

# Ministers of the Word

...Not by Bread Alone Does  
Man Live, but by Every  
Word That Comes Forth from  
the Mouth of the Lord.  
Deuteronomy 8:3



## OUR MISSION STATEMENT

...to proclaim the Word of the Lord with joy and enthusiasm to foster the spiritual growth of the faith community.

Saint Edward the Confessor Church  
New Fairfield, Connecticut  
(203) 746- 2200

## HOME PREPARATION

◆ Review the readings the week prior to your scheduled Mass.

◆ The readings can be found online at:

### Readings:

<http://www.usccb.org/bible/>; just click on the calendar

### Pronunciation of Biblical names:

<http://netministries.org/Bbasics/bwords.htm>

◆ Practice the readings **aloud** at home until you feel comfortable with them..

## BEFORE MASS

◆ Arrive at church at least 15 minutes early.

◆ Turn the “Lector” disk on the Designation Board to “FILLED”.

◆ The Lectionary and the binder should be at the ambo before mass.

◆ Prepare the Lectionary by opening it to the first reading. Check to be sure that the readings were the ones that you practiced at home.

◆ Review the Lector Binder with the Intercessions in it. (If a deacon is present, he will do the intercessions). If you are doing the intercessions be certain that you get the correct pronunciation of all names in the intercessions. Ask the liturgical coordinator or Celebrant for pronunciation.

◆ Set the microphone to the correct position for you.

◆ **Check to make sure the microphone system is on. If it isn't inform the music director.**

- ◆ When Mass is scheduled to begin, you will greet the community from the ambo. You will start with “Good Morning (Afternoon, Evening). Read the script as written.
- ◆ When you finish the announcements, place the binder on the shelf under the drawer of the ambo and go back to your seat.

## **MASS PROCEDURE**

- ◆ After the celebrant concludes the opening prayers and sits down, you will walk to the side steps of the Sanctuary, bow to the altar and proceed to the ambo.
- ◆ Begin the first reading. Always begin the reading with “A Reading from ...”. Memorize the name of the book that the reading is from so that you can look up at the community when you say “A Reading from ...”.
- ◆ Do not rush. This is God’s Word you are reading.
- ◆ Pause after the reading is finished, look up and say “The Word of the Lord”.
- ◆ If the Psalm is sung, take one step back from the ambo after the first reading and face the choir area until the Psalm is finished. Then return to the ambo and start the 2<sup>nd</sup> reading.
- ◆ At the 7:30 a.m. Mass you will be saying the Responsorial Psalm. Begin the Psalm by saying “The response is...” ,then read the response aloud, wait for the community to repeat the response and then start the verse.
- ◆ Pause a few moments before starting the second reading then begin as you did with the first reading by saying “A Reading from ...”.
- ◆ When you have finished the 2<sup>nd</sup> reading turn the page of the Lectionary to the Gospel reading, go down the side steps of the Sanctuary, bow and return to your seat.
- ◆ If you are doing the intercessions, proceed to the ambo at the 4<sup>th</sup> verse of the Profession of Faith....”We Believe in the Holy

Spirit...”. The celebrant will introduce the intercessions. When you have finished the intercessions, wait until the celebrant completes the prayers, place binder on the shelf and return to your seat.

## **DRESS - Business Casual appropriate to season**

- ◆ Please dress appropriately. Shorts, T-shirts, mini-skirts, tank tops are not appropriate dress for church.

## **UNABLE TO ATTEND**

- ◆ If you cannot attend your scheduled Mass please try to find a substitute. Otherwise, please inform the coordinator.

## **REMEMBER**

- ◆ Everyone gets butterflies. Practice makes them fly in formation.
- ◆ No one but you knows that you are nervous
- ◆ You have a friendly audience. They are there to hear the readings.
- ◆ Take a conversational tone with the community. It will sound less like reading to them.
- ◆ Consider going to Bible study. Understanding the Scriptures will help you to read with conviction and feeling.

January, 2012