

Tips for Student Lectors

Congratulations! You have been selected to read out loud during mass. What a great opportunity to show off your reading skills and to participate in church.

Why do we read out loud during mass? Public reading is among the most ancient forms of Christian ministry. In the days when St. Paul was sending his Letters to various Christian communities, the letters had to be read out loud. A long time ago many, many people could not read- so they had to be read to. You are following in the footsteps of the earliest Christians by proclaiming (a fancy word that means to speak out loud) the Word of the Lord.

Tips:

- (1) Go slowly: imagine that you are reading to your baby brother or sister. They may not understand if you go too fast.
- (2) Pause: Circle the commas and periods in your reading. Pause briefly when you get to them.
- (3) Loud: Speak loudly but without shouting.
- (4) Eye-contact: If you can, look up at your audience once or twice while you are reading- maybe when you pause. People want to see your face and eyes.

Just relax and enjoy yourself- lectors get first pick of the donuts after mass!