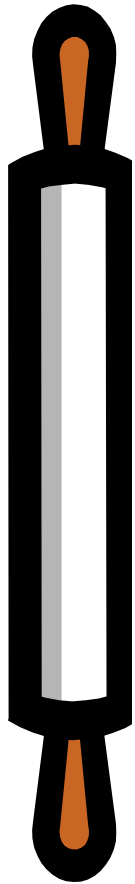


# Proclaim

*The Newsletter for Lectors of Holy Name of Mary Parish*

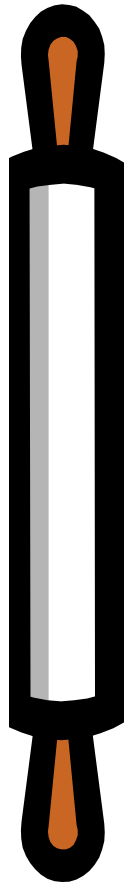


## Welcome New Lectors!

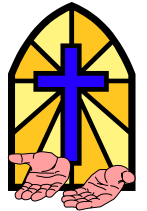
Meg Gutierrez  
Bricky Hirigoyen  
Irene Labrada  
Martha Vasquez

May the Lord be in your hearts and on your lips that you may all worthily proclaim His word.

A special thanks goes to the Mentors whose commitment and generosity ensures the ongoing excellence of this Ministry.



One of the characteristics of Holy Name of Mary that stands out in people's minds, especially visitors, is the warmth that permeates all through its Eucharistic celebration. From the moment you approach the door to enter, to the start of mass, throughout the Liturgy of the Word and the Liturgy of the Eucharist, up until you get back in your car to leave, you can't help but feel sincerely welcomed and at home. Because there are occasions when we are short of an opening greeter, we, as Lectors, have been given the opportunity to help out our fellow liturgical ministers of Hospitality with the Welcoming Greeting at the beginning of mass. Be prepared to be approached to do the greeting at any mass you're not scheduled to proclaim at. I have included with this newsletter a copy of the standard greeting. Adapt it to your personality as you wish, but don't leave out the salient points, namely, a) "Good morning/evening"; b) recognition of visitors; c) silencing pagers and cell phones; and d) greeting their neighbors around them. After that, you may take your seat and assume the role of assembly once again.



## Lector's Sermon

Blessed are they who place the microphone at their throat they shall be heard.

Blessed are they who speak slowly they shall be understood.

Blessed are they who dress appropriately for they proclaim the "Word" and not themselves.

Lector Guidelines, St. Vincent de Paul Church,  
Mobile, Alabama

## Weekly Intercessions

In cooperation with our new Liturgy Director, Mike Shaffer, we are attempting to make the week's General Intercessions available before Saturday.

Ideally, I should have them by Thursday so I can bring them to Lector practice that evening. Then, I'll post them for downloading on ProclaimNet that evening so you can look them over before getting to mass.

However, should the petitions not be online as scheduled, please keep checking the site through Saturday afternoon.

We hope having this beforehand will add a more prayerful tone to this climax of the Liturgy of the Word.

Barring any major events that need to be prayed for, everything should remain the same. Just to make sure, please check the copy that is in the sacristy prior to your mass.

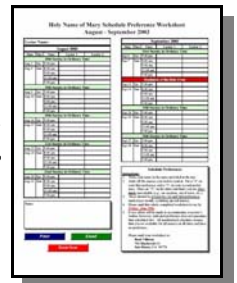
## Electronic Schedule Worksheets

My apologies. *Mea culpa*. In my excitement to provide an easier way in filling and submitting worksheets, I forgot to take into consideration the varied ways there are out there in checking email.

The instructions I provided are limited to pc-based email applications like Outlook, Outlook Express and Eudora. If you use something like AOL or CompuServe, or retrieve web-based mail like Hotmail and Yahoo, it doesn't work as well.

The consolation is that the filling out and printing parts do work judging from some of the worksheets I received.

So if I created any confusion for you, please forgive me.



*The best way to become transparent for the Scriptures is through excellence.*

## Literary Forms of Scripture

*This is a series of articles reproduced to better understand the type of readings presented to us Lectors for proclamation. Properly practiced and prepared for, it will evoke the true message intended by the author for its audience—our assembly.*

### First Reading

**Biography:** This form includes autobiography and fictionalized biography. Biography is a story of a real person. Scripture is peoples with all kinds of real historical persons -our spiritual ancestors. Like modern biography, these passages often are stranger than fiction, and they read like a good story.

