

Parishes of Camberwell, Balwyn Deepdene and Surrey Hills Wattle Park
Ministry Role Description

READER/LECTOR

Purpose:

The Lector or Reader plays an important role in the Liturgy of the Word during Mass or other liturgical celebrations as they proclaim and share the Word of God with the people gathered.

Responsible to:

Parish Priest or Senior Pastoral Associate

Role Description:

The Lector reads the readings of the day from the Lectionary. The quality of the reader's proclamation helps the faithful receive and respond to the Word.

Duties:

The Lector or Reader will:

- Arrive 15 minutes before the commencement of Mass and make themselves known to the Celebrant in the Sacristy.
- Proclaim the First and Second Readings, the Psalm and Gospel Acclamation (if not sung) and the Prayer of the Faithful in a way that is clear and understood by all those participating in the liturgy.
- Practise the readings prior to the liturgy and prepare spiritually for the task.
- Feel comfortable in front of the congregation and be able to use the microphone properly.

Duties may vary from parish to parish.

Conditions:

- This is a volunteer role.
- The anticipated commitment is to be placed on a roster.

Lectors are required to:

- hold a current Victorian Working with Children Check or Victorian Institute of Teaching (VIT) registration with the parish registered as a volunteer organisation. This check remains current for five years;
- read and sign the Safeguarding Code of Conduct. Once signed, it will remain current for three years;
- Complete the Safeguarding Essentials online training module. Once completed, it will remain current for three years.

Training required:

- All volunteers must complete a safeguarding training module as required.
- Initial induction training will be provided prior to commencing in the role and other training as required.

Qualifications and experience:

- No prior experience is required as Lectors are provided with training.
- Must be able to read well to ensure that the reading can be heard.
- Practices the Catholic faith through regular attendance at liturgy and reception of the Sacraments.

Skills and attributes:

- Respects the cultural, gender and age diversity of the parish.
- Committed to the safety of children, young people and vulnerable people.
- Reads confidently and clearly.
- Has a keen interest in deepening their love of the Word of God and a willingness to undertake ongoing formation.
- Willingness to work collaboratively as part of a team.
- Respects confidentiality and privacy.
- Able to communicate effectively and respectfully with others.

Benefits to this position:

Those who commit to this ministry have the special privilege of proclaiming the Word of the Lord during Mass.