

Lector Guidelines for St. Romuald Parish
2014

1. **Be at church at least 15 minutes before Mass begins and let the priest know you are present.**
2. Check the lectionary at the ambo to make sure it is open to the correct page. Read over the petitions before Mass begins.
3. In the entrance procession the first lector **walks behind the cross bearer** and carries the Book of the Gospels overhead. When you get to the steps of the sanctuary go around the altar and place the Book of Gospels in the center of the altar.
4. When coming up to read, **make a slight bow of the head** towards the altar.
5. Look out over the assembly and wait until all are settled in their seats before starting to read. Look at the assembly as you begin your reading. Make eye contact as much as possible.
6. Read clearly and slowly with volume and enthusiasm. You are proclaiming the Word of the Lord not just reading it. At the end of the reading pause, and looking up proclaim, "The Word of the Lord."
7. After the reading bow your head, pause and then return to your seat. After the first reading, if the psalm is not being sung then continue in leading the responsorial psalm.
8. After the responsorial psalm the second lector goes to the ambo. After the second reading, close the lectionary and place it on the shelf under the ambo. (When there is only one lector, come down and sit in the front pew or go over by the side entrance while the psalm is being sung, then go back to the ambo for second reading.)
9. Near the end of the creed (when you hear the word "prophets") the reader moves to the ambo for the prayers of the faithful. While the priest invites the people to pray the lector turns toward the priest. The lector then leads the petitions. After the last petition turn again toward the priest while he says the concluding prayer then return to your seat.
10. Remember to dress appropriately when serving as a lector.
11. Prayerfully read all the readings at home every week. Practice proclaiming the reading out loud.
12. If you cannot attend Mass when you are scheduled please make arrangements for someone to take your place.