

Sts. Peter and Paul Albanian Orthodox Church

First-enthroned of the apostles, teachers of the universe: Entreat the Master of all to grant peace to the world, and to our souls great mercy!

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August 30, 2020

12TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST: BEHEADING OF THE
FORERUNNER, SS. ALEXANDER, JOHN, AND PAUL THE NEW,
PATRIARCHS OF CONSTANTINOPLE

TONE 3

Today 10:00am Divine Liturgy
Remembrance of the
*Beheading of St. John
the Baptist*

Wed. 02 7:15pm Bible Study via Google

Sun. 06 10:00am Divine Liturgy
Celebration of the
*Feast of the Nativity
of the Theotokos*

One must be baptized and chrismated an Orthodox Christian to receive Holy Communion. Guests are invited to receive a blessing at the chalice and partake of the post-Communion bread (Antidoron).

Fast Days: Strict fast Sunday to Saturday.(fasting from meat, fish, eggs, dairy, oil, wine and hard spirits as you are able.) Fish, wine and oil allowed on Saturday and Thursday.

**Troparion – Tone 2
(Forerunner)**

*The memory of the righteous is
celebrated with hymns of praise,
but the Lord's testimony is sufficient for
thee, O Forerunner.
Thou wast shown in truth to be the
most honorable of the Prophets,
for thou wast deemed worthy to baptize
in the steams of the Jordan Him
Whom they foretold.
Therefore, having suffered for the truth
with joy,
thou didst proclaim to those in hell God
Who appeared in the flesh,
Who takes away the sin of the world,
and grants us great mercy.*

**Kontakion – Tone 3
(Resurrection)**

*On this day Thou didst rise from the
tomb, O Merciful One,
leading us from the gates of death.
On this day Adam exults as Eve
rejoices;
with the Prophets and Patriarchs
they unceasingly praise the divine
majesty of Thy power.*

Prayers for those in our Sts. Peter and Paul community (parishioners, family, friends) can be listed for remembrance in our litanies during the Liturgy. Feel free to give names to Fr. Nicholas - please indicate how each person listed is connected to us (parishioner, family, friend, etc.), as well as why we are praying for them (health, memory, travel, etc.).

Confessions can be heard by appointment. If you need, I will come to you during the week. Please do not hesitate to call for a time to drop by the church or to have me visit you.

Remembrances for both the living and the dead during the prayers of preparation of the Eucharistic Lamb and during the Augmented Litany should be given the week before the desired remembrance so that the names can be put into the bulletin and given to the Deacons for the prayers. Any names of the living that are not marked as sick or traveling will be listed under general prayers.

SCRIPTURE THIS WEEK

Church Lectionary

Today

1 Corinthians 15:1-11
Matthew 19:16-26

Monday

2 Corinthians 8:7-15
Mark 3:6-12

Tuesday

1 Timothy 2:1-7
Luke 4:16-22
2 Corinthians 8:16-9:5
Mark 3:13-19

Wednesday

2 Corinthians 9:12-10:7
Mark 3:20-27

Thursday

2 Corinthians 10:7-18
Mark 3:28-35

Friday

2 Corinthians 11:5-21
Mark 4:1-9

Saturday

1 Corinthians 2:6-9
Matthew 22:15-22

Reading the Bible in a Year

Aug 30: Grk Esther 13-16

Aug 31: Wis Sol 1-4

Sept 01: Wis Sol 5-8

Sept 02: Wis Sol 9-12

Sept 03: Wis Sol 13-16

Sept 04: Wis Sol 17-19

Sept 05: Wis Sir 1-4

As a help to those who wish to worship, but cannot gather in the church, we stream the Divine Liturgy on our YouTube channel. You can look up the channel at YouTube.com. We are SS Peter & Paul Orthodox Church of Philadelphia or you can follow the link: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCpqQHigwM5deWD2Se8_MVhw

Liturgy is at 10:00am every Sunday. If the livestream has not begun, you will have to refresh your browser until it gives you a notice that we are live.

