

ARCHDIOCESAN GUIDELINES FOR THE MINISTRY OF READER

The church has high expectations of all who proclaim the word of God within the assembly of believers. “It is necessary that those who exercise the ministry of reader... be truly qualified and carefully prepared so that the faithful may develop a warm and living love for Scripture from listening to the Sacred texts read”. ([Lectionary for Mass: Introduction](#))

The liturgy documents specify what should be included in training for readers at liturgy.

Spiritual preparation:

- Biblical formation: “...to give readers the ability to understand the readings in context and to perceive by the light of faith the central point of the revealed message” (LM)
- Liturgical formation: “...to equip readers with some grasp of the meaning and structure of the liturgy of the word and of the significance of its connection with the liturgy of the eucharist”. (LM)

Technical preparation:

- “...to make the readers more skilled in the art of reading publicly...” (LM)

Any parish training program for readers should include formation in understanding the Scriptures, understanding the Mass, and training and practice in public speaking principles. A small part of the training should include specific procedures for readers during the Mass.