



**ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE
CATHOLIC CHURCH
4453 WARREN-SHARON ROAD
VIENNA, OH 44473**

Lectors:

1. Please **practice the readings** out loud at home, don't just study silently. Workbooks have pronunciation and a pronunciation guide is with the workbook in sacristy. Take your time learning the names. Look ahead when there are optional readings and contact Father.
2. A copy of the workbook will be in sacristy for practice. Lectionary will already be on stand.
3. The Mass Intention will always be the last Intercession. If you are unfamiliar with the name for the **Mass Intention**, ask beforehand how to pronounce it. People get a little touchy at times and then they yell at Shirley.
4. Please **arrive at least 15 minutes before** Mass and show your face in the sacristy so we don't worry.
5. Please **dress up** for Mass, you are performing a public ministry in the Church. Full suit and tie or ball gown is not necessary (but would be nice at Christmas and Easter), but sweat pants, t-shirts, and flip-flops are not a great idea.
6. Stay in the sacristy before Mass, we will pray a prayer together.
7. Unless you have a medical problem that makes walking distances a problem, all ministers of the Mass should be in the opening and closing **processions**.
8. In opening and closing processions, all ministers (except servers carrying things) should have a **hymnal** and sing along. This sets the example for others.
9. In opening procession, lectors walk behind servers. You can process in two by two or singly. Wait at bottom step with other ministers until Father arrives, then all bow together, then go back to seat.
10. If there is no Deacon, the Lector for the First Reading carries the Book of Gospels first behind the servers. It should be held in front of your face, not above your head. Do not wait for Father to come up, go directly to altar and place on stand, then come back to group to bow to altar.
11. Lectors should sit towards the front, near the center aisle. Family can sit with you there. This is so that we don't have to watch the lector come from the side, go to the middle and then back over to the ambo.
12. When at the ambo, while reading, think of your feet as rooted to the floor like tree roots.
13. You don't have to keep looking up at the congregation while reading. Hearing the reading correctly is more important.
14. As people are sitting down after the Opening Prayer, start coming up for reading.
15. When coming up from your seat to read, go to center in front of altar at bottom of stairs, make a **profound bow** to the altar, then go over to ambo. After reading, go back to the center, bow to altar, then return to seat.
16. Second Reader, come up when the final notes of the Psalm have finished.
17. After Second Reading, please remove the Lectionary and put in shelf. Make sure the intercessions are still on ambo.
18. Speak **loud enough** to reach the microphone. Be loud, slow, and distinct. You have to pick up your head and read through the bottom of your eyes so your mouth is near microphone.
19. If there is no Deacon, the second reader comes up to read the Intercessions. As always, come to center, bow to altar, then come up to read.
20. Wait for the Nicene Creed to end completely before you come up to read the **Intercessions**. My introduction for the Intercessions is NOT a prayer, so yes you can come up while I am saying it. At the end of the Intercessions, I AM saying a prayer, so wait at ambo until end of prayer and then return to seat. Again, bow before and after in the center.
21. At the end of Mass, I will sing a couple of verses of the closing song. When I start to walk towards the altar to kiss it at the end, please start to come up in front of steps for recessional. We will all bow

together, then turn and process out. The servers will lead the recession. The Gospel book does NOT process out. You can go two by two or singly again.

22. Please **do not wear your winter coat** in exit Recessional. It is a procession of the Mass, not an exit from the church. I understand if you want to keep your purse with you.