

# HOLY INNOCENTS CATHOLIC CHURCH

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3455 WEST BANGS AVENUE  
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NEPTUNE, NEW JERSEY 07754-0806

## Ordinary Lector Protocol

### **Before Mass (Both Lectors)**

1. Practice **both** readings the week before your scheduled mass;
2. Arrive at least 15 minutes early and sign in, **making sure that the celebrant(s) and other lector know that you are there;**
3. Check readings upon arrival (ask celebrant if unsure);
4. Read "General Intercessions" (special intentions) before mass and confirm pronunciation of names of those who are sick, who have died and for whom the mass is being offered (The latter name(s) can be found in the Bulletin located in the "General Intercessions" folder under the lectern);
5. Stand in foyer and greet congregation as they enter;
6. If a deacon is participating in the mass, proceed to number 11 below. If no deacon is present, continue to Entrance Procession;

### **Entrance Procession**

*(If no Deacon is present - First Lector\* only )*

7. Stand immediately in front of the celebrant(s) with the Book of the Gospels;
8. As you enter the Church, raise the Book of the Gospels with both hands and process at a dignified pace down the aisle;
9. Ascend the altar steps (bow your head, but do not lower the Book) and place the Book face down and centered on the altar;
10. Take a seat among the congregation and wait for the opening prayer;

### **Reading#1 (First Lector)**

11. Ascend the altar steps from the center aisle after the opening prayer (bowing as you do so);
12. Look at the congregation and announce the first reading confidently;
13. Read at a moderate pace, taking time to pause or add emphasis where appropriate;
14. Conclude the first reading by pausing and then clearly and

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- confidently annunciating " **The Word Of The Lord** ";
15. After the reading, descend from the altar (do not bow) and take your seat among the congregation;

## Reading#2 (Second Lector)

16. Following the Responsorial Psalm, ascend the altar from the center aisle (bowing as you do so), look at the congregation and announce the second reading confidently;
17. Read at a moderate pace, taking time to pause or add emphasis where appropriate;
18. Conclude the second reading by pausing and then clearly and confidently annunciating " **The Word Of The Lord** ";
19. After the reading, place the Lectionary beneath the lectern, descend from the altar (do not bow) and take your seat among the congregation;

## General Intercessions

*(if no Deacon is present - Second Lector only)*

20. Upon reaching the last phrase of the Creed (We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church...), approach and ascend the altar steps from the center aisle (bowing as you do so), and open the General Intercessions folder (located under the lectern);
21. Wait for the celebrant to complete the prefatory prayer, then announce the response ("Lord hear our prayer") and begin reading;
22. At the conclusion of the prayers, **wait** for the celebrant to complete the closing prayer, descend from the altar (do not bow) and take your seat;
23. After the mass, return the Book of the Gospels to the Sacristy if you processed in with it.

\*The "First Lector" is the lector whose name appears first (vertically) on the schedule.