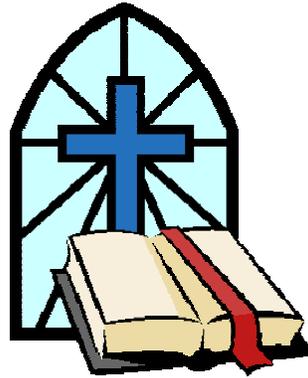


## Lectors / Ministers of the Word



The Word becomes flesh and dwells among us when the reader raises it from the printed page and enables it to live anew.

The power of the word is intensified when the word spoken is the Word of God. God spoke and the universe was created. That is a powerful word! God's Word came to the Prophets through the ages. They spoke in God's Name and called the people back to faithfulness.

In the fullness of time, God spoke through Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh. After the death and resurrection of Jesus, the Word of God was spread throughout the world, first by the Apostles and then by Christian witnesses and missionaries in every age.

The Liturgy of the Word is a ritual way of listening to Sacred Scripture, a way Christians learned from their parent faith, Judaism. Throughout our lives the Scriptures are read over and over again. They are not simply a history of our ancestors and of Jesus. We gradually discover that the story being told is our own story, the story of our lives as a people, a Catholic community, and a church. The Minister of the Word, the Lector, is the community's storyteller.

The Lector is entrusted with the crucial task of making the Word of God come alive by proclaiming it for the Christian assembly. A well-prepared Lector can do much to enhance the celebration of the Liturgy by a prayerful and powerful proclamation of the Word of God. Such a proclamation can touch and move the whole assembly, serving as an instrument of God's grace.

Speaking through Isaiah, God says that ***“just as from the heavens the rain and snow come down and do not return there till they have watered the earth, making it fertile and fruitful, giving seed to him who sows and bread to him who eats, so shall my word be that goes forth from my mouth; it shall not return to me void, but shall do my will, achieving the end for which I sent it.”***

- Isaiah 55:10-11

## WHO CAN BECOME A LECTOR?

Men and women who have been confirmed and have completed their eighteenth year are invited to become Lectors. Each of us has a unique, God given talent, which can be developed through practice, training and experience. God does not ask that we be perfect, only that we serve him with the best of our ability. Lectors have different techniques, though we all are united in our dedication to serve the Lord by giving glory and praise to our God, the Almighty Father.

To become a Lector, call the Church Office at 318 687 5121 and leave your name and phone number. That information will be forwarded to the Lector's Coordinator. Through that person a time will be arranged for an orientation and explanation of the Lector's duties and responsibilities. You will receive a List of our Lectors, a Lectors' Schedule, Lector's Guidelines and a Workbook for Lectors. The coordinator is available to answer questions and assist you in any way possible.

Those involved in the Ministry of the Word are very dedicated, always ready to welcome new members and provide help, support and encouragement. You are not alone.

Anyone who aspires to be a Minister of the Word must be a "Good" or "Practicing" Catholic.

***Become a Lector! Help us share God's Word with His people.***