If you would like to attend services on feast days when we cannot hold services, I recommend watching the streamed services from Transfiguration Monastery located at <http://www.orthodoxmonasteryellwoodcity.org/> They have a calendar that has their service schedule on it and the services can be viewed via their online chapel.

August

30 – 10:00am Divine Liturgy
Beheading of St. John the Baptist

September

01 – *New Church Year*
02 – 7:15pm Bible Study

Children's Word




Good teacher...and God!

Have you ever asked your teacher how to do something? Sure, you have! Your teacher knows more than you do and usually knows the answer!

In today's Gospel reading, we hear about the rich man who came to Jesus and asked Him, "Good teacher, what good deed must I do to have eternal life?" This man came to Jesus, his "good teacher," because he thought Jesus would know the answer.

One of our Church's great teachers, Saint Justin Popovich, once wrote about this same Gospel reading. He wrote that if Jesus is just a man, and just a teacher, then He couldn't really answer that question! Only God can tell us how we can have eternal life. Only God can show us how we can live forever! Only God can show us the way into heaven.

So, when the man called Jesus a "good teacher," he didn't know that Jesus was more than just a "good teacher." He was asking Jesus, the Son of God, this great question! Sometimes we might hear people say nice things about Jesus like "He was a good man" or "He was a good teacher" or "He was a nice and peaceful person." Those things are true, but Jesus is so much more than that! Jesus is God, and He gives us life with Him forever!

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“Can you place your hope in the world? Whom has it not deceived? To whom has it not lied? It promises much, but gives very little. Only those who hope in the Lord, according to the words of the Prophet David, do not sin, i.e., they are not deceived in their hope!”

-St. Anthony of Optina



August/September Events

06 – 10:00am Divine Liturgy
Celebration of the
Feast of the Nativity of the Theotokos

08 – *Feast of the Nativity of the Theotokos*

09 – 7:15pm Bible Study

13 – 10:00am Divine Liturgy
Celebration of the
Feast of the Exultation of the Precious Cross

14 – *Feast of the Exultation of the Precious Cross*

16 – 7:15pm Bible Study

20 – 10:00am Divine Liturgy

23 – 7:15pm Bible Study

27 – 10:00am Divine Liturgy

SAINT EANSWYTHE OF KENT: WHAT THE ARCHAEOLOGISTS FOUND

Have you ever wanted to be an archaeologist? Maybe you are...especially if you are interested in digging and finding dinosaur bones. But, of course, archaeologists look for much more than dinosaurs!

In fact, just this year, in January 2020, some archaeologists discovered a saint! More than a hundred years ago, some workers found the relics (the bones) hidden in a part of a church in Folkestone, England. They thought they might be the bones of Saint Eanwythe, a princess who lived in the 600s! Saint Eanwythe wanted to become a nun, so her father, King Ethelbert, helped her build a monastery. Saint Eanwythe started this first women's monastery in England. Finally, after more than 100 years, some archaeologists and other scientists took the relics and set up a spot in the church where they could study them. The scientists found that the relics really were from the 600s, and that they were from a young woman, who was probably from a higher class. For many years, faithful Christians have been praying to St. Eanswythe, and she has been answering their prayers with miracles. Now, we are happy to have her holy and precious relics too! We celebrate Saint Eanswythe tomorrow, Aug. 31st

Acts 13:25-33 (Epistle, Forerunner)

And as John was finishing his course, he said, 'Who do you think I am? I am not He. But behold, there comes One after me, the sandals of whose feet I am not worthy to loose.' Men and brethren, sons of the family of Abraham, and those among you who fear God, to you the word of this salvation has been sent. For those who dwell in Jerusalem, and their rulers, because they did not know Him, nor even the voices of the Prophets which are read every Sabbath, have fulfilled them in condemning Him. And though they found no cause for death in Him, they asked Pilate that He should be put to death. Now when they had fulfilled all that was written concerning Him, they took Him down from the tree and laid Him in a tomb. But God raised Him from the dead. He was seen for many days by those who came up with Him from Galilee to Jerusalem, who are His witnesses to the people. And we declare to you glad tidings – that promise which was made to the fathers. God has fulfilled this for us their children, in that He has raised up Jesus. As it is also written in the second Psalm: 'You are My Son, today I have begotten You.'

