

To further assist the hearing of the Word proclaimed by readers, I would like to make the following suggestions and invite you to speak with me if you think these suggestions are helpful or not:

- Prior to Mass beginning, read through the readings to make sure you are familiar with the words and sense of the passages. If you strike a difficult word or phrase, practice it a few times to get the flow of the reading.
- If possible, proclaim the word out loud at home (being careful not to disturb the neighbours) as this will assist your enunciation at church.
- When you approach the microphone, do not be afraid to adjust it so that it is set at the optimum direction to suit your voice. If in doubt, make arrangements before or after Mass to try out the microphone to find this optimum setting.
- Practise “throwing your voice” (i.e. forgetting about the microphone and reading at a volume as if speaking to someone part way down the aisle of the church.)
- Appoint a “buddy” to listen to you during your reading and give you some feedback after you have finished as to the clarity of speech and volume level you use.
- Let me know if you think you would benefit from attending a work shop in the church where you could learn from an experienced reader. If the demand is sufficient, I will research the matter and find a suitable time for you to get together and hone your skills.