ST BERNADETTE CHURCH
INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMMENTATORS

● Please arrive at the church twenty minutes before the beginning of Mass. DRESS IN A WAY THAT IS DIGNIFIED AND EXPRESSES THE IMPORTANCE OF THE EUCHARIST. PLEASE AVOID SHORT SKIRTS, LOW-CUT TOPS AND T SHIRTS WITH INAPPROPRIATE LOGOS. PREFERABLY WEAR SHIRTS WITH A COLLAR. After signing in and checking to see if everything is in place, we encourage you to go to one of the doors and greet the parishioners as they arrive. All Ministers will pray together before Mass begins.

● Please check in to see if help is needed even if you are not scheduled for that particular Mass. We want to avoid having a person do more than one ministry at the same Mass, so we need to have all the positions covered by different people, if possible.

● The microphone is pre-set. No need to adjust.

● Be a good example by participating in the Mass. ***Full, Active and Conscience Participation!***

╬ *GOALS:* To greet the people of God who belong to St. Bernadette parish and to welcome guests to our weekly family celebration; to help gather the congregation.

╬ *MEANS:* We speak through our presence — our relaxed, friendly manner and tone of our voice. We project ourselves as a Master of Ceremonies in charge of a great family celebration. We do not read words; we convey ideas. Our manner of introduction will set the tone for the entire assembly gathered in prayer. Be excited about what we are doing. Let it show! The Introduction is read from the microphone near the Presider's chair. Pause a moment after greeting the people so that they can locate where you are speaking from. Include the people in the wings by looking in their direction from time to time.

╬ *REFLECTIONS:*

— Ministers serve people, not rituals. The rituals are opportunities for people to be present to each other. The commentator's voice will generally be the first voice the assembly hears. We are part of the ministry of hospitality.

___ Spend time preparing yourself, going over the introduction so that it becomes "second nature" to you. Please sit in a place that makes it easy for you to get to the microphone.

— The Sunday liturgy or special Feast is a special day for God's family. The Eucharist belongs to all members of God's family. All are to be welcomed and extended a warm greeting.

— A Commentator should serve the work of prayer throughout the ritual. Did all leave with an impression of grace, beauty, reverence and deeper meaning?

COMMENTATOR'S PART AT LITURGY:

__Do not begin until the second bell rings. Wait for signal from the Celebrant to begin reading.

— The Prayers of the Faithful are part of the Liturgy of the Word and are read by the deacon, if present. If a deacon isn't present then the commentator will read the prayers. The Prayers of the Faithful have three parts: introduction by the priest, the petitions read by the deacon or commentator and the closing prayer by the priest. If there is no deacon, please be present at the microphone just before the ending of Profession of Faith. *Begin when the priest has finished his introduction.* Do not have everyone waiting for you. Remain at the microphone facing the presider until he finishes with the closing prayer.

— The closing announcements are read by the Presider or Deacon.

— After Mass, go immediately to the collection basket and take it to the sacristy. Guard the money bag in the basket until the priest returns and puts it in the safe.

It is your responsibility to get a replacement for Mass to which you have been assigned and cannot attend. Thank you for being a commentator. Revised: 1/20/2016