1 Corinthians 15:1-11 (Epistle)

Moreover, brethren, I declare to you the gospel which I preached to you, which also you received and in which you stand, by which also you are saved, if you hold fast that word which I preached to you – unless you believed in vain. For I delivered to you first of all that which I also received: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, and that He was buried, and that He rose again the third day according to the Scriptures, and that He was seen by Cephas, then by the twelve. After that He was seen by over five hundred brethren at once, of whom the greater part remain to the present, but some have fallen asleep. After that He was seen by James, then by all the apostles. Then last of all He was seen by me also, as by one born out of due time. For I am the least of the apostles, who am not worthy to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. But by the grace of God I am what I am, and His grace toward me was not in vain; but I labored more abundantly than they all, yet not I, but the grace of God which was with me. Therefore, whether it was I or they, so we preach and so you believed.

Mark 6:14-30 (Gospel, Forerunner)

Now King Herod heard of Him, for His name had become well known. And he said, "John the Baptist is risen from the dead, and therefore these powers are at work in him." Others said, "It is Elijah." And others said, "It is the Prophet, or like one of the prophets." But when Herod heard, he said, "This is John, whom I beheaded; he has been raised from the dead!" For Herod himself had sent and laid hold of John, and bound him in prison for the sake of Herodias, his brother Philip's wife; for he had

married her. Because John had said to Herod, "It is not lawful for you to have your brother's wife." Therefore Herodias held it against him and wanted to kill him, but she could not; for Herod feared John, knowing that he was a just and holy man, and he protected him. And when he heard him, he did many things, and heard him gladly. Then an opportune day came when Herod on his birthday gave a feast for his nobles, the high officers, and the chief men of Galilee. And when Herodias' daughter herself came in and danced, and pleased Herod and those who sat with him, the king said to the girl, "Ask me whatever you want, and I will give it to you." He also swore to her, "Whatever you ask me, I will give you, up to half my kingdom." So she went out and said to her mother, "What shall I ask?" And she said, "The head of John the Baptist!" Immediately she came in 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; yet, because of the oaths and because of those who sat with him, he did not want to refuse her. Immediately the king sent an executioner and commanded his head to be brought. And he went and beheaded him in prison, 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 away his corpse and laid it in a tomb. Then the apostles gathered to Jesus and told Him all things, both what they had done and what they had taught.

Matthew 19:16-26 (Gospel)

Now behold, one came and said to Him, "Good Teacher, what good thing shall I do that I may have eternal life?" So He said to him, "Why do you call Me good? No one is good but One, that is, God. But if you want to enter into life, keep the commandments." He said to Him, "Which ones?" Jesus said, "'You shall not murder,' 'You shall not commit adultery,' 'You shall not steal,' 'You shall not bear false witness,' 'Honor your father and your mother,' and, 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.'" The young man said to Him, "All these things I have kept from my youth. What do I still lack?" Jesus said to him, "If you want to be perfect, go, sell what you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow Me." But when the young man heard that saying, he went away sorrowful, for he had great possessions. Then Jesus said to His disciples, "Assuredly, I say to you that it is hard for a rich man to enter the kingdom of heaven. And again I say to you, it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God. When His disciples heard it, they were greatly astonished, saying, "Who then can be saved?" But Jesus looked at them and said to them, "With men this is impossible, but with God all things are possible."

The Strange Allure of The Bad Guys

August 27, 2020 · Fr. Barnabas Powell

Perspective changes everything. Just take for example the modern tendency to hold up the anti-hero as someone to be admired or at least respected, and sometimes, even cared for.

