

AUGUST 29,
THE BEHEADING OF JOHN THE BAPTIST: MASS

The First Lesson. The Reader begins

A Reading from the Book of Jeremiah

The word of the LORD came to me, saying, “Gird up your loins; arise, and say to them everything that I command you. Do not be dismayed by them, lest I dismay you before them. And I, behold, I make you this day a fortified city, an iron pillar, and bronze walls, against the whole land, against the kings of Judah, its princes, its priests, and the people of the land. They will fight against you; but they shall not prevail against you, for I am with you, says the LORD, to deliver you.”

The Reader concludes The Word of the Lord.

Psalm 71: 1–8

At Said Mass the Reader says

Please join me in reading Psalm 71, verses 1 through 8, found in the red Prayer Book on page 683.

(The Reader repeats the above information as needed.)

At Sung Mass the Reader says

Please join me in reading Psalm 71 as found in the service bulletin.

- 1 In you, O LORD, have I taken refuge; *
let me never be ashamed.

- 2 In your righteousness, deliver me and set me
free;*
incline your ear to me and save me.

- 3 Be my strong rock, a castle to keep me safe; *
you are my crag and my stronghold.

- 4 Deliver me, my God, from the hand of the
wicked, *
from the clutches of the evildoer and the
oppressor.

- 5 For you are my hope, O Lord God, *
my confidence since I was young.
- 6 I have been sustained by you ever since I was
born;
from my mother's womb you have been my
strength; *
my praise shall be always of you.
- 7 I have become a portent to many; *
but you are my refuge and my strength.
- 8 Let my mouth be full of your praise *
and your glory all the day long.

The Reader says

Please stand for the Gospel.

The Gospel Acclamation

The Reader leads the appointed acclamation.

Reader Alleluia.

People Alleluia.

Reader Blessed are those who are persecuted for
righteousness' sake, *
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

People Alleluia.

The Reader returns to his or her seat.

The Holy Gospel

The Minister says The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Minister The Holy Gospel of our Lord
Jesus Christ according to Mark.

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Herod had sent and seized John, and bound him in prison for the sake of Hero'dias, his brother Philip's wife; because Herod had married her. For John had said to the king, "It is not lawful for you to have your brother's wife." And Hero'dias had a grudge against John, and wanted to kill him. But she could not, for Herod feared John, knowing that he was a righteous and holy man, and kept him safe. When he heard him,

he was much perplexed; and yet he heard him gladly. But an opportunity came when Herod on his birthday gave a banquet for his courtiers and officers and leading men of Galilee. For when Hero'dias' 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 grant it." And he vowed to her, "Whatever you ask me, I will give you, even half of my kingdom." And she went out, and said to her mother, "What shall I ask?" And she said, "The head of John the baptizer." 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." And the king was exceedingly sorry; but because of his oaths and his guests he did not want to break his word to her. And immediately the king sent a soldier of the guard and gave orders to bring his head. He went and beheaded John in the prison, and brought his head on a platter, and gave it to the girl; and the girl gave it to her mother. When his disciples heard of it, they came and took the body, and laid it in a tomb.

The Minister says

The Gospel of the Lord.