

Ministry Formation – Lector Coming and Going Guidelines

- **Arrive at Church 20-30 minutes before the Mass time.**
 - Let the presider and other ministers know that you are there.
 - Make sure that the Lectionary is set up for the correct reading.
 - Sit in the body of the church and quietly prepare yourself to proclaim.
 - Participate fully in the responses and singing.

- **Approaching the ambo (lectern)**
 - Walk down the center aisle if at all possible.
 - To bow or not to bow?
 - Bow to the altar, the symbol of Jesus Christ, this way:
 - Come to a complete stop, slowly bow at the waist, a profound bow, straighten up, then proceed to the ambo.
 - Genuflect to the tabernacle only on entering and leaving the Church.
 - If not using the center aisle, be sure to bow to the altar, then move to the ambo.
 - Avoid taking a short-cut to the ambo that avoids the bow by approaching from the ambo from the side.

- **When you arrive at the ambo to read**
 - Check your page for the proper reading
 - Check the proclamation “A reading from...”
 - Look at the people and make eye contact.
 - Take a deep breath and, while maintaining eye contact, proclaim “A reading from...”
 - Pause before proceeding with the reading.

- **When you conclude the Scripture passage**
 - Pause
 - Make eye contact with the people
 - Proclaim clearly and slowly “the Word of the Lord”
 - When the people have concluded their response turn and return to your place.

Lector and Gospel Reader's Workshop, Audrey Sommers, 2009, Liturgy Training Publications, LTP.org. An interactive video workshop that includes a CD ROM on planning and setting up workshop, exercises and handouts.

A Well-Trained Tongue, Aelred Roesser, 1996, Liturgy Training Publications, LTP.org. A guide for lector training, establishes liturgical and ministerial principles for lectors and gives guidance on preparing lector training sessions.

Read the Way You Talk: A Guide for Lectors, Jack Hartjes, 2004, Liturgical Press, LitPress.org. A small book about speaking naturally and sounding like you know what you are saying. Gives very detailed explanations of pronunciation, diction, and inflection for lectors. Not for the beginner.

The Ministry of Lectors, James A. Wallace, 2016, Liturgical Press, LitPress.org.

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