This is especially true in several contemporary television series. From Tony Soprano to Walter White of Breaking Bad fame, it seems our modern media is desperate for us to see the “good side” of being evil. They seem to be telling us that “see, even though these characters break the law, they aren’t all bad.” We have even pushed this ideology of glamorizing unhealthy lifestyles that we teach our children to pretend good is evil and evil is good!

On the other hand, we also live in a day when there are so many laws and regulations enacted that the average person can’t help but break at least four laws before breakfast every day! If the police are looking to arrest someone, they usually can find some reason to do so. And our local police are increasingly looking like a paramilitary organization. Forgive me for being pretty nervous about “the straw that breaks the camel’s back” in this clash of consequences!

Between the obsessive law-making of our modern world and the media’s obsessive glamorization of law-breaking, one has to wonder if we’ve all somehow missed the point in today’s society.

In our Gospel Lesson today, we get a bit of a hint as to the core reason we’ve come to this place in our modern world. Look at Mark 1:29-35:

At that time, Jesus entered the house of Simon and Andrew, with James and John. Now Simon’s mother-in-law lay sick with a fever, and immediately they told him of her. And he came and took her by the hand and lifted her up, and the fever left her; and she served them. That evening, at sundown, they brought to him all who were sick or possessed with demons. And the whole city was gathered together about the door. And he healed many who were sick with various diseases, and cast out many demons; and he would not permit the demons to speak, because they knew him. And in the morning, a great while before day, he rose and went out to a lonely place, and there he prayed.

It seems that the Lord Jesus dealt with the general population of His day with a decidedly different perspective than He dealt with the leaders of His day. The Lord dealt with the “regular” people by extending healing and forgiveness to them, and He dealt with the leaders in a stark and brutally honest way to the point that they hated Him and wanted Him dead! Why?

Well, the leaders always seemed to be exclusively focused on rule-keeping, so if that was the way they were going to deal with the world, then the Lord gave them back the very perspective they had in the first place. In other words, be careful when you demand what you deserve; you may just get it! But the everyday people were suffering, and the Lord didn’t deal with them by piling on more rules and regulations. He healed them, which seems to suggest that the path to true holiness and right living isn’t through the path of mere rule-keeping, but being healed from the “handicaps” of my soul-sickness! That will make me able to live a “healthy” spiritual life in communion with the God Who loves me AND with those around me

Today, it isn’t so much that you are a rule-breaker and you need to start getting better at rule-keeping as much as you need to admit your sickness and finally check into the spiritual hospital and get your soul-sickness diagnosed and a proper path for spiritual treatment prescribed. Then go about becoming healed so you can be strong enough to BEcome who you really are! That change of perspective will finally liberate you from the twin lies of “I’m just no good” AND “See, I’ve obeyed the rules! Aren’t I a good boy?!” No, the truth is we are all soul-sick and the amazing grace of God given to us in the wisdom of the timeless faith invites us to trust the Great Physician in the spiritual hospital of His Church to heal us and finally make us fit for His eternal home. That’s why it’s so important to be Orthodox on Purpose!

Деяния 13:25-33

При окончании же поприща своего, Иоанн говорил: за кого почитаете вы меня? я не тот; но вот, идет за мною, у Которого я недостойн развязать обувь на ногах. Мужи братья, дети рода Авраамова, и боящиеся Бога между вами! вам послано слово спасения сего. Ибо жители Иерусалима и начальники их, не узнав Его и осудив, исполнили слова пророческие, читаемые каждую субботу, и, не найдя в Нем никакой вины, достойной смерти, просили Пилата убить Его. Когда же исполнили всё написанное о Нем, то, сняв с древа, положили Его во гроб. Но Бог воскресил Его из мертвых. Он в продолжение многих дней являлся тем, которые вышли с Ним из Галилеи в Иерусалим и которые ныне суть свидетели Его перед народом. И мы благовествуем вам, что обетование, данное отцам, Бог исполнил нам, детям их, воскресив Иисуса, как и во втором псалме написано: Ты Сын Мой: Я ныне родил Тебя.

