**AT THE AMBO:**

When Fr. Dan leaves the sacristy, wait 15 seconds, then proceed to ambo. Begin the Building Project prayer when you see Father and the servers in the back of church.

You will no longer process in with The Book of Gospels.

Please make a profound bow (bowing from the waist) to the altar when you come to and when you leave the ambo coming from either the center or side aisle.

Read only what is printed in the Lectionary. Don’t add words such as “Good Morning,” “the First Reading is. . .” . At the end please say “The Word of the Lord”. Do not say “**This is** the Word of the Lord”

Pause approximately 5 seconds before and after the readings before beginning the next reading.

The Responsorial Psalm will be read by the Lector during Advent and Lent. When the Alleluia is permitted, it is always sung by choir/cantor, however the verse may be read by Lector if needed.