

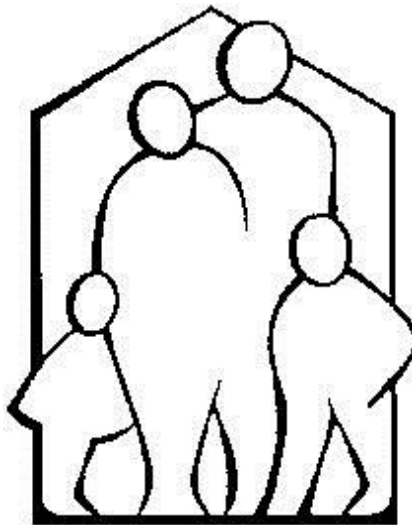
St. Ignatius Loyola Parish



Lectors



Eucharistic Ministers



Hospitality

**Liturgical Minister's Handbook
2010-2011**

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Parts of the Mass

- I. Introductory Rite**
 - a. Procession
 - b. Greeting
 - c. Penitential Rite (Kyrie)
 - d. Gloria
 - e. Opening Prayer

- II. Liturgy of the Word**
 - a. First Reading
 - b. Psalm
 - c. Second Reading
 - d. Alleluia and Gospel
 - e. Homily
 - f. Profession of Faith (Creed)
 - g. Prayers of the Faithful

- III. Liturgy of the Eucharist**
 - a. Offertory (Presentation of the Gifts & Preparation of Altar)
 - b. Eucharistic Prayer

- IV. Communion Rite**
 - a. Lord's Prayer
 - b. Sign of Peace
 - c. Fraction (Lamb of God)
 - d. Communion
 - e. Prayer after Communion

- V. Concluding Rite**
 - a. Blessing and Dismissal
 - b. Recessional

St. Ignatius Loyola Parish Eucharistic Ministers

Eucharistic Ministers are hosts and servants at the Eucharistic banquet.

Eucharist is who we are and what we hope to become as a Christian community. For Catholics, the Eucharist is *the* privileged way of experiencing the presence of Jesus Christ and sharing in his work of redeeming the world. Fed by the Body and Blood of Christ we, though many, are made one in the Lord. Eucharist allows us to participate more deeply in the Paschal Mystery, the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ, inviting us to conform our lives to Christ's.

Just as Christ gave himself on the cross to save humanity from sin, we, as Eucharistic Ministers give generously of ourselves to serve all those who come to the table of God's love. The Eucharistic Minister is both a servant to individuals and to the community.

We should treat the people we encounter in our service with no less reverence than that which we show to the Blessed Sacrament that we share with one another.

History of Eucharistic Ministry

The first Christians celebrated a meal of thanksgiving, Eucharist, in their homes. As a rule, all the faithful took communion during these occasions. Moreover, as early as the third and fourth centuries, the accepted practice was to receive the Eucharist in one's hands. Making provision so that the consecrated bread could be consumed at home between celebrations of the liturgy was also common, especially during times of persecution. During the sixth and seventh centuries, a special box placed in the home was designed for this purpose.

As Christianity and the Church became more established, the distribution of the Eucharist was entrusted more and more to the clergy. Unlike earlier periods, which emphasized the meaning of the Eucharist as a celebration of the death-resurrection mystery of Christ, a shift in perspective occurred during the medieval period (1100-1500). Understanding how Christ was present in the Eucharist became more the focus. Borrowing and adapting the philosophical systems of the day, theologians began to discuss how the bread and wine became the Body and Blood of Christ. As a result, there was a growing sense of the awesome, holy, mysterious presence of Christ in the Eucharist. The consecrated host was more to be adored than consumed. Concurrently, reception of communion and the role of the laity diminished. By the ninth century, the laity no longer administered the Eucharist. This role fell solely to those who were ordained.

With the research into the Christian liturgical tradition undertaken before and during the Second Vatican Council, the Church rediscovered the riches of the Eucharist, "the source and summit of Christian life." It called for "full, conscious and active participation" from those who gathered for worship. Once again, Christ's presence was to be recognized in the Word of God that is proclaimed, in the consecrated bread and wine that become our Lord's Body and Blood, in the priest who presides at the sacrifice being offered by the Church, and in the People of God assembled in prayer.

With the significant increase in the number of Catholics once again receiving Communion, in 1970 the Holy See granted bishops permission to designate members of the laity as Eucharistic Ministers upon the request of the local pastor. This was an attempt to recover the practices of the early church in a way that could address contemporary pastoral needs.

Liturgical and Pastoral Norms for Eucharistic Ministers

I. PASTORAL NORMS

Qualifications for Eucharistic Ministers:

A suitable candidate should have a devotion to the Eucharist and possess the ability, time, and willingness to serve in this capacity. The individual must have received the sacrament of confirmation and be registered members of St. Ignatius Loyola Parish. Since the Eucharistic Minister is a steward of the parish, it is important that the candidate possess a serious and mature faith commitment. The person embodies in his or her daily life what he or she says: "The Body of Christ; the Blood of Christ." Not only do Eucharistic Ministers share their faith with others; by their reverence for God and care for others, they call forth faith and invite others to a deeper relationship with the Lord.

Selection

Prospective candidates volunteer for Eucharistic ministry. All candidates are required to attend a training session in the fall. This does not preclude a candidate from coming forward to begin serving as a Eucharistic Minister during the course of the year.

Commissioning

The formal commissioning and re-commissioning of Eucharistic Ministers takes place annually in October.

Formation: Training and Development

Formation of Eucharistic Ministers is an ongoing process. For those beginning their ministry and for those continuing their service, instruction and training in the following areas will be provided:

- Theology and history of the Eucharist
- Procedures for Eucharistic Ministers
- Spirituality for Eucharistic Ministry
- Ritual for Communion to the Sick

Throughout the year opportunities will be offered for Eucharistic Ministers to deepen their faith and grow in their service. During the Lay Ministers' Enrichment Days those who serve in the various ministries in the parish gather for prayer, reflection, and ongoing training in their common ministry. Eucharistic Ministers are highly encouraged to attend at least one event a year to renew and update their training.

Coordination of Liturgical Ministers

The parish determines the number of ministers required in order to provide for the liturgical needs of the weekend Masses and the pastoral needs of Communion to the sick.

A member of the parish staff is responsible for scheduling, maintains a current roster of Eucharistic Ministers, and communicates information to the various liturgical ministers in a timely fashion.

Opportunities are given on a regular basis for the spiritual, theological and ritual development of ministers.

Eucharistic Ministers' Schedules will be sent out periodically by email. Copies of the schedules are also located in the sacristy (in the tray for Eucharistic Ministers) and may also be picked up from the receptionist when the Parish House is open.

If a liturgical minister is unable to serve at his/her assigned Mass, it is the *minister's* responsibility to call someone to substitute. If possible, please allow for ample time to find a replacement—if you send an email only a day before or hours before you are scheduled to serve, it is highly unlikely you will find a substitute. Also, if you are unable to find a replacement, please inform the other liturgical ministers who are serving that day by email or phone. Contact information for all liturgical ministers will be provided when each schedule is sent out.

II. LITURGICAL NORMS

Role

The Eucharistic Minister has a distinct role in the liturgical celebration. Even though the minister may serve in other liturgical ministries, **he or she should serve in only one ministry at a particular Mass.**

Proper Attire

The ministers should dress neatly, in a way consonant with the dignity of their role. Good taste and common sense are the best guides in this area. **Shorts or tank tops are never acceptable.** Appropriate dress is a sign of the reverence the minister has for the Eucharist and for the importance of the ministry.

Assignment and Arrival

Eucharistic Ministers should arrive for their assigned Mass at least 15 minutes prior the Mass.

This is very important for the prayerful and smooth functioning of the liturgy and allows any issues that might arise to be addressed in a timely manner. Others are counting on you to fulfill your responsibilities as a member of the team.

In order to foster a more prayerful atmosphere before Mass, liturgical ministers have been assigned tasks beforehand. These assignments and the responsibilities associated with them are indicated on the schedule. If there are no altar servers at a liturgy, Eucharistic Ministers may be assigned to carry the cross, prepare the altar, and help with the offertory. Instructions for each of these assignments are found below.

Service involves availability and openness. You will be asked to distribute either the Body of Christ or the Blood of Christ—both ways of serving require attentiveness and reverence.

One person among the Eucharistic Ministers, assigned beforehand and indicated on the schedule, makes any adjustments before Mass if someone is unable to serve. He/she communicates with the presider regarding any other logistical issues.

Procedures

Each of the liturgies at St. Ignatius has a different style. Consequently, liturgical ministers have different responsibilities for each. The procedures for Eucharistic Ministers for each of the Masses are found below. Please take some time to review them before serving. A copy of this handbook may be found in the sacristy (in the tray for Eucharistic Ministers) for last minute reference.

The following are some general guidelines to keep in mind as you go about your ministry:

A. Blessings

According to the official Book of Blessings, “Laymen and laywomen, in virtue of the universal priesthood, a dignity they possess because of their baptism and confirmation, may celebrate certain blessings, as indicated in the respective orders of blessings, by use of the rites and formularies designated for a lay minister. Such lay persons exercise this ministry in virtue of their office (for example, parents on behalf of their children) or by reason of some special liturgical ministry or in the fulfillment of a particular charge in the Church, as is the case in many

places with religious or catechist appointed by decision of the local Ordinary” (18). Eucharistic Ministers are encouraged to bless those in the community who come forward who cannot receive Holy Communion (i.e., young children or others who have not received their First Communion). Individuals who wish to receive a blessing will come forward with their hands crossed over their chest.

B. Accidents

What should I do if I drop a host or spill some wine? First, reassure the person in front of you. Then, simply bend down on one knee and pick up the dropped host. Be careful not to spill any more hosts in the process. You might have to stop traffic before you can bend down. Do so courteously, remembering that Jesus is also present in the members of the assembly whom you are stopping. If you do not feel comfortable consuming the host, keep it in the hand you are not using until you return to the credence table. Then, place it in an empty paten. The Sacristan will dispose of it properly.

