

## LECTORS

### NOTES:

1. This important ministry is properly held by the laity with the exception of the Gospel. Thus it is also more appropriate for a lector to proclaim the readings than for a priest or deacon.
2. When the Word of God is spoken, Christ is present in the proclamation.
3. Given the importance of this ministry, those who exercise it should be dressed in appropriate attire. Shorts, halter tops, muscle shirts or other summer attire should be avoided.

### PROCEDURES

1. The Lector will sit in the sanctuary before the Mass begins.
2. The Lector will read the First Reading at the appropriate time. At the end of the reading, the Lector will pause for 5 seconds before saying: "The Word of the Lord". After this, there should be a short silence for about 10 seconds.
3. The Lector will sit for the singing of the Psalm or will read the Psalm if it is not sung.
4. There is no pause after the Psalm. The Second Reading begins immediately.
5. The Lector will proclaim the Second Reading in the same manner as the First.
6. The Lector will sit in the sanctuary for the Homily.
7. After the Universal Prayers have been read, the Lector may return to the congregation or, if he or she chooses, they may remain in the sanctuary.

### THINGS TO REMEMBER

1. It is not necessary and it is not recommended to say: The First Reading is a reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah. Rather one should only say: "A reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah."
2. It is not necessary to say: "The response to the Psalm is ..." when the Psalm is read rather than sung. In the same manner it is not necessary to say: "The response to the Intercessions is:" for the Universal Prayers.
  - a. Please note: At a Funeral Mass or any Mass where there is a large group of people who do not attend Mass or who are not Catholic, it is good to say: "The response to the Psalm is:" and "The response to the Intercessions is:"
3. The readings are proclaimed. This means they are not just read. It is not a dramatic reading that requires us to put "emotion" into the text. Use the text lines in the Lectionary as a guide.