

Our Mother of Good Counsel School and Church
323-664-2111 Fax 323-664-0556 www.omogc.org

October, 2011

Dear Parish Lectors:

I want to thank you for your faithful service at the altar, and for going over the readings before Mass, it makes such a difference when the Word is proclaimed clearly and with meaning. Please read slowly, distinctly and loudly, remembering that those listening do not have the text in front of them, they depend solely on your voice to hear and understand the inspired Word of God.

I would like you to observe the following, which many of you are already doing: Please be ready in the vestibule (entrance area) at least 10 minutes before Mass is to begin, so you can help as greeters and join in the short prayer. When two lectors are assigned, both precede the priest with the one carrying the Gospel book immediately in front of the priest. **After you place the book on the altar, return to stand next to the priest on his right, the place of honor.**

When going to the pulpit (ambo), if you cross in front of the altar, bow. If you don't cross in front of altar do not bow. Please sing the Gospel Acclamation only if you can do so with ease and on key. I cannot, so I don't, you don't have to either. Encourage the whole congregation to sing the "Alleluia" response; you do not need to sing the verse.

The liturgical guidelines advocate that the parish announcements be read by someone other than the presider (priest). I would like the person carrying the Gospel book to please read the announcements **immediately after the Communion Prayer**, before the blessing. Proceed to the **cantor microphone** (in front of the ambo, pulpit, by the piano) **as the priest begins the prayer: ("Let us pray...")**. Usually the announcements are on the reverse side of the Prayers of Intercession. Please read these over when you come into the sacristy to pick up the Gospel book, so any unusual names can be clarified. Read these slowly and loudly as often the information is not in the bulletin.

May I remind you to please be alert to the presence of persons lurking around. Please do not leave purses, the Gospel book, or the sacristy unattended. Also if you know of others whom you think would be effective lectors, please give their names to the office. May God bless you in your vital role for our daily and weekend liturgies as representatives of the People of God at prayer.

Gratefully,

Fr. James Mott, OSA
Parish Priest