

## **Ministry Opportunities at St. John the Evangelist Church, Kitchener Readers and Intercessors Members and Coordinator**

At St. John's, our various ministries support our intention to be a faithful and thriving community.

Connecting individuals and ministries is an act of mutual discernment – you may wonder which ministry is the best fit for you at this time, and the community may recognize gifts in you and encourage you to share them as we seek to be a thriving community.

The community also has some expectations for ministries. Knowing these expectations can help you and the community discern which ministry makes sense for you at this time. Some ministries have a trial time to assist further with this discernment.

### **How does this ministry contribute to living as a faithful and thriving community and your life of discipleship?**

Purpose of the Proclamation of the Word. “The eucharistic community is the assembly of the baptized who are gathered to hear the word of God and to celebrate the eucharist. Word and sacrament stand in a dynamic relationship to each other. The readings, the psalms, the homily, and the intercession form a cohesive whole which leads into the sacramental celebration (Book of Alternative Services, p. 175).

Proclaiming – reading or declaring publicly – the Scriptures is an ancient worship tradition. Early in his ministry, Jesus proclaimed from the book of Isaiah in the synagogue (Luke 14:17-21). After his resurrection, Jesus tells his disciples to “Go into all the world and proclaim the gospel to the whole creation” (Mark 16:15).

“The work of the Church is not only to praise God but also to pray for the Church and for the world. The Prayers of the People (intercessions) are an integral part of liturgy.” Book of Alternative Services, page 176.

Each Scripture proclaimed or time of leading the congregation in prayer is an opportunity to grow as a spiritual leader and help form the spiritual life of our parish.

### **What gifts and skills are helpful for these roles?**

- Coordinator – organizational and pastoral skills
- Readers – willingness to prepare and a clear voice
- Intercessors (those who proclaim the Prayers of the People) – comfort leading the congregation in prayer and a clear voice

**What to expect:**

The coordinator will provide new lectors and intercessors with orientation and training, and ongoing support.

Lectors and intercessors will be part of a roster for Sunday mornings and additional services. The frequency of serving will depend on the number of lectors and intercessors.

**Coordinator Responsibilities**

- Create and distribute the roster for the readers and intercessors and the Parish Administrator
- Provide orientation, training and support for readers and intercessors, including length of initial commitment and checking in on their willingness and ability to continue in this role.
- Ensure that the readings and the Prayers of the People are available to the readers and intercessors in a timely fashion

**Reader Responsibilities**

- Proclaim the assigned scriptures at Sunday morning and other services

**Intercessor Responsibilities**

- Lead the worshipping community in the Prayers of the People at Sunday morning and other services

**Accountability:** To the Rector

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