

3 Then let us praise the Father
 And worship God the Son
 And sing to God the Spirit,
 Eternal Three in One,
 Till all the ransomed number
 Fall down before the throne,
 Ascribing pow'r and glory
 And praise to God alone.

WORD SEARCH



Baptist	beheaded	camel	Elizabeth
hair	Holy	Herod	Herodias
honey	John	locusts	martyrdom
Messiah	Spirit	wilderness	Zechariah

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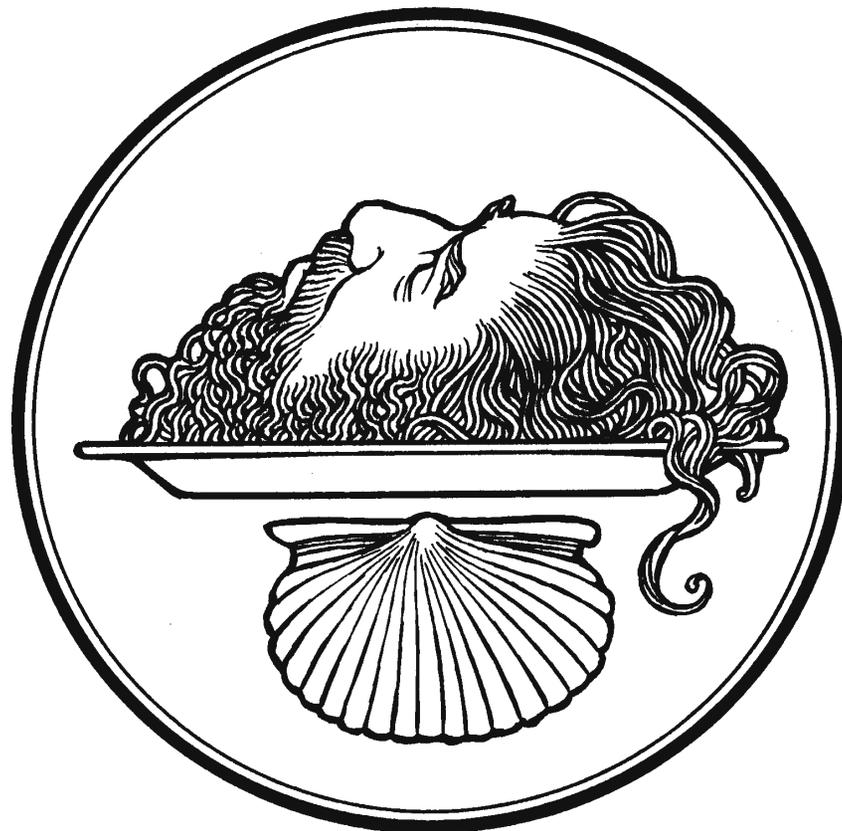
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LESSONS FOR LAMBS

THE MARTYRDOM OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST (AUGUST 29)

The color for the Martyrdom of St. John the Baptist is red.



What to listen for during the service?

John the Baptist was the one who baptized Jesus. Listen during the service for the words that remind us of baptism. What words are said when someone is baptized? When do we hear those words during the service? What do those words remind us of each time we hear them at the beginning of the service? How do we approach God?

Gospel Reading: Mark 6:14-29

(The Gospel Reading is from the part of the Bible that is about Jesus and his ministry.)

14 King Herod heard of it, for Jesus' name had become known. Some said, "John the Baptist has been raised from the dead. That is why these miraculous powers are at work in him."

15 But others said, "He is Elijah." And others said, "He is a prophet, like one of the prophets of old." 16 But when Herod heard of it, he said, "John, whom I beheaded, has been raised."

17 For it was Herod who had sent and seized John and bound him in prison for the sake of Herodias, his brother Philip's wife, because he had married her. 18 For John had been saying to Herod, "It is not lawful for you to have your brother's wife." 19 And Herodias had a grudge against him and wanted to put him to death. But she could not, 20 for Herod feared John, knowing that he was a righteous and holy man, and he kept him safe. When he heard him, he was greatly perplexed, and yet he heard him gladly.

21 But an opportunity came when Herod on his birthday gave a banquet for his nobles and military commanders and the leading men of Galilee. 22 For when Herodias's daughter came in and danced, she pleased Herod and his guests. And the king said to the girl, "Ask me for whatever you wish, and I will give it to you." 23 And he vowed to her, "Whatever you ask me, I will give you, up to half of my kingdom." 24 And she went out and said to her mother, "For what should I ask?" And she said, "The head of John the Baptist." 25 And she came in immediately with haste to the king and asked, saying, "I want you to give me at once the head of John the Baptist on a platter." 26 And the king was exceedingly sorry, but because of his oaths and his guests he did not want to break his word to her. 27 And immediately the king sent an executioner with orders to bring John's head. He went and beheaded him in the prison 28 and brought his head on a platter and gave it to the girl, and the girl gave it to her mother. 29 When his disciples heard of it, they came and took his body and laid it in a tomb.

Questions to talk about with your parents:

- 1) What did people say about John the Baptist?
- 2) How did Herod feel about John? Why?
- 3) What did Herod promise to Herodias's daughter? What did she ask for?
- 4) John proclaimed the message about Jesus and was a

believer. What did they do to John the Baptist because of his faith?

People of the Bible: John the Baptist

In the Gospel reading today we hear about John the Baptist. John the Baptist was the son of Zechariah, who was a priest, and Elizabeth. John was born about six months before Jesus. The Bible says John lived in the wilderness and wore clothing made of camel hair, and ate locusts and honey. When John was older he preached about Jesus as the coming Messiah and about the baptism of repentance, or turning away from one's sins. This baptism, like ours, is for the forgiveness of sins. He is called a prophet and a messenger because of this message he proclaimed about Jesus. John said he baptized with water, and that Jesus would come and baptize with the Holy Spirit. When Jesus was ready to begin His ministry, Jesus asked John to baptize him at the Jordan River. John pointed Jesus out as the "Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world." John was eventually put in prison by Herod because of his faith and was later beheaded, which is shown in the picture on the cover. This is what is talked about in our Gospel reading today.

HYMN – "By All Your Saints in Warfare"

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- 1 By all Your saints in warfare,
For all Your saints at rest,
Your holy name, O Jesus,
Forevermore be blest!
For You have won the battle
That they might wear the crown;
And now they shine in glory
Reflected from Your throne.
- 2 Our thanks for John the Baptist
Who, till his dying day,
Made straight paths for the Savior
And heralded His way!
In witnessing to Jesus
Through times of threat or shame
May we with faith and courage
The Lamb of God proclaim.