Mary Queen of the Holy Rosary
Lector Guidelines

Lord, be on our lips and in our hearts, that we may worthily proclaim your word.
O Lord, open our lips, and our mouths shall declare your praise.
Create in us clean hearts, 0 God.
Our mouths and hands shall praise you, 0 God.
Lord, touch our lips. Place your words in our mouths.
We give thanks to your name for your love and faithfulness. Amen.

I. **Before**
   A. Receive, review, and calendar the date(s) and time(s) you are scheduled to lector. In the event of a conflict, arrange for a substitute. **This is your responsibility**.
   B. Study the Bible and preparation materials (lector workbook or www.usccb.org/nab/). Note and look up any unfamiliar words or pronunciations.
   C. Read and reflect on all the Scripture Readings.
   D. Practice, practice, practice. Remember, there is no need to add drama to the Reading.
   E. Pray. Consider making the readings part of your daily prayers.
   F. Consider connecting with the other assigned lector a couple of days prior to remind each other.

II. **During**
   A. Arrive at least 15 minutes before the Liturgy begins.
   B. Make a visit to the Blessed Sacrament.
   C. Sign in on the schedule posted in the sacristy.
   D. Make sure that the other lector has arrived and consider offering a brief prayer together to ready yourselves.
   E. Review materials
      1. Find your reading in the Lectionary.
      2. In the case of a reading with both long and short form options (denoted by bracketed text in the missalette), please check with the priest to determine which form to use.
      3. Lector #1 should locate and review the General Intercessions.
   F. Place the Lectionary on the Ambo, opened to the First Reading.
   G. Place the General Intercessions on the Ambo.
   H. Adjust the microphone; make sure it is on.
   I. No stand is needed for the Book of Gospel Readings on the altar.
   J. General Responsibilities
      1. Lector #1
         a. Carries the Book of Gospels in the entrance procession at eye level (unless a Deacon is participating). If the Book of Gospels is too heavy, it is ok to ask the other Lector to carry it in the procession.
         b. Proclaims the First Reading.
         c. Leads the Prayers of the General Intercession (unless a Deacon is participating).
      2. Lector #2
         a. Does not take part in the procession.
         b. Proclaims the Second Reading.
         c. Places the Lectionary into the ambo shelf after the Second Reading to make room for the Book of Gospels.
   K. The Entrance Procession (Lector #1)
      1. Is done by the Deacon if participating.

2. Process in behind the Altar Servers, waiting until the Altar Servers are halfway down the aisle before beginning.
3. Carry the Book of Gospel Readings in an elevated position at eye level—<u>but not over the head</u>—with the front of the book facing the Altar.
4. Do NOT carry anything else with you (this includes the Prayers of the General Intercession).
5. Position yourself directly in front of the Altar at the bottom step.
6. Bow slightly with the head (keeping the book elevated at eye level).
7. Approach the Altar and circle around on right side (counterclockwise). Place the Book on the far side of the altar with the front of the book facing the congregation.
8. Exit the Altar on the choir side and return to your place in the congregation. Please try to sit near the isle in a pew with close proximity to the ambo.

L. First Reading (Lector#1)
1. Approach the foot of the Altar, stopping at the bottom step, and bow.
2. Proceed to the Ambo between the Altar and the Ambo.
3. Proclaim the First Reading. Try to memorize the first line or so of the reading and then look out at the congregation as you proclaim.
4. Look out at the congregation as you conclude the reading: "The Word of the Lord".
5. Step back from the Ambo and pause for reflection (about 5 seconds).
6. If leading the Responsorial Psalm (usually only on weekdays or special Masses)
   a. Remain at the Ambo.
   b. Pause after the reading.
   c. Lead the Responsorial Psalm.
   d. There is no need to strike the “Statue of Liberty” pose to prompt the congregation to respond.
7. Return to place in the congregation by way of the side steps of the Altar (choir side).

M. Second Reading (Lector #2)
1. Approach the foot of the Altar, stopping at the bottom step, and bow.
2. Proceed to the Ambo between the Altar and the Ambo.
3. Proclaim the Second Reading. Try to memorize the first line or so of the reading and then look out at the congregation as you proclaim.
4. Look out at the congregation as you conclude the reading: "The Word of the Lord".
5. Close the Lectionary and place it on the shelf under the Ambo.
6. Step back from the Ambo and pause for reflection (about 5 seconds).
7. Return to place in the congregation by way of the side steps of the Altar (choir side).

N. Prayers of the Faithful / General Intercessions (Lector#1)
1. Led by the Deacon if present.
2. Near the end of the Nicene Creed (near “…*We believe in the Holy Spirit*…”), approach the foot of the Altar and bow.
3. Proceed to the Ambo between the Altar and the Ambo.
4. After the priest has finished the introductory prayer, lead the General Intercessions.
5. Step back, turn toward the priest, and remain at the Ambo until the priest finishes the prayer.
6. Return to place in the congregation by way of the side steps of the Altar (choir side).

O. The Exit Procession — neither lector participates.

III. After

A. Exit with the Congregation and greet your fellow parishioners.
B. Return materials to the Vesting Sacristy (Book of Gospels, Lectionary, General Intercessions).