

# TEACHER LECTORS

## for the 10:30 AM REACH Liturgy

A lector is entrusted with proclaiming the Word of God to those who have come to celebrate the Liturgy of the Eucharist. Serving as a lector is holy and rewarding both for the assembled community of believers and for the lector.

For the first half of the REACH school year each Grade 4 – 6 classroom teacher and/or aide takes a turn as the lector for the 10:30 AM REACH Liturgy on the Sunday a classroom is the Host Class. The week before a scheduled Sunday as lector the teacher and/or aide receives a copy of the readings in the class folder in the REACH office.

After all teachers have had a turn as lector (about December), we begin with student lectors. Host Class teachers select three student lectors for Mass as a classroom takes its turn as Host Class. One student will read the First Reading, the second will do the Second Reading, and the third student will read the Petitions after the Creed is recited.

### **BEING A LECTOR**

- Read over the readings for your Sunday once or twice during the week before you are lector.
- **At the start of Mass...**
  - \* The altar server with the cross goes first, then the second server, then the teacher/aide lector goes next in the procession down the aisle from the back of the hall to the altar.
  - \* Hold the lectionary (the book of readings) high above your head.
  - \* Walk slowly down the aisle toward the altar.
  - \* As you reach the altar, the lector moves to the left, keeping the lectionary raised high.
  - \* The priest and altar servers bow in front of the altar. The lector does not bow.
  - \* After the priest and altar servers bow, the lector walks to the lecturn, places the lectionary on the lecturn, and returns to a seat with the class.
- **For the First Reading...**
  - \* After the priest has read the opening prayer ("Let us pray.") from the Sacramentary (Missal) and the congregation sits, the lector walks to the middle front of the altar, bows, and walks to the lecturn.
  - \* Read the First Reading in an unhurried fashion. Reading more slowly will help the students to follow the reading more easily.
  - \* After the First Reading, the lector remains at the lecture in silence for a moment, until the REACH singers begin the Responsorial Song.

- **For the Second Reading...**

- \* After the Responsorial Song is finished, the lector reads the Second Reading, again in an unhurried fashion so the students can follow the reading more easily.
- \* After the Second Reading, the lector again remains at the lectern in silence for a moment.
- \* When the REACH singers begin the Gospel Acclamation, the teacher-lector returns to a seat with the class.

- **For the Petitions...**

- \* As the saying of the Apostles' Creed nears its end ("...I believe in the Holy Catholic Church, the Communion of Saints..."), the lector walks to the lectern. A liturgy planner will be there with the basket containing the petitions written by the students.
- \* The priest will say a short introductory prayer.
- \* As the liturgy planner hands over each petition slip, the lector reads it aloud, ending each with "Let us pray to the Lord."
- \* After the petitions are read and the priest's concluding prayer, the teacher-lector walks back to a seat with the class.

- **At the end of Mass...**

- \* After the congregation says "Thanks be to God," the lector walks to the lectern and picks up the lectionary.
- \* As the priest begins to move to the front of the altar, the lector raises the lectionary high above her/his head and walks to the left front of the altar, the same place the lector stood at the start of Mass.
- \* The priest and altar servers will bow in front of the altar. The lector does not bow.
- \* After the others bow, the altar server with the cross goes first, then the second altar server, then the lector with the lectionary held high next in the procession down the aisle from the altar to the back of the hall.
- \* The lector walks slowly down the aisle.
- \* Place the lectionary on the long table to the left.