

## Corpus Christi Mass – First Reader’s Guide

Please be at the Sacristy **at least 15 minutes** prior to the start of mass.

One of the readers (it doesn’t matter which) should ensure that:

The large red lectionary is open to that Sunday’s First Reading, and that it is placed on the ambo prior to the mass beginning;

The cloth-covered lectionary from which the priest will read the gospel is open to the correct gospel reading for that Sunday. The bookmark should be placed so that it sticks out the side of the lectionary, not the bottom, so that the priest can easily open the book to the gospel reading.

### **Procession**

The First Reader is the last person in the procession prior to the priest. During the procession, the First Reader carries the cloth-covered lectionary, held chest-high with both hands, with the front cover facing out, toward the altar.

Upon reaching the front of the church, the First Reader places the lectionary he/she is carrying on the altar, front cover up with the bottom of the book closest to you. Place both hands on either side of the book while the junior servers place candles on the altar. Once that is done, the First Reader steps back into line with the other ministers and priest, bows when the priest does, and takes his/her seat.

### **After the Reading**

If the second reading is on the next page of the lectionary from which you are reading, turn the page so that it is ready for the Second Reader before resuming your seat.

### **Recession**

After joining the other ministers and the priest in the line at the front prior to the recession, and after following the priest’s bow, the First Reader goes up to where the cloth-covered lectionary is placed on the stand wait for the Junior Servers to remove their candles, close the lectionary, and carry it in the same manner as during the procession. Once again, the First Reader recesses after the Second Adult Server and Second Reader, and in front of the priest.