

Funeral Mass Directions for Readers and Those Bringing Up the Gifts

Directions for Readers

Once the presiding priest comes to the altar, he will proceed with opening prayers.

When it is time for the First Reading (Old Testament), the priest will invite the reader to come forward. The reader leaves his/her pew, comes to the front steps before the altar, offers a brief bow, and walks to the lectern which will be to the left when you are facing the altar. Often times an altar server will assist the reader in navigating the stairs to the lectern.

The reader will find a copy of the readings on the lectern. There may be a need to adjust the microphone. He/she will then read the Scripture passages, ending with the words: The Word of the Lord. (The assembly should respond: Thanks be to God). The Reader will then return to his/her seat.*

The organist/choir will then sing the Psalm.

On it's conclusion, the second reader will be called by the priest. He/she will follow the same directions as the first reader.

*Should there be only one reader for both Scripture passages, that person should sit in one of the chairs next to the altar servers after completing the first reading. Once the Psalm has been sung, he/she returns to the lectern and reads the Second Reading (New Testament). When finished, he/she returns to the pew.

DIRECTIONS FOR THOSE BRINGING UP THE GIFTS

*(Due to COVID, "bringing up gifts" restrictions are currently in effect –
please see Priest or your bereavement minister).*

Once the homily has been given, the presiding priest will prepare for the Consecration of the Bread and Wine. Should he know the names of those bringing up the gifts, he will call them forward by name. If the names are not available, he will make a general announcement for the gift bearers to proceed.

The gift bearers leave their pew, go to the back entrance of the Church (where the glass doors are), pick up the cruet of wine and cup of hosts (which will be on a small table to their right), walk together toward the priest, make a small bow, and each in turn offer the gifts to the priest. Once taken, a small bow is given and the gift bearers return to their pew.