1-е Коринфянам 15:1-11

Напоминаю вам, братья, Евангелие, которое я благовествовал вам, которое вы и приняли, в котором и утвердились, которым и спасаетесь, если преподанное удерживаете так, как я благовествовал вам, если только не тщетно уверовали. Ибо я первоначально преподавал вам, что и [сам] принял, [то] [есть], что Христос умер за грехи наши, по Писанию, и что Он погребен был, и что воскрес в третий день, по Писанию, и что явился Кифе, потом двенадцати; потом явился более нежели пятистам братьев в одно время, из которых большая часть доныне в живых, а некоторые и почили; потом явился Иакову, также всем Апостолам; а после всех явился и мне, как некоему извергу. Ибо я наименьший из Апостолов, и недостойн называться Апостолом, потому что гнал церковь Божию. Но благодатию Божиею есмь то, что есмь; и благодать Его во мне не была тщетна, но я более всех их потрудился: не я, впрочем, а благодать Божия, которая со мною. Итак я ли, они ли, мы так проповедуем, и вы так уверовали.

От Марка 6:14-30

Царь Ирод, услышав [об Иисусе], --ибо имя Его стало гласно, --говорил: это Иоанн Креститель воскрес из мертвых, и потому чудеса делаются им. Другие говорили: это Илия, а иные говорили: это пророк, или как один из пророков. Ирод же, услышав, сказал: это Иоанн, которого я обезглавил; он воскрес из мертвых. Ибо сей Ирод, послав, взял Иоанна и заключил его в темницу за Иродиаду, жену Филиппа, брата своего, потому что женился на ней. Ибо Иоанн говорил Ироду: не должно тебе иметь жену брата твоего. Иродиада же, злобясь на него, желала убить его; но не могла. Ибо Ирод боялся Иоанна, зная, что он муж праведный и святой, и берёг его; многое делал, слушаясь его, и с удовольствием слушал его. Настал удобный день, когда Ирод, по случаю [дня] рождения своего, делал пир вельможам своим, тысяченачальникам и старейшинам Галилейским, -- дочь Иродиады вошла, плясала и угодила Ироду и возлежавшим с ним; царь сказал девице: проси у меня, чего хочешь, и дам тебе; и клялся ей: чего ни попросишь у меня, дам тебе, даже до половины моего царства. Она вышла и спросила у матери своей: чего просить? Та отвечала: головы Иоанна Крестителя. И она тотчас пошла с поспешностью к царю и просила, говоря: хочу, чтобы ты дал мне теперь же на блюде голову Иоанна Крестителя. Царь опечалился, но ради клятвы и возлежавших с ним не захотел отказать ей. И тотчас, послав оруженосца, царь повелел принести голову его. Он пошел, отсекал ему голову в темнице, и принес голову его на блюде, и отдал ее девице, а девица отдала ее матери своей. Ученики его, услышав, пришли и взяли тело его, и положили его во гробе. И собрались Апостолы к Иисусу и рассказали Ему все, и что сделали, и чему научили.

От Матфея 19:16-26

И вот, некто, подойдя, сказал Ему: Учитель благий! что сделать мне доброго, чтобы иметь жизнь вечную? Он же сказал ему: что ты называешь Меня благим? Никто не благ, как только один Бог. Если же хочешь войти в жизнь [вечную], соблюди заповеди. Говорит Ему: какие? Иисус же сказал: не убивай; не прелюбодействуй; не кради; не лжесвидетельствуй; почитай отца и мать; и: люби ближнего твоего, как самого себя. Юноша говорит Ему: всё это сохранил я от юности моей; чего еще недостает мне? Иисус сказал ему: если хочешь быть совершенным, пойди, продай имение твое и раздай нищим; и будешь иметь сокровище на небесах; и приходи и следуй за Мною. Услышав слово сие, юноша отошел с печалью, потому что у него было большое имение. Иисус же сказал ученикам Своим: истинно говорю вам, что трудно богатому войти в Царство Небесное; и еще говорю вам: удобнее верблюду пройти сквозь игольные уши, нежели богатому войти в Царство Божие. Услышав это, ученики Его весьма изумились и сказали: так кто же может спастись? А Иисус, воззрев, сказал им: человеку это невозможно, Богу же всё возможно.