**Suggestions:** Get acquainted with the subject of the reading. Was she or he a weak person or a strong one? Intelligent or slow-witted? When you read biographical passages aloud, stress phrases that point up the personality of the subject. Since these passages are about real persons, try to make them come alive.

**Books in this category:** Exodus, Genesis, Hosea, Jeremiah, Judges, I & II Kings, I & II Maccabees, Nehemiah, Ruth, and I & II Samuel.

**Fiction:** Scriptural fiction is among the most charming fiction in the world. It is often full of humor, irony, poetic justice. Scriptural fiction always has a point. It may depict the ideal woman or man; it may show that good wins over evil; it may demonstrate that God will effect God's plan despite the bungling interference of some people. Scripture makes these points in sermons, history, and other forms as well as in fiction. But when the point is made in story form, it should be read like a story, not like a sermon.

**Suggestions:** Put the mood of the story in your voice -gusto, pity, tenderness. Make the details clear. Make the personalities come alive. Charm your listeners.

**Books in this category:** Esther, Jonah, Judith, Ruth, Tobit

## THE REAL "BIG BANG THEORY": GOD SPOKE AND



..IT HAPPENED!

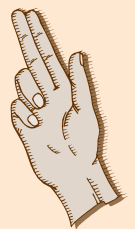
### Second Reading

**I Corinthians:** Paul himself says that he began his missionary work in Corinth "in weakness and fear and much trepidation." Corinth had a reputation for being depraved and pagan. Sure enough, many problems arose in the Church after he left. A minority group split into cliques, some Christians took up pagan customs, some preached heretical doctrine. Paul addressed these struggling Christians in a voice of authority. The letter contains a certain urgency, sometimes a frustration amounting to anger, and frequently a now-listen-to-me ring. It should be read in that same no-nonsense spirit, in a voice full of authority and yet full of pleading.

**II Corinthians:** One thing that makes this letter difficult to read—particularly to read aloud—is its choppiness or discontinuity. Some scholars believe that discontinuity results *from* the letter, as we have it, actually being a patchwork of several letters. It certainly is Paul's most personal letter. He tells the Corinthians about his own suffering, his sincerity, his forgiveness, and his anxiety about them. Despite the emotion that runs through the letter, Paul always keeps a tone of authority. Since the letter contains so many moods and is so highly personal, the Lector must try to discover and express the mood(s) of each specific passage.

### A Lector Blessing

May our Father in heaven grant you the courage  
to deliver His message clearly,  
May Jesus Christ strengthen you  
to reveal His promise to His people,  
May Mary, our Mother, give you the warmth  
to embrace our assembly with love,  
And may the Holy Spirit descend  
upon you to ignite the hearts and  
minds of those you proclaim to,  
All for the praise and glory of God.  
Amen.



All comments and contributions to this newsletter are more than welcome.  
Please send all submissions through [www.ProclaimNet.net](http://www.ProclaimNet.net).

*Let go and let God.*

## HOSPITALITY GREETING BEFORE MASS

*Two minutes before mass begins (no earlier so a smooth transition into our liturgical celebration can occur) a Minister of Hospitality welcomes the entire assembly to Holy Name of Mary from the Cantor Stand (right side of the altar).*

Good morning/afternoon/evening. We here at Holy Name of Mary welcome all of you to our church and our celebration.

And I invite you to come take a closer look at the spirit of our parish at the Welcome Table just outside the east door (point to the door). Come ask a question, come be curious, or come and just say, "Hi." We would love to meet all of you. There's a lot of information at our table you can get that'll give you an idea of all the activities and events here in at Holy Name. Check it out often. There's always something new for everyone.

Before we begin mass, how many here are new parishioners? Raise your hands (raise your hand as well). Please stand up. Now remain standing. How many here are visiting from other parishes, other states, other countries, other beliefs or faiths? Raise your hands (raise your hand, too). Would you please stand up as well? Welcome (clap your hands). We appreciate your choosing to be at Holy Name of Mary on this Saturday evening/Sunday morning/Sunday evening. Thank you for gracing us with your presence today.

Here at Holy Name of Mary we always gather as a community, a community in prayer. So, to keep us a community we ask two things:

1. please don't read the bulletin during the celebration because it takes **you** away from being with us.
2. and, if you could please put your pagers and cell phones on **silent mode** so as not to distract your fellow parishioners from the liturgy.

So, how many here knows everyone that is seated around them right now? Well, then stand up, turn around, smile and introduce yourself to your neighbor.