

Some Practical Wisdom

- Review **BOTH** Scripture texts for the upcoming Sunday or Holy Day during the week.
- Please dress appropriately. Ask yourself, if immediately after Mass, if I were going out to a nice restaurant, would I have to go home and “change”?
- Arrive 15 minutes early and have a review of assignments with the other Lectors and Commentator.
- If you have the role of Commentator, review Prayer of Faithful & Announcements.
- Assume that the Responsorial Psalm will be sung. If not, it is the music minister’s responsibility to inform you otherwise.
- Make sure the microphone is ON and working. Do not “blow” into the microphone. Say “testing “or something similar.
- Make sure the Lectionary is on the ambo and opened to the First Reading.
- One of the Lectors should process in with the Book of the Gospels IF a Deacon is not present.
- After the Collect, the people are seated. The Priest will read a brief introduction to the First Reading. Ideally, the Lector should not begin his or her journey to the ambo, until the Priest has concluded. The same holds true for the Lector of the Second Reading. WE ARE NOT IN A HURRY.
- It is most proper to say: “Uh Reading vs. Ay Reading.”

- Never, ever say: “Our first reading is from”...or “Our second is from...” We know which reading is first and which one is second.
- Remember the conclusion to every reading is: “The Word of the Lord.” Not, THIS IS the Word of the Lord.” Not, “The Word of God.”
- There should be a **three second pause** after you say: “A Reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah,” as well as a three second pause between the last word of the Scripture text and “The Word of the Lord.” Why? The introduction and conclusion are NOT a part of the Scripture text and the pause will indicate that fact to the assembly.
- Rarely has anyone ever complained that a Lector reads too loudly or too slowly.
- Many, though, have complained that a Lector reads too softly and too fast.
- Enunciate! Enunciate! Enunciate. Most especially the last consonant of each word.
- The Commentator should move to the ambo/lectern at the conclusion of the Creed and should only return to his or her seat at the Priest’s conclusion to the Prayer of the Faithful.