

The Passion of St. John the Baptist: August 29th

John made the way for Jesus, preaching to people to repent of their sins and be baptised in preparation for the Lord's coming.

John condemned Herod for committing adultery by living with his brother's wife, Herodias, and Herod had him imprisoned. For Herod's birthday, Herodias had her daughter dance for him, and he was so impressed, he offered her anything she wanted in return. The daughter asked for the head of St. John the Baptist on a platter.

Although Herod did not want to kill John, for fear of his many followers, he had to follow through, and had John beheaded.