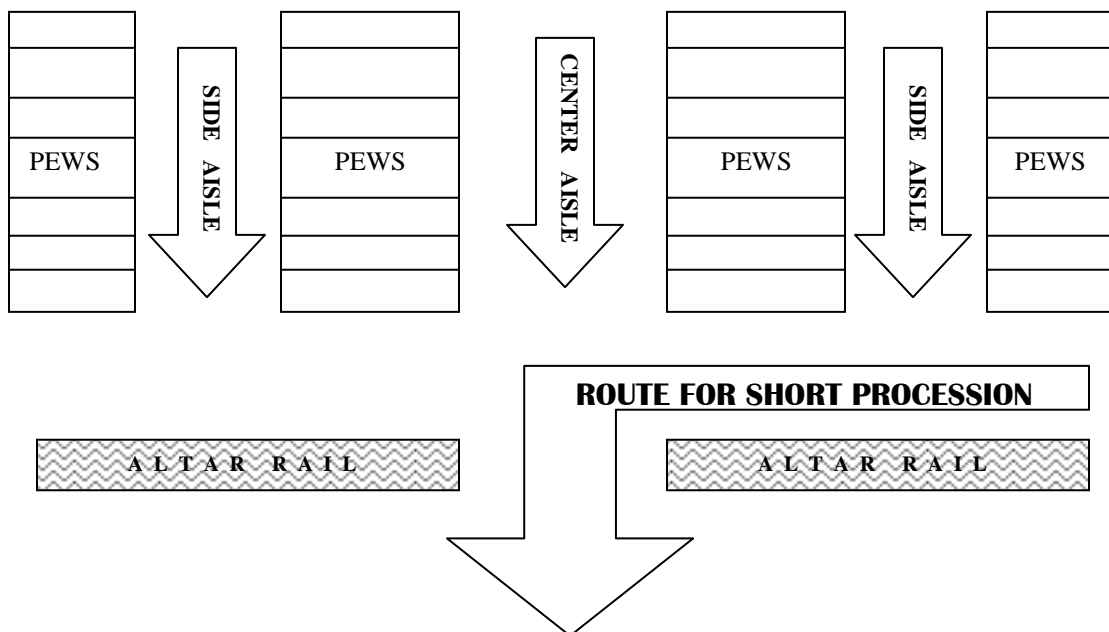
If you spill some consecrated wine, and if you can manage the cup with only one hand, bend down on one knee and wipe the wine off the floor with your purificator. If the cup is too full for you to manage gracefully, ask the next person in line to hold the cup while you take care of the spill. If necessary, that person can continue to hold the cup while you go to the sacristy to retrieve more purificators.

C. Intinction

Intinction is the practice whereby a communicant dips the Host into the Precious Blood. In the Archdiocese of New York, intinction is not permitted. However, when an individual comes forward and attempts to intinct, Eucharistic Ministers should not embarrass the individual or refuse him or her access to the cup. After Mass, notify the presider, who may be able to offer instruction to the person. The best way to handle the situation is through long-term and consistent catechesis.

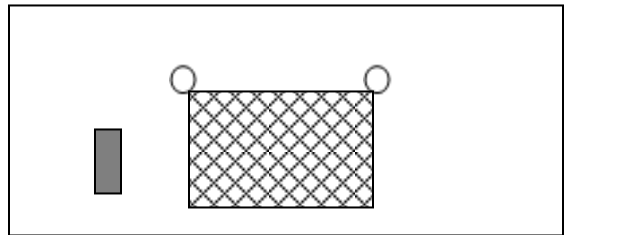
**Saturday 5:30 PM Mass; Sunday 8:00 AM Mass; Sunday 9:30 AM Mass
Procedures for Eucharistic Ministers**

1. Say a prayer before arriving for Mass asking that you might grow in your love for the Lord and for God's people through your service as a Eucharistic Minister.
2. Be aware of your comportment and posture as you are seated in the sanctuary. Remember, the entire assembly can see you and may be distracted from its worship by your actions. Let your reverence be seen throughout the Mass.
3. Come to the sacristy about **15 minutes before Mass**. This is very important for the smooth functioning of the liturgy. If for whatever reason you are not able to serve at the liturgy you have been assigned, it is your responsibility to contact another Eucharistic Minister as a substitute. Also, please make sure you alert the other liturgical ministers for that Mass. Please sign in when you arrive by placing a check by your name on the schedule in the binder so that there is an accurate count of the ministers available.
4. Try to maintain an atmosphere of reverence and peace in the sacristy while you are waiting for Mass to begin. If there need to be adjustments with assignments for ministers, please let the liturgical coordinator handle it. All roles should be clarified before Mass begins and not in the sanctuary during Mass.
5. Before leaving the sacristy one of the EM's or the presider will lead all the liturgical ministers in a short prayer. A short prayer that can be used is found in the binder containing the EM schedule.
6. Be sure to use hand sanitizer before Mass. It is located on the table in the sacristy.
7. Eucharistic Ministers and lectors process from the sacristy into the Church two by two. This is a short procession that goes in front of the altar rail and directly into the sanctuary.



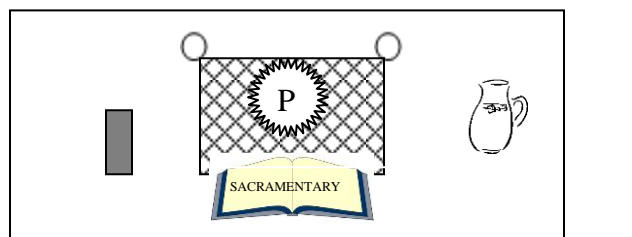
If there is an odd number of ministers, then the last person processes alone. If there are no altar servers, one EM (designated before Mass begins) leads the procession by carrying the cross. Space yourselves out in the procession. Walk reverently and sing joyfully—there is no rush; we are beginning a celebration of the Lord's Banquet! After passing the altar rail, please bow to the altar as a sign of reverence.

8. If there are no altar servers, a Eucharistic Minister (designated before Mass begins) will help the presider prepare the altar during the Offertory. As the offertory song begins, s/he goes by way of the passage behind the main altar to the table where the chalices are kept. S/he brings the chalices to the altar and places them on the altar in the following manner:



The chalices (indicated in the diagram by the circles) are placed at the upper left- and right-hand corners of the corporal that is already on the altar (indicated by the box filled with the crosshatching). Place all purificators, neatly, flatly and on top of one another, to the left of these chalices (indicated by the grey rectangle in the diagram). Please make sure that there is enough space for the Sacramentary and be mindful of the microphone on the altar. The main thing to keep in mind is that the altar should not appear cluttered.

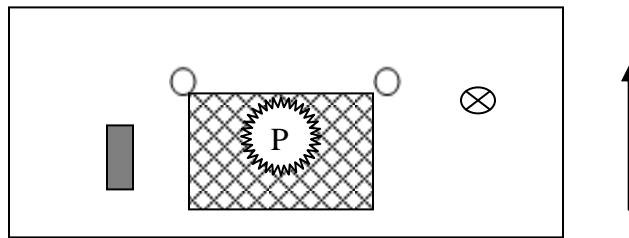
When the presider goes to receive the gifts, the Eucharistic Minister, if there are no altar servers, joins him and helps him receive the gifts and brings them back to the altar. Please place the gifts on the altar in the following manner (circle with "P" indicates position of paten):



Place the pitcher on the right side of the altar and the paten in the center of the corporal. The presider will then fill the chalices. While he is doing so, the Eucharistic Minister brings the cruet with water and waits for him to mingle the water and the wine. After the presider has done so, the Eucharistic Minister takes away both the empty pitcher and the cruet of water and stands by the table until the priest is ready to wash his hands (the lavabo). He will signal this by turning to face the minister. Then, the Eucharistic Minister comes forward with both the cruet of water, a towel draped over his or her arm, and the

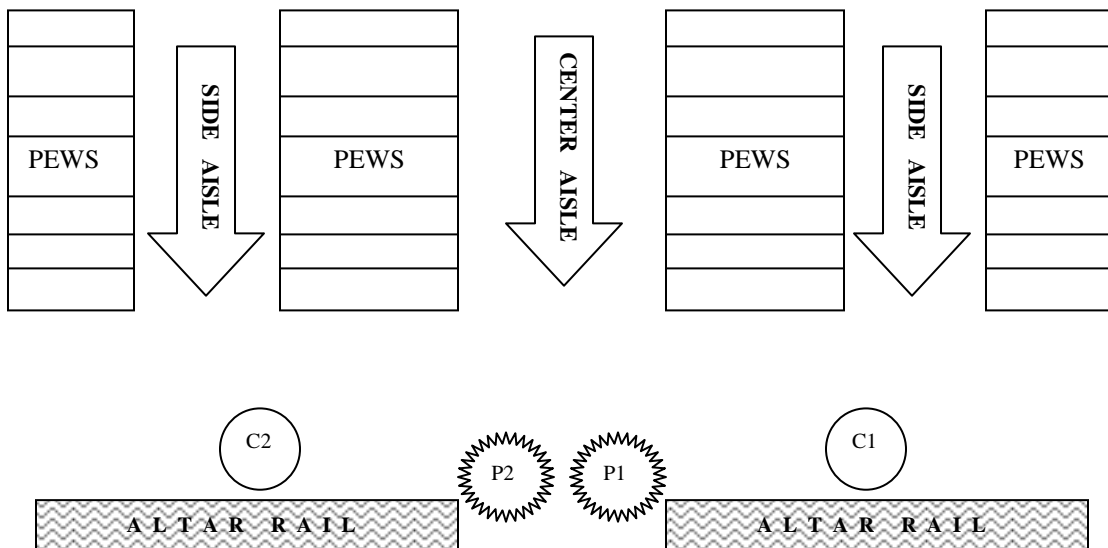
bowl. After the lavabo, the Eucharistic Minister brings the materials back to the credence table and returns to his/her seat using the passage behind the main altar.

9. After the Our Father, share the Sign of Peace with the other ministers where you are seated and then proceed to your positions around the altar, behind the presider. When you are in position, the presider will offer you the Sign of Peace after he has done so with the altar servers and cantor. Please be in position before the presider begins the Fraction Rite (Lamb of God).
10. During the Sign of Peace, one of the ministers (designated before Mass begins) goes directly to the tabernacle to bring the ciborium to the altar. There should be no movement to and from the altar during the Fraction Rite since this draws attention away from what is happening. If the presider has begun the Fraction Rite and you do not have time to bring the ciborium to the altar, please stand by the table where the EM's are seated and wait until after he has said the prayer ("This is the Lamb of God. . .") and the people have responded before bringing them and placing it on the altar.



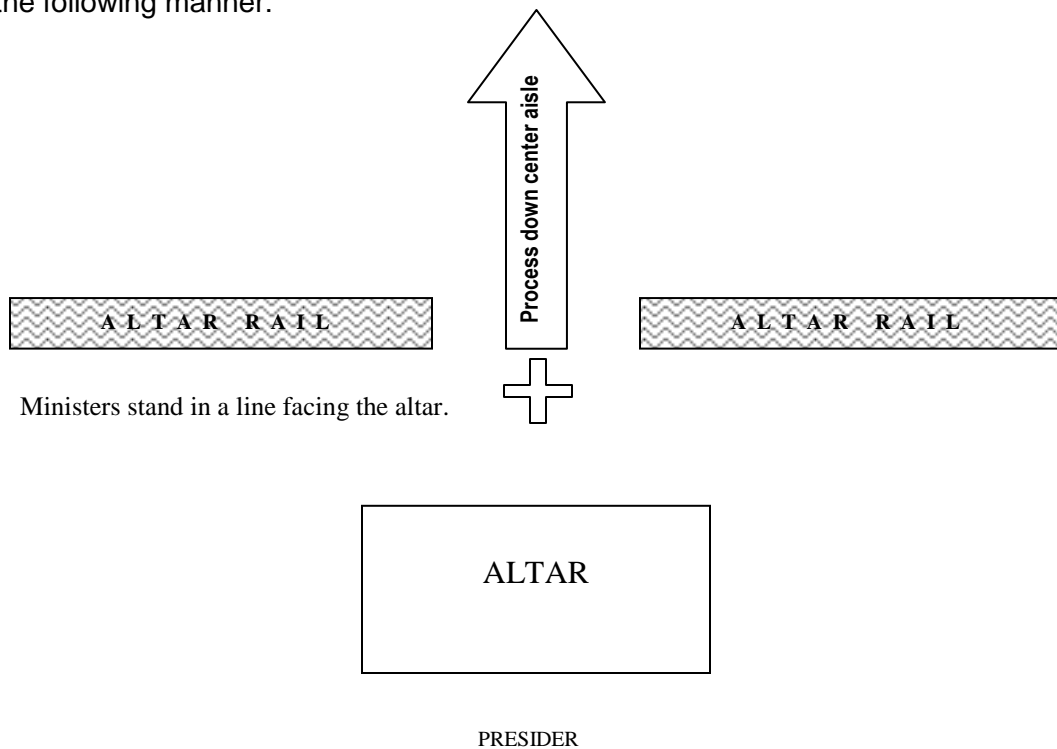
The ciborium (indicated by the circle with an X) is placed on the right side of the altar.

