

Lector

➤ Overview

The Lector serves the liturgical assembly by proclaiming Sacred Scripture during the Liturgy of the Word. The competent exercise of this role enables the Church to hear the Word of God more clearly and receive it more readily. Leads the Prayer of the Faithful in the absence of the deacon.

➤ Activities/Responsibilities

- Prepares for her/his role by rehearsing, praying over and coming to understand the biblical text assigned her/him for a particular liturgical celebration.
- Participates fully in the Liturgy as an exemplary member of the assembly.
- Proclaims the biblical text with clarity, conviction, dignity and understanding.
- Expresses reverence and decorum in carrying out this and other aspects of her/his role according to the general liturgical norms (procession, handling the Lectionary, etc.).
- Is faithful to the schedule of assignments and helpful in assuring that all the parish community's liturgical assemblies are adequately served with this ministry.
- Participates in rehearsals of ceremonial procedures in the parish community.
- Is responsible to find replacement if unable to fulfill scheduled assignment, and to notify the Ministry Coordinator of any changes.

The Activities/Responsibilities listed above may not completely reflect the ministry performed at this parish. Please refer to the 'Other Specifics' box for duties that are specific to this parish.

Other specifics:

➤ Skills, Experience, and Qualifications

- Is a fully initiated member of the Catholic Church who has been duly prepared and appropriately commissioned for this role.
- Must be at least 16 years of age.
- Must have sufficient skills and maturity to serve the liturgical assembly as outlined here.
- Is devoted to and understands the importance of the liturgical celebrations of the Church community, all the importance of the Liturgy of the Word within the whole celebration of the Eucharist and all sacraments.
- Has the natural and spiritual ability to speak the biblical Word intelligibly and comfortably in the midst of the assembly.
- Has an understanding of the structure of the Lectionary for Liturgy.

➤ **Personal Traits and Qualities**

- Desires to serve the community and to commit time and talents to this ministry.
- Possesses a love for the Bible and an aptitude to share this Word with others as well as a willingness to grow in understanding the scriptures through study, prayer and reflections.
- Committed to prayer, gospel values and growth in personal holiness.
- Has enthusiasm, a positive attitude and good public speaking skills.
- Has a spirit of generosity.
- Is open to vocal coaching as required (use of microphone, volume, pacing, posture, etc.).

➤ **Orientation and Training**

Standard parish orientation program and has participated in a training process on reflecting on the theology of the Liturgy of the Word as found in the Lectionary, and practical training in proclamation.

➤ **Participant Group**

The assembly

➤ **Support, Supervision, and Evaluation**

The Lector's Coordinator or _____ is the first level of support, supervision and evaluation.

➤ **Length of Ministry Appointment**

Three to five year term with the ability to renew.

➤ **Benefits and Working Conditions**

Will directly impact the liturgical experience at the parish.

Will further develop public speaking skills.

Will develop deeper appreciation for Sacred Scripture.

This is a volunteer position requiring a time commitment of ___ hours per week/ ___ hours per month.

Must be able to attend the orientation session and training sessions as required.

➤ **Screening Recommendations**

This is a General risk position.

Completion of a Volunteer Information Form is required.

Training and orientation are required.

There will be supervision and periodic evaluations.

This ministry position description accurately reflects the *Ministry of Lector* currently

practiced at _____.

(Parish Name)

Parish Volunteer Screening Committee

Pastor

Date

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