



Our Lady Queen of Peace Church

708 Erie Street ~ Grafton, Ohio 44044

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Procedures for Lectors

- Proper attire
- The black 3-ring binder will be in the St. Joseph room with petitions – check the readings to make sure they are the ones you reviewed and practiced. Check the petitions, especially the names of people that we pray for in case you need some help with the pronunciation of last names.
- The Book of the Gospels will be in the St. Joseph room.
- Procession will begin in the Gathering Area outside the St. Joseph room.
- Proceed (1st Lector) down the center aisle behind the altar servers toward the Sanctuary and with the Book of the Gospels held up either above your eyes (bottom of the Book) or below your chin (top of the Book). Do not hold the Book of the Gospels in front of your face.
- **Pause** at the base of the steps (**do not bow with the Book of the Gospels**)
- Go up the steps and to the right side of the altar.
- Walk behind the altar and place the Book of the Gospels on the altar. **Do not bow or make the sign of the cross.**
- Walk down the steps on the left side of the Sanctuary. At the bottom of the steps, turn back toward the altar and bow before proceeding back to your seat. The same procedure applies after your respective reading and after reading the petitions. Bow more so in the direction of the altar and not the Tabernacle.
- Note that within the left grouping of pews, the front row on the outer left side of the pew is reserved for the lectors. The exception will be Holy Name Sunday.
- When coming up to proclaim the reading, bow to the altar and go up the steps to the ambo. Depending on where you sit, you have the option of approaching the ambo from either the center or the left of the Sanctuary.
- At the end of your reading and before you say “The Word of the Lord”, **wait 2 to 3 seconds** before you say “The Word of the Lord”. The reason for this is to allow the congregation to reflect on the message you just proclaimed; especially the last sentence.
- The 2nd lector is responsible for placing the black 3-ring binder on the shelf of the ambo after their reading as this clears the ambo for the priest to place the Book of the Gospels onto the ambo.
- As the Profession of Faith is ending, (2nd lector) begin moving to the ambo to read the petitions. Do not wait for the priest to announce the petitions before moving toward the ambo.
- **After finishing the petitions, remain at the ambo turning and looking at the priest as he concludes the prayer.**
- After Mass, we are asking that the 1st Lector bring the Book of the Gospels and the black 3-ring binder back to the St. Joseph room. However, the lectors can work together or agree as to who will bring the books back to the St. Joseph room. **Bottom line:** the Lectors are responsible for making sure the books get back to the St. Joseph room at the end of Mass.
- Speak slowly (but not too slow) and clearly – larger churches have different acoustics
- Where the readings tend to be longer, increase your reading speed (but not too fast).
- Practice your reading using the workbook as it provides insight into the readings and offers helpful hints and pronunciations to unfamiliar words; especially names and places.
- Become use to looking from side-to-side as well as directly ahead.