11. After the priest and the ministers have received the consecrated host, those who are assigned the cup take one step forward so that the priest knows to whom he should give the cup.
12. The stations for the Eucharistic Ministers are:



One Eucharistic Minister (P2) distributes communion from the paten in the center aisle next to the presider. Two Eucharistic Ministers (C1 & C2) distribute communion from the chalice. They should stand in front of the altar rail by the pillars on either side of the church.

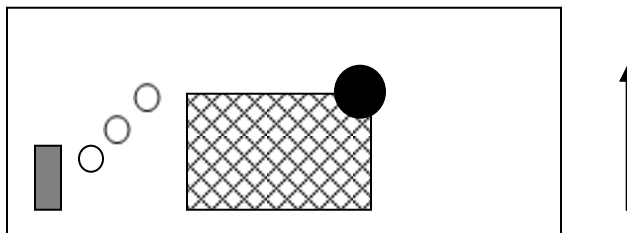
13. In offering the plate or cup, look at the person receiving and say clearly: "The Body / Blood of Christ."
14. When people come up who cannot receive, they will indicate this by folding their arms across their chest. Lay a hand on their head or use some other appropriate gesture to give them a blessing. You can say: "May the peace of Christ be with you!" or some other appropriate formula.
15. After Communion, please consume the Precious Blood remaining and then pour in a small amount of water, and consume that also. If you have been assigned to minister from the chalice and cannot consume the remaining Precious Blood, you can ask one of the other ministers to assist you. If there are any remaining consecrated hosts, place them in the ciborium and return it to the tabernacle. When the EM's are seated and all musical accompaniment has ceased, the lector will come forward and make any parish announcements.
16. After the final blessing, the various liturgical ministers get into position by the altar rail in the following manner:



If there are no altar servers, the person carrying the processional cross (Crucifer) stands in the center, in front of the altar and facing it. During the closing hymn, the presider will then reverence the altar by kissing it. Afterwards, he will bow, which is the signal for all the ministers to bow. Then, the liturgical ministers, following the person carrying the cross and / or any altar servers, process out of the church down the center aisle, two by two.

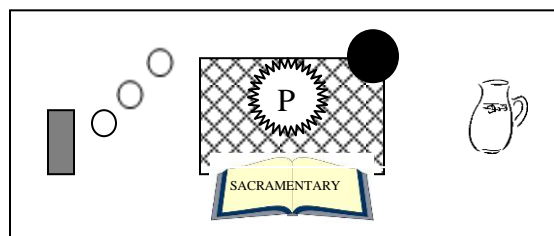
Solemn Mass (Sunday 11:00 AM in Main Church) Procedures for Eucharistic Ministers

1. Say a prayer before arriving for Mass asking that you might grow in your love for the Lord and for God's people through your service as a Eucharistic Minister.
2. Be aware of your comportment and posture as you are seated in the sanctuary. Remember, the entire assembly can see you and may be distracted from its worship by your actions. Let your reverence be seen throughout the Mass.
3. Come to the sacristy about **15 minutes before Mass**. This is very important for the smooth functioning of the liturgy. If for whatever reason you are not able to serve at the liturgy you have been assigned, it is your responsibility to contact another Eucharistic Minister as a substitute. Also, please make sure you alert the other liturgical ministers for that Mass. Please sign in when you arrive by placing a check by your name on the schedule in the binder so that there is an accurate account of the ministers available.
4. Try to maintain an atmosphere of reverence and peace in the sacristy while you are waiting for Mass to begin. If there need to be adjustments with assignments for ministers, please let the liturgical coordinator handle it. All roles should be clarified before Mass begins and not in the sanctuary during Mass.
5. Before leaving the sacristy one of the EM's or the presider will lead all the liturgical ministers in a short prayer. A short prayer that can be used is found in the binder containing the EM schedule.
6. Be sure to use hand sanitizer before Mass. It is located on the table in the sacristy.
7. All liturgical ministers should be ready and lined up at the back of the Church by 10:55 AM.
8. Eucharistic Ministers and lectors should process from the Narthex into the Church two by two. If there is an odd number of ministers, then the last person should process alone. Space yourselves out in the procession. Walk reverently and sing joyfully—there is no rush; we are beginning a celebration of the Lord's Banquet! After you pass the altar rail, before the steps in the sanctuary, please bow as a sign of reverence.
9. On the rare occasion when there are no altar servers, a Eucharistic Minister (designated before Mass begins) will help the presider prepare the altar during the Offertory. S/he should bring the chalices to the altar and place them on the altar in the following manner:



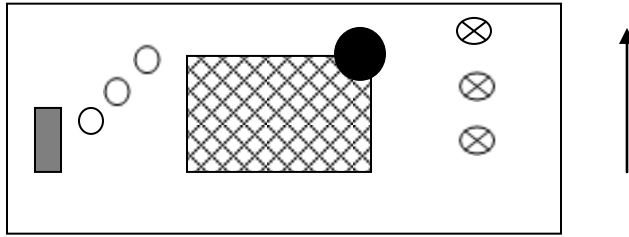
The main chalice (indicated in the diagram by the filled in circle) should be placed on the right hand side of the corporal that is already on the altar (indicated by the box filled with the crosshatching). The other chalices should be arranged on the left side as indicated in the diagram. Place all purificators, neatly, flatly and on top of one another, to the left of these chalices (indicated by the grey rectangle in the diagram). Please make sure that there is enough space for the Sacramentary and be mindful of the microphone on the altar. The main thing to keep in mind is that the altar should not appear cluttered.

When the presider goes to receive the gifts, the Eucharistic Minister should join him and help him receive the gifts and bring them back to the altar. Please place the gifts on the altar in the following manner (circle with "P" indicates position of paten):



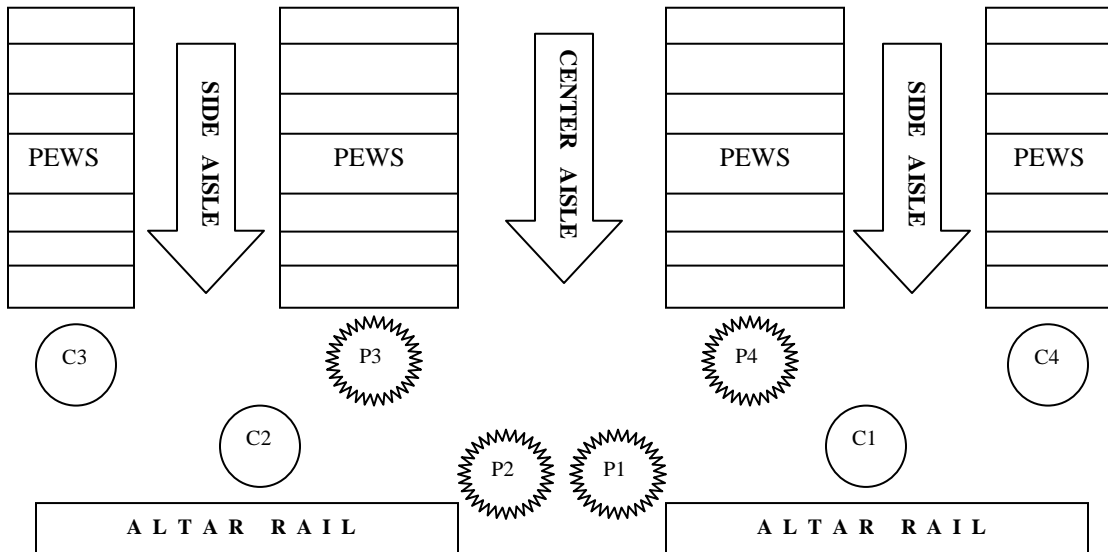
Place the pitcher on the right side of the altar or hand the paten to the presider. The presider will then fill the chalices. While he is doing so, the Eucharistic Minister brings the cruet with water and waits for him to mingle the water and the wine. After the presider has done so, the Eucharistic Minister takes away both the empty pitcher and the cruet of water and stands by the table until the priest is ready to wash his hands (the lavabo). He will signal this by turning to face the minister. Then, the Eucharistic Minister comes forward with both the cruet of water, a towel draped over his or her arm, and the bowl. After the lavabo, the Eucharistic Minister brings the materials back to the credence table and returns to his/her seat using the passage behind the main altar.

10. After the Our Father, share the Sign of Peace with the other ministers where you are seated and then proceed to your positions around the altar, behind the presider. When you are in position, the presider will offer you the Sign of Peace after he has done so with the altar servers and cantor. Please be in position before the presider begins the Fraction Rite (Lamb of God).
11. During the Sign of Peace, one of the ministers (designated before Mass begins) goes directly to the tabernacle to bring the ciborium to the altar. Another Eucharistic Minister brings the two empty ciboria from the table next to where the liturgical ministers are seated. If there is a ciborium with Communion for the choir, please make sure to bring it to the altar. There should be no movement to and from the altar during the Fraction Rite (during which the Lamb of God is sung) since this draws attention away from what is happening. If the presider has begun the Fraction Rite and you do not have time to bring the ciboria to the altar, please stand by the table where the EM's are seated and wait until after he has said the prayer ("This is the Lamb of God. . .") and the people have responded before bringing them and placing them on the altar.



The ciboria (indicated by the circles with an X) should be placed on the right side of the altar.

