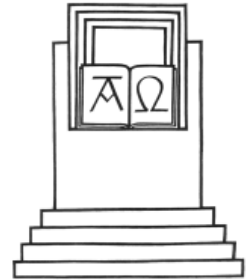


LITURGY OF THE WORD

First Reading:

The Lector goes to the ambo and reads the First Reading, while all sit and listen. To indicate the end of the reading, the reader acclaims: **The Word of the Lord**



All: Thanks be to God!

Responsorial Psalm:

[The choir and/or cantor sing or recite the psalm; the people join in the repeated response.]

Second Reading:

The lector's introduction and conclusion and the people's response are the same as in the First Reading, above.]

Alleluia or Gospel Acclamation:

At the beginning of the Alleluia, the candle bearers take the candles from the either side of the Ambo then cross to the right side of the altar go down the steps and wait for the priest. The priest will pick up the Book of Gospels and stand behind the servers. The servers must immediately begin the procession around the sanctuary and **walk slowly and reverently** to the Ambo.

When the servers reach the Ambo the candle bearers go to either side of the Ambo at the top step. The server closest to the railing will stand back away from the Ambo so that the priest can climb the steps without bumping into the server as he approaches the Ambo, when the priest has reached the Ambo the candle bearer can then stand next to the Ambo.

[IF INCENSE IS USED DURING THE GOSPEL: While the Lector of the second reading is walking to the ambo, the servers responsible for the incense must retrieve the Thurible and Boat, and stand by the credence table. After the lector has concluded the reading and left the ambo, the servers can approach the priest at his seat, **before the Alleluia is sung**. The priest, while seated, will place incense into the Thurible. After he has placed the incense in the thurible the servers will go down the steps and wait for the Gospel procession to begin. While this part is taking place the servers of the candles take the candles from the ambo, and stand behind the servers with the incense. The priest will stand and go to the altar to get the book of Gospels. The singing of the Alleluia will then begin. The servers can now start the procession to the Ambo.

The process is led by the server with the Thurible, (called the Thurifer), and the server with the boat, followed by the servers with the candles. When the Thurifer reaches the ambo they stand to the right, next to the ambo. The candle bearers process and stand as they would do if incense is not being used, allow room for the priest to reach the ambo without be obstructed. The priest will take the Thurible and bless the Book of Gospels, then return the Thurible to the Thurifer. The server stands during the reading of the Gospel, slightly swaying the Thurible.]

All other servers should stand straight, hands held together at their chest, and listen closely to the Gospel