

## Encouragement and Advice for Lectors

1. Thank you for lending your intelligence and strong voice to the Word of God, so that we may hear it in its true and life-giving entirety.
2. The Readings are as necessary to our Christian life as Holy Communion. We read them not because they need to be read but because we need to hear them.
3. The power of the Readings is in the words themselves.
4. These words cannot feed us today except through the sound of your voice.
5. Wait until everyone is listening for what you will read.
6. Read with a firm, authoritative voice as if there were no microphones or sound system.
7. Be as unselfconscious and artful as if you were reading a storybook to a group of children.
8. Take the words and stick them in our ears.
9. You will find a way to deliver these words, if you have first heard them in your own mind and heart.
10. Fall in love with the Word of God, and the Word will deepen you and sustain you in your life. Help us to fall in love, too. This Word is to be shared.