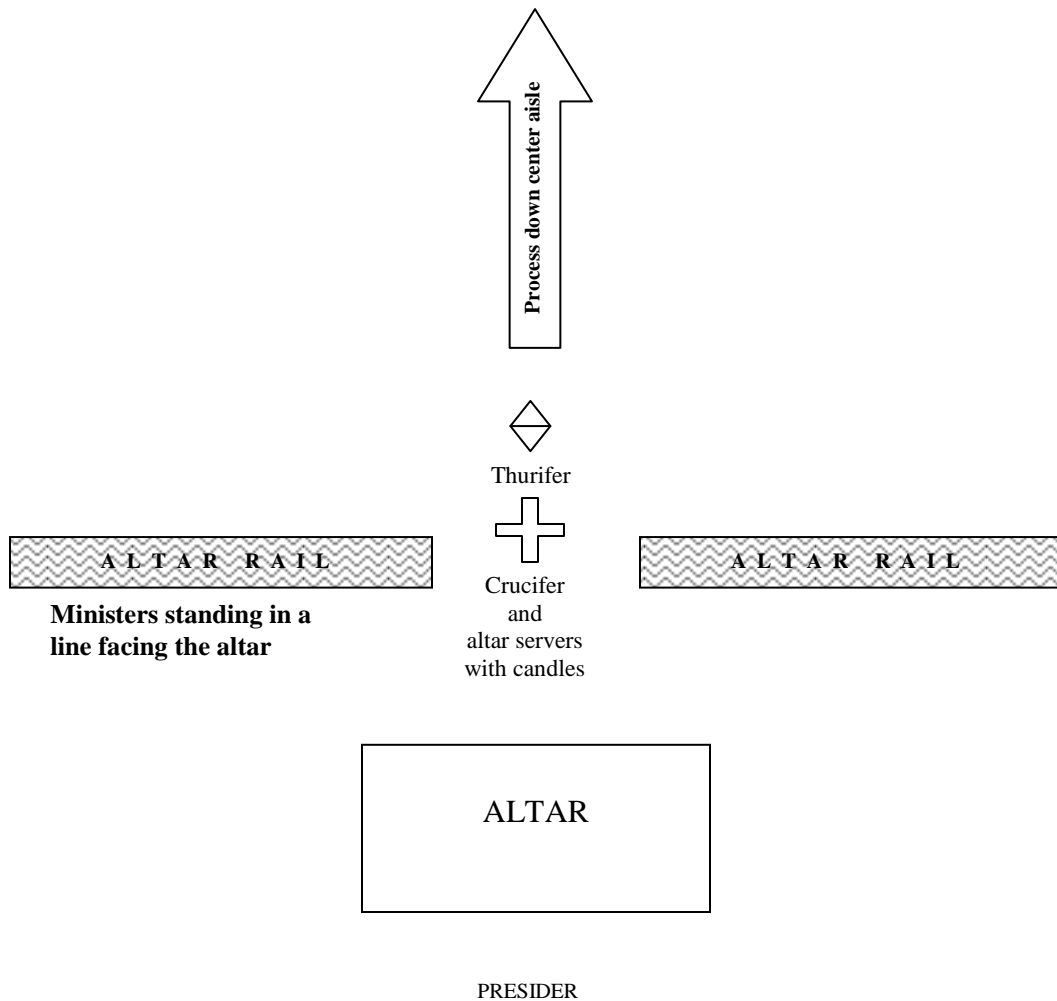
12. After the priest and the ministers have received the consecrated host, those who are assigned the cup take one step forward so that the priest knows to whom he should give the cup.
13. The stations for the Eucharistic Ministers are:



One Eucharistic Minister (P2) distributes communion from the paten in the center aisle next to the presider. Two Eucharistic Ministers (P3 & P4), standing a few steps back from the aisle in front of the pews, distribute from the paten as people come down the center aisle. Two Eucharistic Ministers (C1 & C2) distribute communion from the chalice. They should stand in front of the altar rail by the pillars on either side of the church. Two Eucharistic Ministers (C3 and C4), distributing from the chalice, stand in front of the pews by the side aisle.

14. One Eucharistic Minister often is assigned to bring Communion to the choir. The sacristan will make sure there is an extra ciborium for this purpose.

15. In offering the plate or cup, look at the person receiving and say clearly: "The Body / Blood of Christ."
16. When people come up who cannot receive, they will indicate this by folding their arms across their chest. Lay a hand on their head or use some other appropriate gesture to give them a blessing. You can say: "May the peace of Christ be with you!" or some other appropriate formula.
17. After Communion, please consume the Precious Blood remaining and then pour in a small amount of water, and consume that also. If you have been assigned to minister from the chalice and cannot consume the remaining Precious Blood, you can ask one of the other ministers to assist you. If there are any remaining consecrated hosts, place them in the ciboria and return it to the tabernacle. When the EM's are seated and all musical accompaniment has ceased, the lector will come forward and make any parish announcements.
18. After the final blessing, the various liturgical ministers get into position by the altar rail:

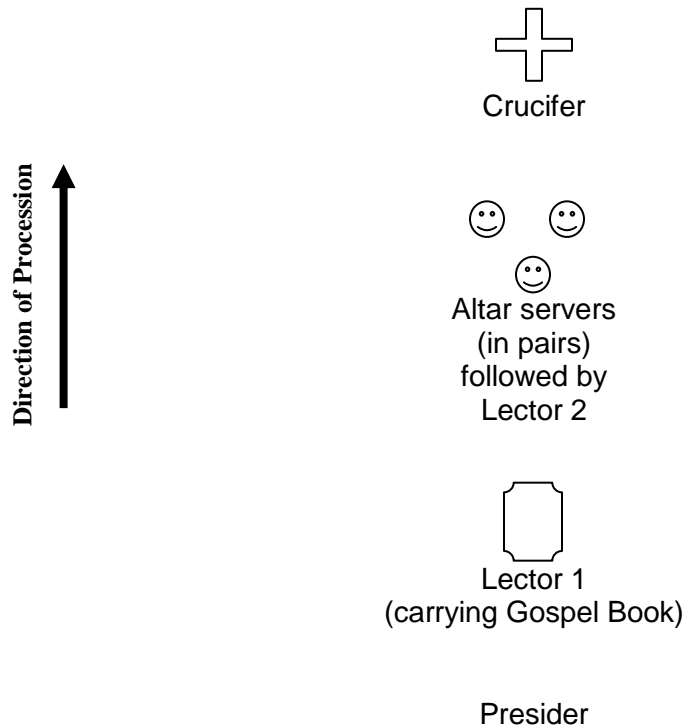


The Crucifer, with the altar server holding the candles, stand in front of the altar at the gap between the rail (indicated by cross in diagram). The liturgical ministers stand in a line by the altar rail in the location designated on the map. During the closing hymn, the presider will reverence the altar by kissing it. Afterwards, he will bow, which is the signal for all the ministers to bow. Then, the liturgical ministers, following the altar servers, process out of the church down the center aisle, two by two.

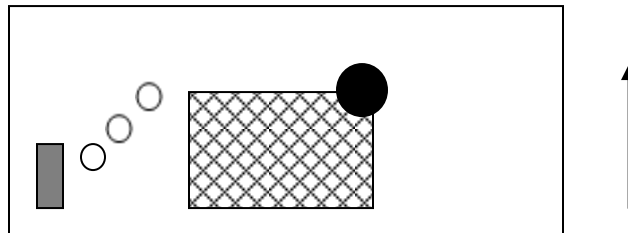
Family Mass (Sunday 11:00 AM Mass in Wallace Hall)

Procedures for Eucharistic Ministers

1. Say a prayer before arriving for Mass asking that you might grow in your love for the Lord and for God's people through your service as a Eucharistic Minister.
2. Dress appropriately for such a solemn ministry.
3. Be aware of your comportment and posture as you are seated in the sanctuary. Remember, the entire assembly can see you and may be distracted from its worship by your actions. Let your reverence be seen throughout the Mass.
4. Service involves availability and openness. You will be asked to distribute either the Body of Christ or the Blood of Christ—both ways of serving require attentiveness and reverence. If you have been assigned to minister from the chalice and cannot consume the remaining Precious Blood, you can ask one of the other ministers to assist you.
5. Come to the sacristy about **15 minutes before Mass**. This is very important for the smooth functioning of the liturgy. If for whatever reason you are not able to serve at the liturgy you have been assigned, it is your responsibility to contact another Eucharistic Minister as a substitute. Also, please make sure you alert the other liturgical ministers for that mass. Please sign in when you arrive by placing a check by your name on the schedule in the binder so that there is an accurate account of the ministers available.
6. Try to maintain an atmosphere of reverence and peace in the sacristy while you are waiting for Mass to begin. If there need to be adjustments with assignments for ministers, please let the liturgical coordinator handle it. All roles should be clarified before Mass begins and not in the sanctuary during Mass.
7. Be sure to use hand sanitizer before Mass. It is located on the table in the room (behind the choir) where the priest vests before Mass.
8. Eucharistic Ministers are seated in the area designated for them and do not process in at the beginning of mass. Lector 1, carrying in the Book of the Gospels, is part of the procession and is immediately before the priest. Lector 2 is also part of the procession and follows the altar servers. The order of the procession is as follows:

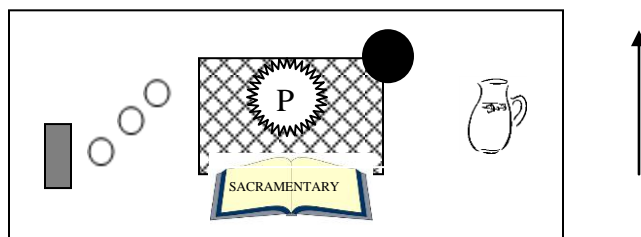


9. On the rare occasion when there are no altar servers, a Eucharistic Minister (designated before Mass begins) will help the presider prepare the altar during the Offertory. S/he should bring the chalices to the altar and place them on the altar in the following manner:



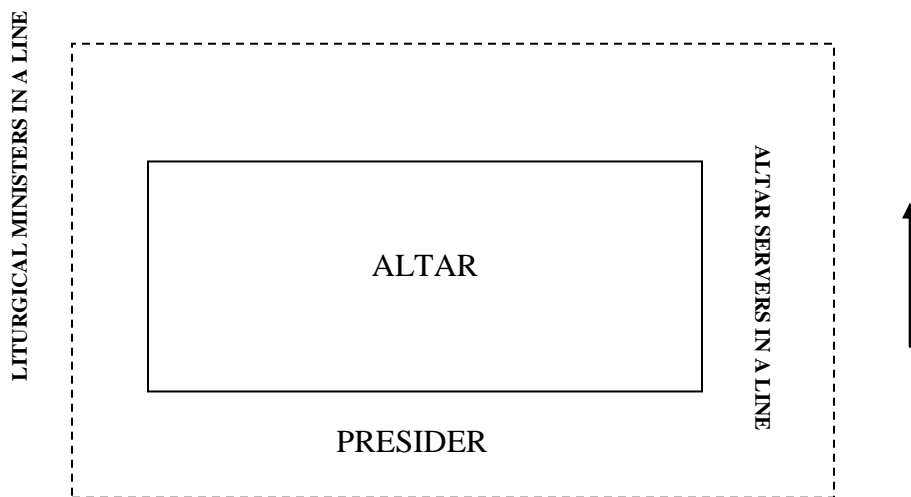
The chalices (indicated in the diagram by the circle) should be placed at the upper left- and right-hand corners of the corporal that is already on the altar (indicated by the box filled with the crosshatching). Place all purificators, neatly, flatly and on top of one another, to the left of these chalices (indicated by the grey rectangle in the diagram). Please make sure that there is enough space for the Sacramentary. The main thing to keep in mind is that the altar should not appear cluttered.

