

Reader Responsibilities:

Readers are usually in grades 6 - 8. Readers should arrive 15 minutes before the start of the liturgy. Readers should dress appropriately for mass. Jeans, sneakers and athletic uniforms are discouraged. Readers should take off their jackets and report to the Children's Liturgy Coordinator in order to rehearse the readings. Readers can access their reading on the home page of the www.usccb.org website by clicking on the Daily Readings Calendar. They should practice at home and will be able to rehearse Sunday morning before mass. They should read, slowly with a loud clear voice -- targeting a parishioner seated in the back of the church. Microphones are usually operational but readers should be prepared in the event they are not. The first reading begins when the entire congregation is seated for the first time. This is their queue. Both readers should process up to the altar together and bow together. The first reader proceeds to the ambo and the second reader sits (or stands) by the altar server bench. When the first reader is done, that reader joins the second reader at the bench. When the choir and congregation completes the final responsorial psalm, the second reader approaches the ambo to read. When the second reading is completed the first reader walks forward and joins the second reader to descend the sanctuary. The two turn to face the altar, bow and return to their seats. Mass continues. Mid-way through the recitation of the Creed, one reader proceeds to the lectern to read the Prayer of the Faithful, remaining until the Amen following the Celebrant's closing prayer. Upon returning to the seat, reader should turn and bow again before being seated.