



Ministry Position: Lector

Date Last Reviewed: July 2019

◆ **Position 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. They lead the Universal Prayer (Prayer of the Faithful) in the absence of the deacon. Lectors are commissioned by the Pastor or his delegate.

◆ **Activities/Responsibilities**

- Prepare for her/his role by rehearsing, praying over and coming to understand the Biblical text assigned her/him for a particular liturgical celebration
- Be faithful to the schedule of assignments and helpful in assuring that all the parish community's liturgical assemblies are adequately served with this ministry
- Participate in rehearsals of liturgical procedures in the parish community and follows liturgical norms for this ministry as guided by the decision of the Pastor and the G.I.R.M
- Participate in rehearsals as required
- Be responsible to find replacement if unable to fulfill scheduled assignment, and notify the Ministry Coordinator of any changes
- Participate fully in the Liturgy as an exemplary member of the assembly
- Proclaim the Biblical text with clarity, conviction, dignity and understanding
- Express 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.)

◆ **Skills, Experience and Qualifications**

- Fully initiated member of the Catholic Church in full communion with the Church.
- Must be at least 18 years of age
- Must have sufficient skills and maturity to serve the liturgical assembly as outlined here
- 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



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◆ **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.
- Open to vocal coaching as required (use of microphone, volume, pacing, posture, etc.).
- Demonstrates a spirit of generosity

◆ **Screening Requirements**

This is a General Risk position.

- Completion of a Volunteer Application Form is required.
- Training and orientation are required.
- There will be supervision and periodic evaluations.

◆ **Orientation and Training**

Standard parish orientation program, including AODA training, 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. Resources and support are provided through the Office of Formation for Discipleship at the Catholic Pastoral Centre.

◆ **Support, Supervision and Evaluation**

The Lector Coordinator and/or the Pastor and/or his delegate(s) is the first level of support, supervision and evaluation.

Prepared by: Archdiocese of Toronto, Volunteer Screening Department