When the presider goes to receive the gifts, the Eucharistic Minister (if there are no altar servers) should join him and help him receive the gifts and bring them back to the altar. Please place the gifts on the altar in the following manner (circle with "P" indicates position of paten):

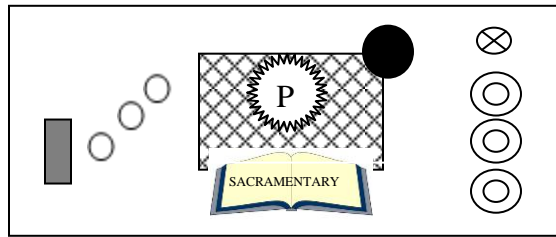


Place the pitcher on the right side of the altar and the paten in the center of the corporal. The presider will then fill the chalices. While he is doing so, the Eucharistic Minister brings the cruet with water and waits for him to mingle the water and the wine. After the presider has done so, the Eucharistic Minister takes away both the empty pitcher and the cruet of water and stands by the table until the priest is ready to wash his hands (the lavabo). He will signal this by turning to face the minister. Then, the Eucharistic Minister comes forward with both the cruet of water, a towel draped over his or her arm, and the bowl. After the lavabo, the Eucharistic Minister brings the materials back to the credence table and returns to his/her seat using the passage behind the main altar.

10. After the Our Father, share the Sign of Peace with the other ministers where you are seated and then proceed to your positions by the altar. When you are in position, the presider will offer you the Sign of Peace after he has done so with the altar servers. Please be in position before the presider begins the Fraction Rite (Lamb of God).



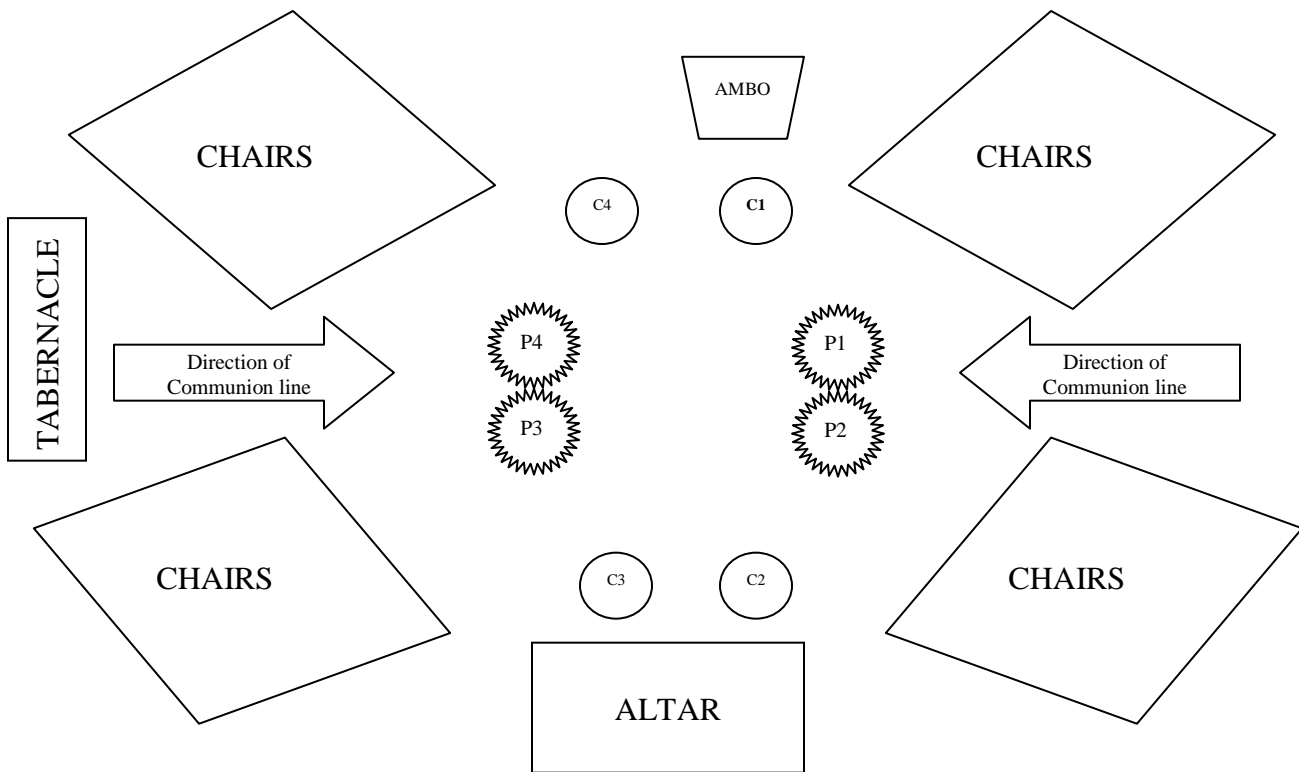
11. During the Sign of Peace, one of the ministers (designated before Mass begins) goes directly to the tabernacle to bring the ciborium (indicated on the diagram by the circle with an X) to the altar. If there are no altar servers, another Eucharistic Minister brings the three empty patens (indicated on the diagram by the double circle) from the credence table to the altar. There should be no movement to and from the altar during the Fraction Rite (during which the Lamb of God is sung) since this draws attention away from what is happening. If the presider has begun the Fraction Rite and you do not have time to bring the ciborium to the altar, wait until after he has said the prayer ("This is the Lamb of God. . .") and the people have responded before bringing it and placing it on the altar.



The ciborium and plates should be placed on the right side of the altar.

12. After the priest and the ministers have received the consecrated host, those who are assigned the cup take one step forward so that the priest knows to whom he should give the cup.

13. The stations for the Eucharistic Ministers are:



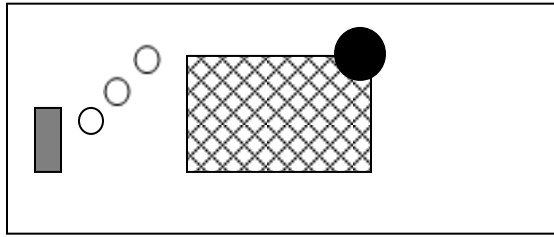
Two Eucharistic Ministers (P3 & P4) distribute communion from the paten in the aisle by the tabernacle. One Eucharistic Minister (P2) distributes communion from the paten with the presider on the other side. Four Eucharistic Ministers (C1 & C2 and C3 & C4), standing behind the person giving out Communion from the paten (P1, P2, P3, and P4) so as to ensure a smooth traffic flow as people receive, distribute from the chalice.

14. In offering the plate or cup, look at the person receiving and say clearly: "The Body / Blood of Christ."
15. When people come up who cannot receive, they will indicate this by folding their arms across their chest. Lay a hand on their head or use some other appropriate gesture to give them a blessing. You can say: "May the peace of Christ be with you!" or some other appropriate formula.
16. After Communion, please bring all the patens to the altar and place extra consecrated hosts in the ciborium. Return the ciborium to the tabernacle. Consume the Precious Blood remaining and then pour in a small amount of water, and drink that also. Place all patens and chalices on the small table by the altar servers. When the EM's are seated and all musical accompaniment has ceased, the lector will come forward and make any parish announcements.
17. After the final blessing, only the altar servers process out with the presider. Eucharistic Ministers and lectors remain where they are seated.

Sunday 7:30 PM Mass

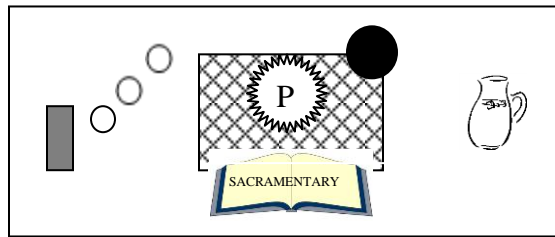
Procedures for Eucharistic Ministers

1. Say a prayer before arriving for Mass asking that you might grow in your love for the Lord and for God's people through your service as a Eucharistic Minister.
2. Dress appropriately for such a solemn ministry.
3. Be aware of your comportment and posture as you are seated in the sanctuary. Remember, the entire assembly can see you and may be distracted from its worship by your actions. Let your reverence be seen throughout the Mass.
4. Service involves availability and openness. You will be asked to distribute either the Body of Christ or the Blood of Christ—both ways of serving require attentiveness and reverence. If you have been assigned to minister from the chalice and cannot consume the remaining Precious Blood, you can ask one of the other ministers to assist you.
5. Come to the sacristy about **15 minutes before Mass**. This is very important for the smooth functioning of the liturgy. If for whatever reason you are not able to serve at the liturgy you have been assigned, it is your responsibility to contact another Eucharistic Minister as a substitute. Also, please make sure you alert the other liturgical ministers for that mass. Please sign in when you arrive by placing a check by your name on the schedule in the binder so that there is an accurate account of the ministers available.
6. Try to maintain an atmosphere of reverence and peace in the sacristy while you are waiting for Mass to begin. If there needs to be adjustments with assignments for ministers, please let the liturgical coordinator handle it. All roles should be clarified before Mass begins and not in the sanctuary during Mass.
7. Before leaving the sacristy one of the EM's or the presider will lead all the liturgical ministers in a short prayer. A short prayer that can be used is found in the binder containing the EM schedule.
8. Be sure to use hand sanitizer before mass. It is located on the table in the sacristy.
9. All liturgical ministers should be ready and lined up at the back of the Church by 7:25 PM.
10. Eucharistic Ministers and lectors should process from the Narthex into the Church two by two. If there is an odd number of ministers, then the last person should process alone. One EM (designated before mass begins) leads the procession by carrying the cross. Space yourselves out in the procession. Walk reverently and sing joyfully—there is no rush; we are beginning a celebration of the Lord's Banquet! After you pass the altar rail, before the steps in the sanctuary, please bow as a sign of reverence.
11. A Eucharistic Minister (designated before mass begins) will help the presider prepare the altar during the Offertory. S/he should bring the chalices to the altar and place them on the altar in the following manner:



The main chalice (indicated in the diagram by the filled in circle) should be placed on the right hand side of the corporal that is already on the altar (indicated by the box filled with the crosshatching). The other chalices should be arranged on the left side as indicated in the diagram. Place all purificators, neatly, flatly and on top of one another, to the left of these chalices (indicated by the grey rectangle in the diagram). Please make sure that there is enough space for the Sacramentary and be mindful of the microphone on the altar. The main thing to keep in mind is that the altar should not appear cluttered.

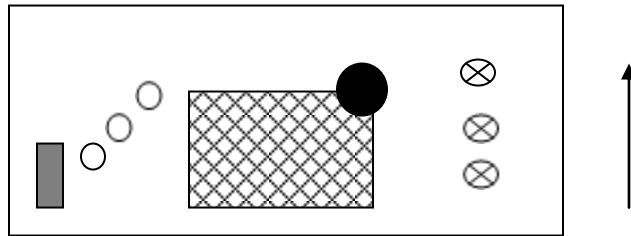
When the presider goes to receive the gifts, the Eucharistic Minister should join him and help him receive the gifts and bring them back to the altar. Please place the gifts on the altar in the following manner (circle with "P" indicates position of paten):



Place the pitcher on the right side of the altar or hand the paten to the presider. The presider will then fill the chalices. While he is doing so, the Eucharistic Minister brings the cruet with water and waits for him to mingle the water and the wine. After the presider has done so, the Eucharistic Minister takes away both the empty pitcher and the cruet of water and stands by the table until the priest is ready to wash his hands (the lavabo). He will signal this by turning to face the minister. Then, the Eucharistic Minister comes forward with both the cruet of water, a towel draped over his or her arm, and the bowl. After the lavabo, the Eucharistic Minister brings the materials back to the credence table and returns to his/her seat using the passage behind the main altar.