Veprat e Apostujve 13:25-33

Dhe, kur Gjoni po e përfundonte misionin e tij, tha: "Cili pandehni se jam unë? Unë nuk jam Krishti; por ja, pas meje vjen një, të cilit unë nuk jam i denjë t'i zgjidh sandalet e këmbëve". Vëllezër, bij të pasardhësve të Abrahamit, dhe ata prej jush që druajnë Perëndinë, juve ju është dërguar fjala e këtij shpëtimit. Sepse banorët e Jeruzalemit dhe krerët e tyre, duke mos e njohur Këtë Jezus, duke e dënuar, kanë përmbushur fjalët e profetëve që lexohen çdo të shtunë. Dhe, ndonëse nuk i gjetën asnjë faj që të meritonte vdekjen, i kërkuan Pilatit që ai të vritet. Dhe mbasi u kryen të gjitha gjërat që janë shkruar për të, atë e zbritën nga druri dhe e vunë në varr. Por Perëndia e ringjalli prej të vdekurve; dhe ai u pa për shumë ditë nga ata që ishin ngjitur me të nga Galilea në Jeruzalem, të cilët tani janë dëshmitarë të tij para popullit. Dhe ne po ju shpallim lajmin e mirë të premtimit që u qe bërë etërve, duke ju thënë se Perëndia e ka përmbushur për ne, bij të tyre, duke ringjallur Jezusin, ashtu si dhe është shkruar në psalmin e dytë: "Ti je Biri im, sot më linde".

1 e Korintasve 15:1-11

Tani, o vëllezër, po ju deklaroj ungjillin që ju kam shpallur dhe që ju e keni marrë dhe mbi të cilin ju qëndroni, dhe me anë të të cilit ju jeni shpëtuar, nëse do ta mbani fjalën që ju kanë predikuar, veç nëse besuat kot. Sepse unë ju kam transmetuar para së gjithash ato që edhe unë vetë i kam marrë, se Krishti vdiq për mëkatet tona sipas Shkrimeve, se u varros dhe u ringjall të tretën ditë, sipas Shkrimeve, edhe se iu shfaq Kefës dhe pastaj të dymbëdhjetëve. Pastaj iu shfaq një herë të vetme më shumë se pesëqind vëllezërve, prej të cilëve më të shumtët rrojnë edhe sot, kurse disa kanë rënë në gjumë. Më pas iu shfaq Jakobit dhe pastaj të gjithë apostujve. Më së fundi m'u shfaq edhe mua, si në dështimit. Sepse unë jam më i vogli i apostujve dhe as nuk jam i denjë të quhem apostull, sepse e kam përndjekur kishën e Perëndisë. Por me hirin e Perëndisë jam ai që jam; dhe hiri i tij ndaj meje nuk qe i kotë, madje jam munduar më shumë se gjithë të tjerët, jo unë, por hiri i Perëndisë që është me mua. Pra, si unë, ashtu edhe ata kështu predikojmë dhe ju kështu besuat.

