**Ministry of Lector--Definition of Terms**

AMBO/LECTURN/PULPIT—the sacred space from which the word of God is proclaimed. It is reserved for the readings, the psalm and the Easter Proclamation (Exsultet). It may also be used for the homily and the Universal Prayer.

BOOK OF THE GOSPELS—a separate book from the Lectionary that contains the Gospel readings used at Mass and is carried in procession.

COMMISSION—the public act of installing and blessing a member of the community for a particular ministry of service.

EPISTLE—one of the letters to an early Christian community that is found in the New Testament and is read as the Second Reading at Mass.

EUCHARIST—comes from a Greek word meaning “to give thanks”. Another name for the Mass or the consecrated bread and wine.

LECTIONARY—the book used at Mass that contains the Scripture passages for the First Reading, Responsorial Psalm, and Second Reading. This book is not carried in procession.

LITURGY—official public worship of the Church, of which Eucharist is first and foremost.

PASCHAL SACRIFICE—Christ offering himself on the cross for the salvation of the world. Based on our Jewish heritage, Christ, by sacrificing himself on the cross, becomes our “Passover” (Pasch) Lamb and frees us from the bondage of sin and death.

PRESIDER—person appointed to lead communal worship in accordance with the laws of the Church. A bishop or priest is the presider of the Mass.

ROMAN MISSAL—the liturgical book that contains all of the prayers used at Mass.

SACRISTAN—a person who handles the preparations of vessels, linens, books, and other liturgical items before Mass. He or she may oversee the attendance of all liturgical ministers scheduled and may also communicate any special notices or instructions to these ministers before Mass.

SACRISTY—a room attached to a church, usually near the altar, where the clergy and lay ministers vest for Mass and where all the liturgical vessels and other items are kept.

SANCTUARY—the sacred space around the altar usually set apart in some way from the rest of the church building. The ambo is usually located in the sanctuary.

TABERNACLE--A cupboard or boxlike receptacle, usually locked, for the exclusive reservation of the Blessed Sacrament. A lit sanctuary lamp is usually located nearby indicating that the Blessed Sacrament is reserved inside.

UNIVERSAL PRAYER—also known as the Prayer of the Faithful or the General Intercessions, these are the prayers offered to God by the baptized faithful addressing the needs and concerns of the Church, the world, the nation, community and the parish.