12. After the Our Father, share the Sign of Peace with the other ministers where you are seated and then proceed to your positions around the altar, behind the presider. When you are in position, the presider will offer you the Sign of Peace after he has done so with the altar servers and cantor. Please be in position before the presider begins the Fraction Rite (Lamb of God).
13. During the Sign of Peace, one of the ministers (designated before Mass begins) goes directly to the tabernacle to bring the ciboria to the altar. Another Eucharistic Minister brings the two empty ciboria from the table next to where the liturgical ministers are

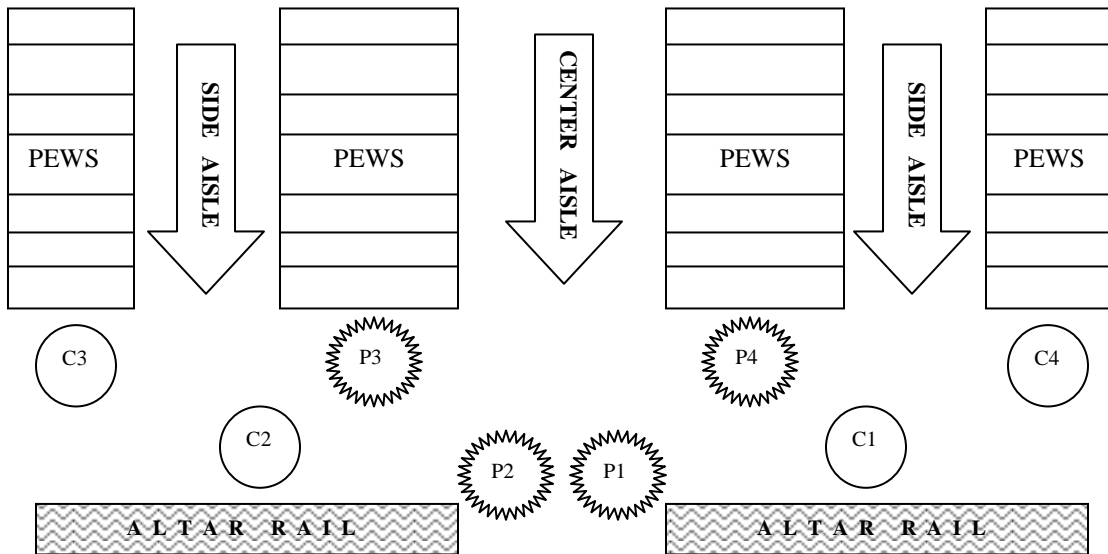
seated. If there is a ciborium with Communion for the choir, please make sure to bring it to the altar. There should be no movement to and from the altar during the Fraction Rite (during which the Lamb of God is sung) since this draws attention away from what is happening. If the presider has begun the Fraction Rite and you do not have time to bring the ciboria to the altar, please stand by the table where the EM's are seated and wait until after he has said the prayer ("This is the Lamb of God. . .") and the people have responded before bringing them and placing them on the altar.



The ciboria (indicated by the circles with an X) should be placed on the right side of the altar.

14. After the priest and the ministers have received the consecrated host, those who are assigned the cup take one step forward so that the priest knows to whom he should give the cup.

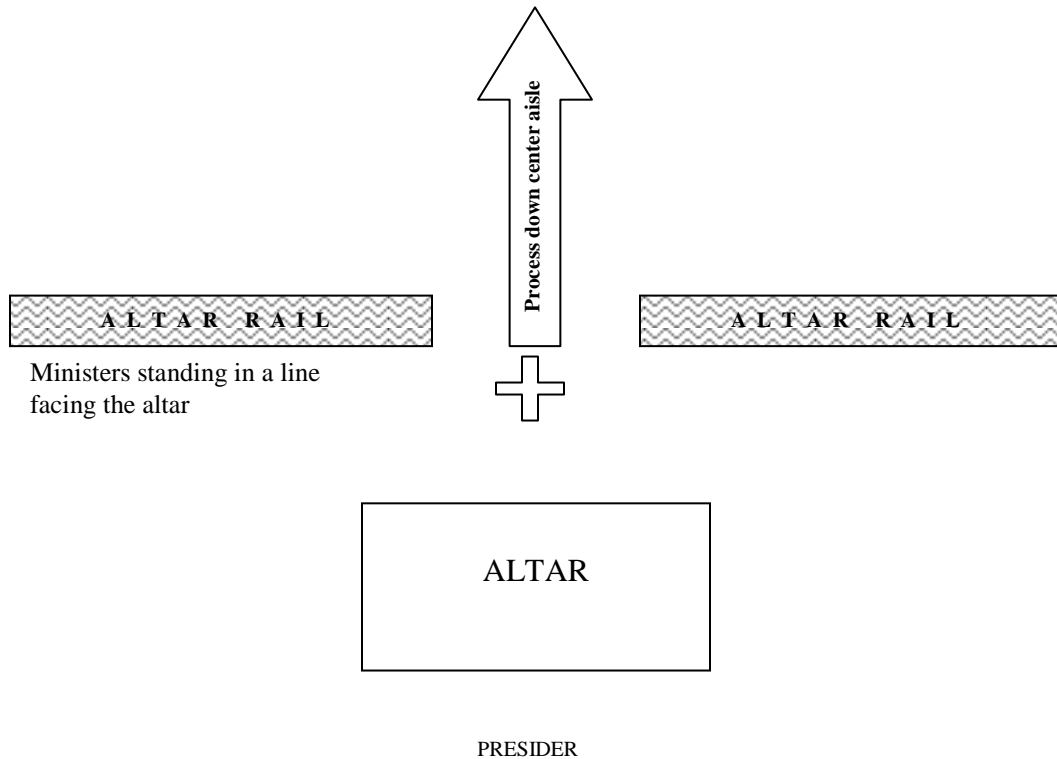
15. The stations for the Eucharistic Ministers are:



One Eucharistic Minister (P2) distributes communion from the paten in the center aisle next to the presider. Two Eucharistic Ministers (P3 & P4), standing a few steps back from the aisle in front of the pews, distribute from the paten as people come down the center aisle. Two Eucharistic Ministers (C1 & C2) distribute communion from the chalice.

They should stand in front of the altar rail by the pillars on either side of the church. Two Eucharistic Ministers (C3 and C4), distributing from the chalice, stand in front of the pews by the side aisle.

16. One Eucharistic Minister (assigned beforehand) distributes communion to the choir after everyone else has received.
17. In offering the plate or cup, look at the person receiving and say clearly: "The Body / Blood of Christ."
18. When people come up who cannot receive, they will indicate this by folding their arms across their chest. Lay a hand on their head or use some other appropriate gesture to give them a blessing. You can say: "May the peace of Christ be with you!" or some other appropriate formula.
19. After Communion, please consume the Precious Blood remaining and then pour in a small amount of water, and consume that also. If there are any remaining consecrated hosts, place them in the ciboria and return it to the tabernacle. When the EM's are seated and all musical accompaniment has ceased, the lector will come forward and make any parish announcements.
20. After the final blessing, the various liturgical ministers get into position by the altar rail:



The person holding the processional cross stands in front of the altar and in the center, facing it. During the closing hymn, the presider will reverence the altar by kissing it.

Afterwards, he will bow, which is the signal for all the ministers to bow. Then, the liturgical ministers, following the person carrying the cross (indicated by cross in diagram), process out of the church down the center aisle, two by two.

St. Ignatius Loyola Parish

Lectors

Lectors proclaim the Word of God during Mass and embody the Good News in their lives.

Jesus is the Word of God become flesh. In the mystery of the Incarnation God chose to work God's saving plan through a human being, like us in all things but sin. When a lector proclaims the Scriptures, the living Word of God is present among the community of believers. This Word touches our hearts and transforms us so that we might live more and more as Christ's followers in the world. Each of us is called to proclaim the Good News of Jesus Christ—the mystery of his life, death, and resurrection—to the entire world. We do so not just by what we say, but by the way we live as people of faith, hope, and love.

History of the Ministry of Lector

In the early Church the primary reason for the need for a special class of readers during liturgical celebrations was the need for people who were sufficiently educated to be able to read. The first mention of a special class of readers occurs in the writings of the Christian apologist, Justin Martyr, who died in 165 CE. During this period, the reader often expounded upon the Scripture that had been chosen even though the bishop preached a sermon at the same celebration. By 200 CE there were official lists of those who could proclaim the Word of God when Christians gathered for prayer.

As the idea spread that those who performed a certain office in the Church should have a special blessing, ceremonies and prayers developed to institute readers. During the first centuries, all the readings, including the Gospel, were proclaimed by the lector. When the community of believers suffered persecution, the readers were entrusted with the sacred books. By the sixth century, there is evidence that readers were ordained by a bishop.

Eventually, the role of lector gradually diminished as the deacon and subdeacon were, respectively, given the responsibility to proclaim the Gospel and the Epistle. As a result, the ministry of lector, which involved receiving minor orders, became a stepping stone to priestly ordination.

With the Second Vatican Council, the minor orders were eliminated. Moreover, lay men and women, by virtue of their baptism into the priesthood of all believers, were invited to serve the Church through the ministry of lector.

Liturgical and Pastoral Norms for Lectors

I. PASTORAL NORMS

Qualifications for Lectors:

A suitable candidate should embody the Good News that he or she proclaims and should have the ability, time, and willingness to serve in this capacity. The individual must have received the

sacrament of confirmation and be registered members of St. Ignatius Loyola Parish. Since the Lector is a steward of the parish, it is important that the candidate possess a serious and mature faith commitment. A Lector is someone who:

- has a love of Scripture
- is dedicated to prayerful reflection, study, and preparation before proclaiming the Word of God
- is open to being formed by Scripture and the Church's Tradition
- is able to communicate clearly and effectively.

It is through the Lector that the living Word of God becomes present in the midst of the community gathered for worship. By their reverence in proclaiming the Scriptures, they nourish us through God's living Word, who consoles and challenges us each time we dare to listen.

Selection

Prospective candidates volunteer to be Lectors. In the fall all candidates are required to attend training sessions and must demonstrate the capability to proclaim the Word of God prayerfully and effectively. This does not preclude a candidate from coming forward to begin serving as a Lector during the course of the year.

Commissioning

The formal commissioning and re-commissioning of Lectors takes place annually in October.

