

November 28, 2009

Dear Gary,

Thank you for sharing your gifts by serving as Lector at the Church of the Resurrection. If you attended Deacon Joe's workshop or saw the DVD last year, you are familiar with most of the following; but a couple of points are new, and others may have been forgotten. So, please continue reading.

The Liturgical Ministers' schedule is now posted on the wall behind the door of the sacristy. Please plan to arrive fifteen or twenty minutes before Mass and check off your name-or add it, if you are substituting for someone. It is also good to let the sacristan (Kayla or Jacob) know that you are there. Go to the ambo and check that the right readings are prepared for you and that there are no unpronounceable names in the petitions.

If you are the First Reader, and carrying the Book of Gospels, proceed directly to the near side of the altar and lay the book down on the center of the altar. Then go to the celebrant's left and genuflect with Father and the altar servers before going to your pew.

If you are Second Reader, close the Lectionary and put it on the shelf underneath when you are finished. *After you read the petitions*, turn toward the altar while Father finishes the prayer. Return to your pew *after* the "Amen."

The new sound system is great, but you should still take a second to make sure the mike is level with your mouth and about a foot away. Speak as though you were speaking to someone in the third pew without a mike and enunciate clearly. This is especially important for the lighter voice ladies, who sometimes are not heard in the back. The pause before "the word of the Lord" should be twice as long as the pause after a period.

Please make optimum use of your workbook, for which the parish has paid thirteen dollars. Many Lectors remark that the hints for when to pause, when to make eye contact, and what to emphasize save a lot of preparation time that can be used for reflection and practice.

From time to time, re-read Deacon Joe's notes from the June 2008 workshop, or which you received with your pocket folder if you did not get to the workshop. There's really too much there to digest and put into practice all at once. If you've lost them, give me a call. I can replace them for you.

Father Glenn made an important observation at last month's training session. Namely, that when we "open the Scripture" to the congregation, we are doing no less than following the example of Jesus in the temple.

Again, thank you,

*Barbara Quinn*