Marku 6:14-30

Tani mbreti Herod dëgjoi të flitej për Jezusin, sepse emri i tij ishte bërë i njohur, dhe ai tha: "Ky Gjoni që pagëzonte u ngjall së vdekuri; prandaj në të po veprojnë pushtete çudibërëse." Disa të tjerë thonin: "Është Elia"; dhe disa të tjerë: "Është një profet, ose si një nga profetët." Por kur i dëgjoi Herodi të gjitha këto, tha: "Ky Gjoni, të cilit ia pata prerë kokën, u ngjall së vdekuri!" Në fakt Herodi vet kishte dhënë urdhër të arrestohej Gjoni dhe të mbahej i lidhur në burg për shkak të Herodiadës, gruas së Filipit, vëllait të tij, sepse e kishte marrë për grua. Gjoni, pra, i thoshte Herodit: "Nuk është e lejueshme të kesh gruan e vëllait tënd!" Dhe Herodiada e urrente dhe dëshironte ta vriste, por nuk mundte. Herodi, pra, i druhej Gjunit, të cilin e dinte si njeri të drejtë dhe të shenjtë, dhe e mbronte; dhe, mbasi e dëgjonte, kryente shumë gjëra dhe e dëgjonte me dëshirë. Por erdhi dita e volitshme dhe Herodi, për ditëlindjen e vet, shtroi një gosti për të mëdhenjtë e tij, për komandantët dhe për parinë e Galilesë. Hyri vetë e bija e Herodiadës, kërceu dhe i pëlqeu Herodit e atyre që ishin bashkë me të në tryezë, atëherë mbreti i tha vajzës: "Më kërko ç'të duash dhe unë do të ta jap." Dhe iu betua: "Gjithçka që të më kërkosh, do të ta jap, deri gjysmën e mbretërisë sime!." Ajo doli dhe i tha s'ëmës: "Çfarë duhet t'i kërkoj?" Ajo u përgjigj: "Kokën e Gjon Pagëzorit!" Ajo u kthye menjëherë te mbreti dhe i kërkoi me nxitim: "Unë dëshiroj që ti të më japësh menjëherë, mbi një pjatë, kokën e Gjon Pagëzorit." Dhe mbreti, megjithëse u trishtua shumë nga kjo, nuk desh të refuzojë për shkak të betimit dhe për respekt të të ftuarve. Kështu mbreti dërgoi menjëherë një roje me urdhër që ti sillnin kokën e Gjunit. Dhe ky shkoi, ia preu kokën në burg, dhe e sollti kokën e tij mbi një pjatë, ia dha vajzës dhe vajza ia dha s'ëmës. Kur dishepujt e Gjunit i dëgjuan këto, erdhën, morën trupin e tij dhe e vunë në varr. Tani apostujt u mblodhën tek Jezusi dhe i treguan të gjitha ato që kishin bërë dhe i kishin mësuar.

Mateu 19:16-26

Dhe ja, iu afrua dikush dhe i tha: "Mësues i mirë, çfarë të mire duhet të bëj që të kem jetë të përjetshme?" Dhe ai tha: "Pse më quan të mirë? Askush nuk është i mirë, përveç një të vetmi: Perëndia. Tani në qoftë se ti don të hysh në jetë, zbato urdhërimet." Ai i tha: "Cilat?" Atëherë Jezusi i tha: "Mos vraj, mos shkel kurorën, mos vidh, mos bëj dëshmi të rreme, ndero atin tënd dhe nënën tënde dhe duaje të afërmin tënd si veten tënde." I riu i tha: "Të gjitha këto gjëra unë i kam zbatuar që në rini; çfarë më mungon tjetër?" Jezusi i tha: "Në qoftë se do të jesh i përsosur, shko, shit ç'të kesh, jepua të varfërve dhe ti do të kesh një thesar në qiell; pastaj eja dhe më ndiq mua." Por i riu, kur i dëgjoi këto fjalë, iku i trishtuar, sepse kishte pasuri të madhe. Atëherë Jezusi u tha dishepujve të vet: "Në të vërtetë ju them se një i pasur me vështirësi do të hyjë në mbretërinë e qiejve. Dhe po jua përsëris: Është më lehtë të kalojë deveja nga vrima e gjilpërës, se sa i pasuri të hyjë në mbretërinë e Perëndisë." Kur i dëgjuan këto fjalë, dishepujt e vet u habitën shumë dhe thanë: "Atëherë, kush do të shpëtojë vallë?" Dhe Jezusi duke përqëndruar shikimin mbi ata tha: "Për njerëzit kjo është e pamundur, por për Perëndinë çdo gjë është e mundur."