Formation: Training and Development

Formation of Lectors is an ongoing process. For those beginning their ministry and for those continuing their service, instruction and training in the following areas will be provided:

- Understanding and interpreting of Scripture
- Procedures for Lectors
- Spirituality for Lectors

Throughout the year opportunities will be offered for Lectors to deepen their faith and grow in their service. During the Lay Ministers' Enrichment Days those who serve in the various ministries in the parish gather for prayer, reflection, and ongoing training in their common ministry. Lectors are highly encouraged to attend at least one event a year to renew and update their training.

Coordination of Liturgical Ministers

The parish determines the number of ministers required in order to provide for the liturgical needs of the daily and weekend masses.

A member of the parish staff is responsible for scheduling, maintains a current roster of Lectors, and communicates information to the various liturgical ministers in a timely fashion.

Opportunities are given on a regular basis for the spiritual, theological and ritual development of ministers.

Schedules for Lectors will be sent out periodically by email. Copies of the schedules are also located in the sacristy (in the tray for Lectors) and may also be picked up from the receptionist when the Parish House is open.

If a liturgical minister is unable to serve at his/her assigned Mass, it is the *minister's* responsibility to call someone to substitute. If possible, please allow for ample time to find a replacement—if you send an email only a day before or hours before you are scheduled to serve, it is highly unlikely you will find a substitute. Also, if you are unable to find a replacement, please inform the other liturgical ministers who are serving that day by email or phone. Contact information for all liturgical ministers will be provided when each schedule is sent out.

II. LITURGICAL NORMS

Role

The Lector has a distinct role in the liturgical celebration. Even though the minister may serve in other liturgical ministries, **he or she should serve in only one ministry at a particular Mass.**

Proper Attire

The ministers should dress neatly, in a way consonant with the dignity of their role. Good taste and common sense are the best guides in this area. ***Shorts or tank tops are never acceptable.*** Appropriate dress is a sign of the reverence the minister has for the Word of God and for the importance of the ministry.

Assignment and Arrival

Lectors should arrive for their assigned Mass at least 15 minutes prior the Mass. This is very important for the prayerful and smooth functioning of the liturgy and allows any issues that might arise to be addressed in a timely manner. Others are counting on you to fulfill your responsibilities as a member of the team.

In order to foster a more prayerful atmosphere before Mass, liturgical ministers have been assigned tasks beforehand. These assignments and the responsibilities associated with them are indicated on the schedule.

For each liturgy one person among the ministers, assigned beforehand and indicated on the schedule, makes any adjustments before Mass if someone is unable to serve. He/she communicates with the presider regarding any other logistical issues.

Procedures

The procedures for Lectors are found below. Please take some time to review them before serving. A copy of this handbook may also be found in the sacristy (in the tray for Lectors).

The following are some general guidelines to keep in mind as you go about your ministry:

A. Preparation

We are most effective when we take the time to let God's Word touch our hearts and shape our lives. Preparation involves understanding the deeper meaning of what you are reading, not just the words on the page. Being sensitive to the style and feel of the text involves knowing something about the literary, historical, or theological context from which that particular passage of Scripture came. St. Louis University's Center for Liturgy runs a website that contains material to help you prepare and pray with the Scriptures for each Sunday. The link is:

<http://liturgy.slu.edu>

The site contains brief essays that help situate the context of the readings and reflection questions for you to ponder as you prepare throughout the week.

B. Comportment

By the way they proclaim the Scripture, Lectors make the Word of God come alive for the assembly gathered in worship. However, this is not a dramatic reading. The focus remains on the sacred text and its message, not on the Lector.

C. Mistakes

Making mistakes is part of being human. When you have made a mistake, do not call attention to your error by further interrupting the flow and saying, "Excuse me. . ." or some other phrase. Simply correct the mistake and keep on reading. If you start reading the wrong text, stop and begin again with the proper passage. *The best way, however, to avoid mistakes is to be prepared and familiar with the text.*

C. Techniques

One way to improve your delivery is to watch and listen to people who speak well. Each person has a unique style when they speak. However, there are also techniques that can be used and adapted to your style that will help maximize the effectiveness of your delivery:

i. Keeping your place

Using your finger to follow the text gives you the confidence to look up without losing your place.

ii. Eye Contact

Preparation and familiarity with the text allows you to read the text confidently and clearly. Memorize the attribution of the reading ("A reading from. . .") so that you can begin looking at the assembly. End the reading by looking up and saying, "The Word of

the Lord." Read to the end of a line or sense unit and look at people as you say it. Avoid bobbing your head or turning from side to side like a windshield wiper.

iii. Volume

Adjust the microphone before you even begin speaking so that it is directly in front of your mouth. Pay attention to the relative volume for the words in sentences. Volume can be adjusted for emphasis. Make sure to keep your voice strong at the end of the sentence. Learning to pause and breathe properly from your diaphragm avoids trailing off. Certain letters or sounds can be challenging when using a microphone. Be aware of how the "popping" letters ("p" and "b") and the hissing letters ("s" and "z"). You might have to soften volume or turn away slightly from the microphone when you say these letters.

iv. Pace and Pauses

Speak slowly and clearly. Since there are marble surfaces in this large church, words will be swallowed up or will blur together if they are read too quickly. If you hear an echo, adjust your pace and distance from the microphone to compensate.

Use pauses effectively to allow the words you have read to sink in. There is no need to rush. Pay attention to the format of the readings—sentences and sense units are broken up visually by spacing or punctuation to give you a clue when to pause. Always pause after introducing the passage by saying, "A reading from. . ." and at the end of the passage, before you say, "The Word of the Lord."

Change the pace of your reading to convey meaning or to make distinctions in dialogue. However, always be mindful of reading too quickly or too slowly.

v. Pronunciation

Know how to pronounce the words you are proclaiming. Two useful websites that provide help in pronouncing biblical names and words are found at:

<http://www.betterdaysarecoming.com/bible/pronunciation.html>

<http://www.biblespeech.com>

The former gives a phonetic rendering of some of these words while the latter has audio files that contain the commonly accepted pronunciation.

vi. Posture

Be aware of your posture as you sit in the sanctuary and as you approach the ambo. Keep both feet on the ground as you sit. Standing upright allows you to breathe normally and naturally. Use gestures deliberately so that you do not distract people in your reading. For example, if you are leading the assembly in the responsorial psalm

when there is no cantor, raise one arm with the hand open to signal to the people that they should respond.

vii. Stress

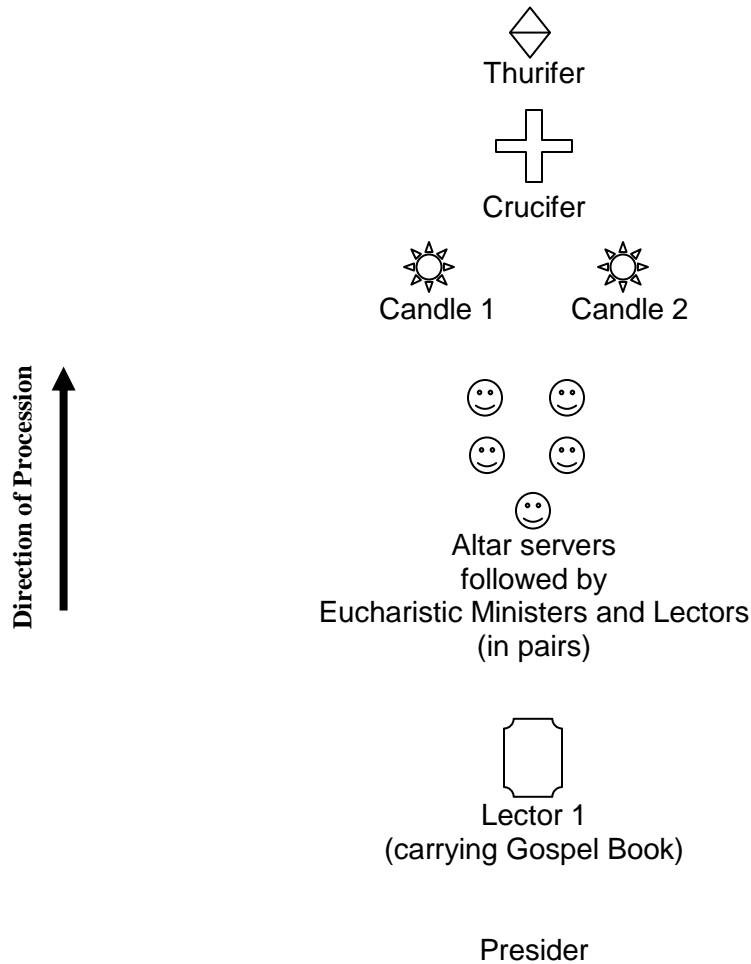
Identify the stress words in a passage. Remember that Scripture consists of many different literary forms:

- prose and historical narrative: emphasize turning points in the story
- liturgical proclamation: be attentive to the hopeful and inspiring message
- poetry: highlight the repetition and parallelism that often is used
- dialogue: distinguish characters by changing speed, tone, or volume
- theological teaching: attempt to convey the meaning or key ideas

Knowing the key themes and ideas will give you a sense of what you need to emphasize by changing the tone or volume of your voice. Use brief pauses to highlight key phrases.

Procedures for Lectors

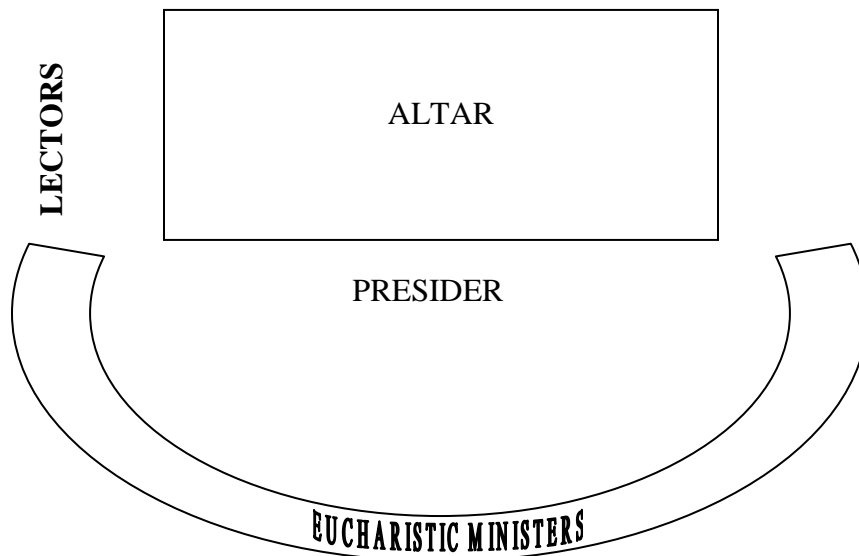
1. Prepare to read by practicing at home at least twice before your assignment, once by reading quietly and then by reading aloud. Practice reading slowly to convey the meaning behind the words.
2. When you arrive at the sacristy (15 minutes before Mass), please sign in so that there is an accurate count of the liturgical ministers present. If you show up late, another person may already have been asked to substitute for you.
3. Check to see who the other lector is and be prepared to proclaim both readings if s/he is not present.
4. Review the Prayers of the Faithful (Lector 1) and parish announcements (Lector 2). Both are located at the ambo and copies are in the sacristy for you to look at beforehand. Check with the presider for any unfamiliar words or names.
5. Ask the presider if there is anything special about the day's liturgy.
6. Check the Lectionary to confirm the location of the readings and be sure the ribbon is on the correct page. The Sacristan will place the Lectionary on the ambo.
7. A lector (Lector 1) is designated as the person who will carry in the Gospel Book during the procession. Reverently, carry it above eye level so that you can see where you are walking. Hold it high enough so that all can see it.
8. Lectors process in two by two with the other liturgical ministers. If there is an odd number, the last person processes alone down the center of the aisle. The person carrying the Gospel Book (Lector 1) should go alone before the presider. Unless there is an odd number of people in the procession, the other lector should pair up with a Eucharistic Minister. Space yourselves out in the procession. Walk reverently and sing joyfully—there is no rush; we are beginning a celebration of the Lord's Banquet! The order of the procession is as follows:



