

## **Church of Saint David the King**

### **LECTOR MINISTRY**

#### **Guidelines for Lectors**

The ministry of a lector is a vital role in the celebration of the Eucharist, as it involves proclaiming the Word of God to the assembly. To serve as a lector is to be a messenger of God's Word, requiring preparation, reverence, and commitment.

To be eligible to serve in this ministry, individuals must have received all three Sacraments of Initiation—Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist—and be in good standing with the Church.

Below are the guidelines for those serving in this ministry:

#### **1. Initial Meeting and Assessment**

- All individuals interested in serving as lectors are asked to meet with the Head Lector, **Cheryl Ellsworth**.
- This meeting will ensure that candidates have clear and comfortable pronunciation, a confident presence, and an understanding of the importance of proclaiming the Scriptures.

#### **2. Preparation for Assigned Readings**

- Lectors assigned to a Sunday Liturgy are expected to prepare thoroughly ahead of time.
- This includes practicing both the **First Reading** (usually from the Old Testament) and the **Second Reading** (typically from one of the Epistles).
- Use resources such as a lector workbook or online tools to study the passages, understand their context, and practice correct pronunciation and phrasing.
- Reflect prayerfully on the readings to proclaim them with understanding and conviction.

#### **3. Proclamation at Mass**

- Arrive at the church at least 15 minutes before the start of the liturgy to sign in on the MSP tablet in the Sacristy.
- Review the lectionary at the ambo to ensure familiarity with the text and confirm the proper readings for the day.
- Proclaim the Word clearly and slowly, engaging the assembly while maintaining a reverent tone.

#### **4. Leading the Universal Prayers**

- When no deacon is present, the lector is responsible for leading the **Universal Prayers** (Prayers of the Faithful).
- These prayers should be read with clarity and appropriate pacing, allowing the congregation to respond in unison.

#### **5. Attire and Conduct**

- Lectors should dress modestly and appropriately, reflecting the dignity of the ministry and the sacredness of the liturgy.
- Approach the ambo reverently and maintain a respectful posture throughout the proclamation.

#### **6. Ongoing Formation**

- Lectors are encouraged to participate in periodic training sessions or spiritual enrichment opportunities offered by the parish to grow in their understanding and ability to proclaim Scripture effectively.

The ministry of lector is more than a reading role—it is a profound act of service to the Church and the Word of God. By proclaiming Scripture with faith and reverence, lectors help lead the congregation into a deeper encounter with the living Word, that is Jesus Christ.