

PROCLAIMERS OF THE WORD PROCEDURE FOR SUNDAY MASS

St. Thomas the Apostle

Prepare for Mass

- **Always request a substitute online if unavailable**
 - Log in to MSP at www.rotundasoftware.com/ministry/saintthomastheapostle
 - If you are not online, please notify the parish, finding a sub yourself if possible
- **Prepare to Proclaim the Word of God**
 - Study the readings in the *Workbook for Lectors* for pronunciation, emphasis, etc.
 - Spend some time in quiet **prayer** alone or with your family before Sunday Mass
 - **Reflect** on the readings days prior, seeking to understand the narrative as a whole
 - **Read** the scriptures aloud, listening to the Word of God as you proclaim in private
- **Please arrive 15 minutes before Mass**
 - Sign in by checking off your name (or the person you replace) in the **main entrance**
 - Familiarize yourself with the text as it appears in the lectionary in the **sacristy**
 - Proclaimers are designated "Proclaimer 1," or "Proclaimer 2"
 - **Proclaimer 1** is responsible for bringing the book of the Gospels for procession
 - **Proclaimer 2** is responsible for ensuring the binder of petitions is placed in the ambo
 - Join all liturgical ministers in **prayer** before the celebration

Entrance Procession

- **Proclaimer 1** processes with the book of the Gospels held high
 - Processes on the left side of the aisle
 - Upon reaching the Altar moves behind the altar via the right side (no bow), places the book of the Gospels in the stand, returns before the Altar via the other side, bows and is seated
- **Proclaimer 2** processes (All liturgical seasons, except Lent)
 - Processes on the right side of the aisle
 - Upon reaching the Altar, waits for Proclaimer 1, then bow together and are seated

Liturgy of the Word

- **Proclaim the Word of God**
 - Read **slowly and deliberately**, seeking to convey the narrative, not just words or sentences
 - Make **eye contact** often, using a hand or finger to mark your place when looking up
 - Allow short **pauses for resonance**, especially prior to saying: "The Word of the Lord."
- The **First Reading** is proclaimed by Proclaimer 1
 - After the opening prayer, move to the center aisle, bow before the altar, then proceed to the ambo to proclaim the Word
 - After saying "The Word of the Lord," turn to the next reading and pause for 5 seconds
 - Meet the Cantor before the Altar, bowing together, then proceed to be seated
- The **Second Reading** is proclaimed by Proclaimer 2
 - After the Responsorial Psalm, meet the cantor at the center aisle, bowing to the altar, then proceed to the ambo to proclaim the Word
 - After saying "The Word of the Lord," pause, then close the book and place it in the ambo
 - Return to the center aisle, bowing before the altar, then proceed to your seat
- The **Universal Prayer** is proclaimed by Proclaimer 2 if no deacon is present (intercessions)
 - Immediately after the Creed, *go directly to the ambo* while the prayer is introduced
 - Remain at the ambo until the concluding prayer is finished, then be seated