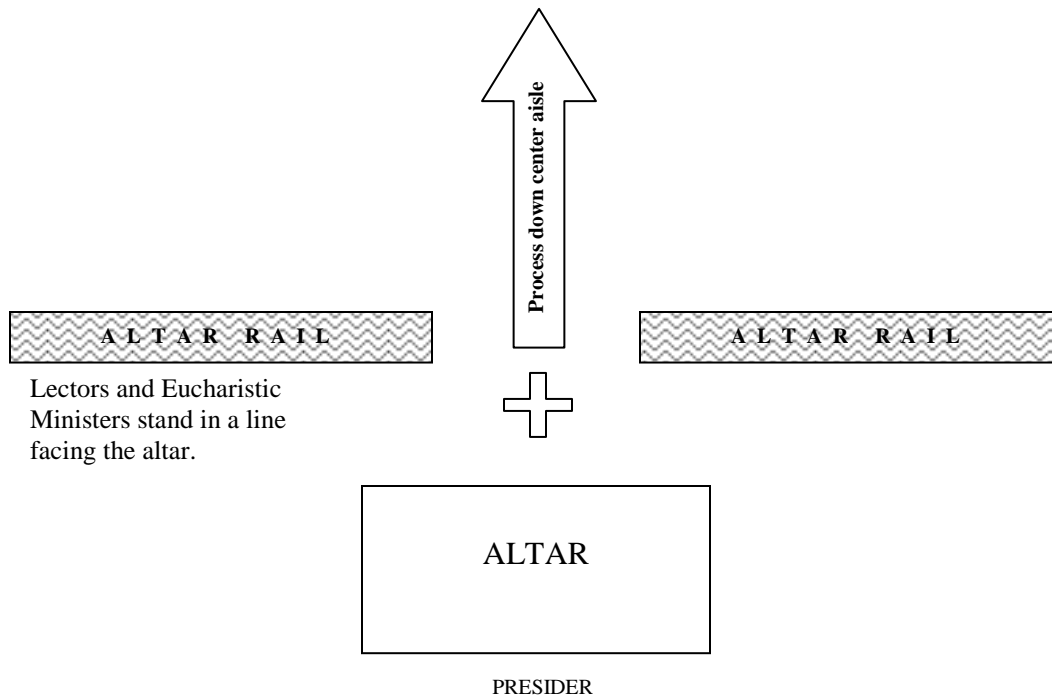
9. After you pass the altar rail, before the steps in the sanctuary, if you are not holding anything, please bow as a sign of reverence.
10. The person holding the Gospel Book (Lector 1) walks behind the altar and places the book in the plastic holder or directly on the center of the altar (during the Solemn Mass at 11:00 AM). Please do not reach across the front of the altar or the side of the altar to place the Gospel Book. When Lector 1 has placed the Gospel Book on the altar, s/he bows and the presider will do the same.
11. Lectors sit on the marble bench with the first lector closer to the ambo. Please sit with both feet flat on the ground and avoid unnecessary talking while Mass is being celebrated. Liturgical ministers lead others in worship by actively participating in the Mass through their prayer and singing. Remember that you are visible to all who gathered. Let your comportment be a sign of reverence and praise.
12. After the presider finishes the Opening Prayer, he will sit. Lector 1 reverently approaches the ambo and begins the First Reading by saying, "A reading from. . ." At the end of the

reading, pause for a few seconds before saying, "The Word of the Lord." Then, return to your seat at the marble bench.

13. At liturgies without a cantor (normally only at the 8:00 AM Mass on Sundays), Lector 1 also reads the Psalm and invites the people to recite the response.
14. After the Psalm, Lector 2 reverently steps up to the ambo and begins the Second Reading by saying, "A reading from. . ." At the end of the reading, s/he pauses for a few seconds before saying, "The Word of the Lord." Before returning to your seat, please remove the Lectionary from the ambo and place it on the marble stand by the wall near the seats.
15. After the Gospel, homily, and Creed, the presider begins the Prayers of the Faithful (Petitions) with a brief introductory prayer. Lector 1 should be at the ambo as the Creed ends so that s/he can begin the petitions as soon as the presider concludes the introductory prayer. Read each prayer slowly and in short phrases. Pay special attention to the names of the sick and the deceased, saying them clearly, slowly, and pausing after each name. After reading all the petitions, remain at the ambo and turn toward the presider until he finishes the brief concluding prayer. Then, return to your seat at the marble bench.
16. After the Our Father, remain where you are standing and exchange the Sign of Peace with the other liturgical ministers before moving into place to receive communion. You should not be walking and sharing the Sign of Peace at the same time. During communion, the two lectors stand closest to the ambo in a semi-circle behind the priest. After the priest and Eucharistic Ministers distribute communion to you, please return to your seat.



17. When the music has ceased and all the Eucharistic Ministers are seated after they have finished cleaning the vessels and placed the extra consecrated hosts in the tabernacle, Lector 2 approaches the ambo and reads the parish announcements (if there are any).
18. After the final blessing, all ministers stand and get into position for the recessional by the altar rail. The lectors stand closest to the 84th Street side of the church.



19. The person holding the recessional cross stands in front of the altar at the center and facing it. During the closing song, the presider will go to the altar and kiss it. Then, he will take a step back and bow. This is the signal for everyone to bow and process out of the church, two by two, following the person carrying the cross or the altar servers. Since neither the Gospel Book nor the Lectionary is carried out during the recessional, the two lectors should process with everyone else in pairs.
20. All liturgical ministers are encouraged to remain in the Narthex to greet the community as they exit.

GLOSSARY OF LITURGICAL TERMS

Alb: white robe worn by liturgical ministers

Altar: table for the Sacrifice of the Mass

Ambo: stand from which the Scriptures are read

Aspergillum: a short wand which the priest uses to sprinkle Holy Water

Aspersorium: another name for the Holy Water Bucket (see below)

Boat: container which holds the incense

Book of the Gospels: the decorated book from which the priest reads the Gospel

Cantor: person who leads the people in song during Mass

Cassock: black robe worn by servers

Censor: another name for the thurible

Chalice: cup for holding the Precious Blood

Chasuble: an outer vestment that priest wears. Its color reflects the liturgical season and it is the symbol of pastoral love.

Ciborium (pl. ciboria): container for the consecrated hosts; it is usually kept in the tabernacle.

Cincture: rope-like belt

Concelebrants: other priests who are present at Mass

Corporal: small, white cloth on the altar on which are placed the chalice and paten; it is used because of reverence for the Blessed Sacrament

Credence Table: small table by the side altars for the vessels used at Mass

Crucifer: person who carries the cross during the procession

Cruet: small container holding water or wine

Eucharistic Minister: person who helps the priest distribute Communion

Finger Towel: used to dry the priest's hands after he washes it during the Lavabo

Funeral Pall: large, white cloth that covers the casket at funerals; it is a reminder of the white garment received at baptism

Holy Water Bucket (aspersorium): contains Holy Water that is used to bless people and objects

Lavabo: the ritual during the Mass where the priest washes his hands and prays for forgiveness so that he might worthily offer the sacrifice

Lectionary: book containing readings from the Old Testament, the Psalms, and the New Testament

Lector: person who proclaims the First and Second Readings during the Liturgy of the Word and who offers the Prayers of the Faithful and reads the announcements of the parish.

Liturgy of the Eucharist: part of the Mass when we recall Christ's sacrifice on the Cross

Liturgy of the Word: part of the Mass when we hear the Scriptures proclaimed

Offertory: part of the Mass when the gifts of bread and wine are brought to the altar

Paschal Candle: large, white Easter candle; it is always present at baptisms and funerals.

Paten: plate used to hold the consecrated hosts, the Body of Christ

Prayers of the Faithful (Petitions): part of the Mass when we pray for the Church, the world, and one another

Presider: the priest who leads people in prayer during Mass

Presider's Chair: chair in which the priest sits while he presides at Mass

Processional Cross: used to lead processions

Purificator: small, white cloth used with the chalices that contain the Blood of Christ

Pyx: small container used to hold a consecrated host for the sick or homebound

Sacramentary: book that contains the prayers used at Mass

Sacristan: the person who takes care of the sacristy

Sacristy: room for storing items for Mass and where the priests and other ministers vest before Mass

Stole: a long, narrow strip of cloth that is worn over the priest's shoulders; it is a symbol of his priestly authority

Surplice: white garment worn over cassock

Tabernacle: the small box, usually built into an altar, where the Blessed Sacrament is kept

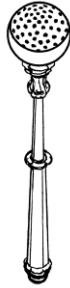
Thurible (censor): container which holds the lit charcoal

Thurifer: person who handles the thurible and incense boat

A VISUAL GUIDE TO ITEMS USED AT MASS



**Holy Water Bucket
(Aspersorium)**



Aspergillum



**Processional
Cross**



**Thurible
(Censor)**



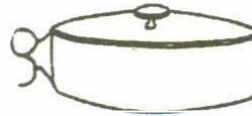
Incense Boat



Chalice



Purificator



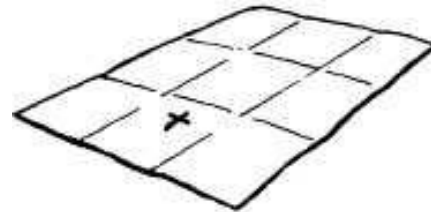
Ciborium



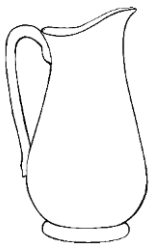
Pyx



Paten



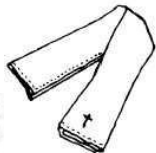
Corporal



**Pitcher
(for wine)**



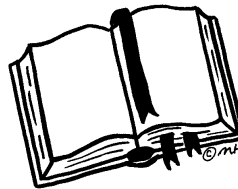
**Cruet
(for water)**



Finger Towel



Bowl



Sacramentary



Tabernacle



*Heavenly Father,
May our love and joy be evident
as we proclaim the Word of God
and share your Son's Body and Blood
with our brothers and sisters.
May we truly be ministers,
as Jesus was while he was on earth.*

*Bless us and bless all those we serve.
Help us to be good stewards of our parish.*

*We ask this in the name of Jesus,
Your Son and our brother,
in union with Your Spirit of Love.*

Amen.

