

**FIRST ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH**

140 W. King Street  
York, PA 17401-1307  
Phone: 717-843-8597



Website: [www.firststjohns.com](http://www.firststjohns.com)

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THE PEACE OF THE LORD TO



THE LUTHERAN CHURCH  
Missouri Synod

# PARISH VISITOR

Monthly Newsletter

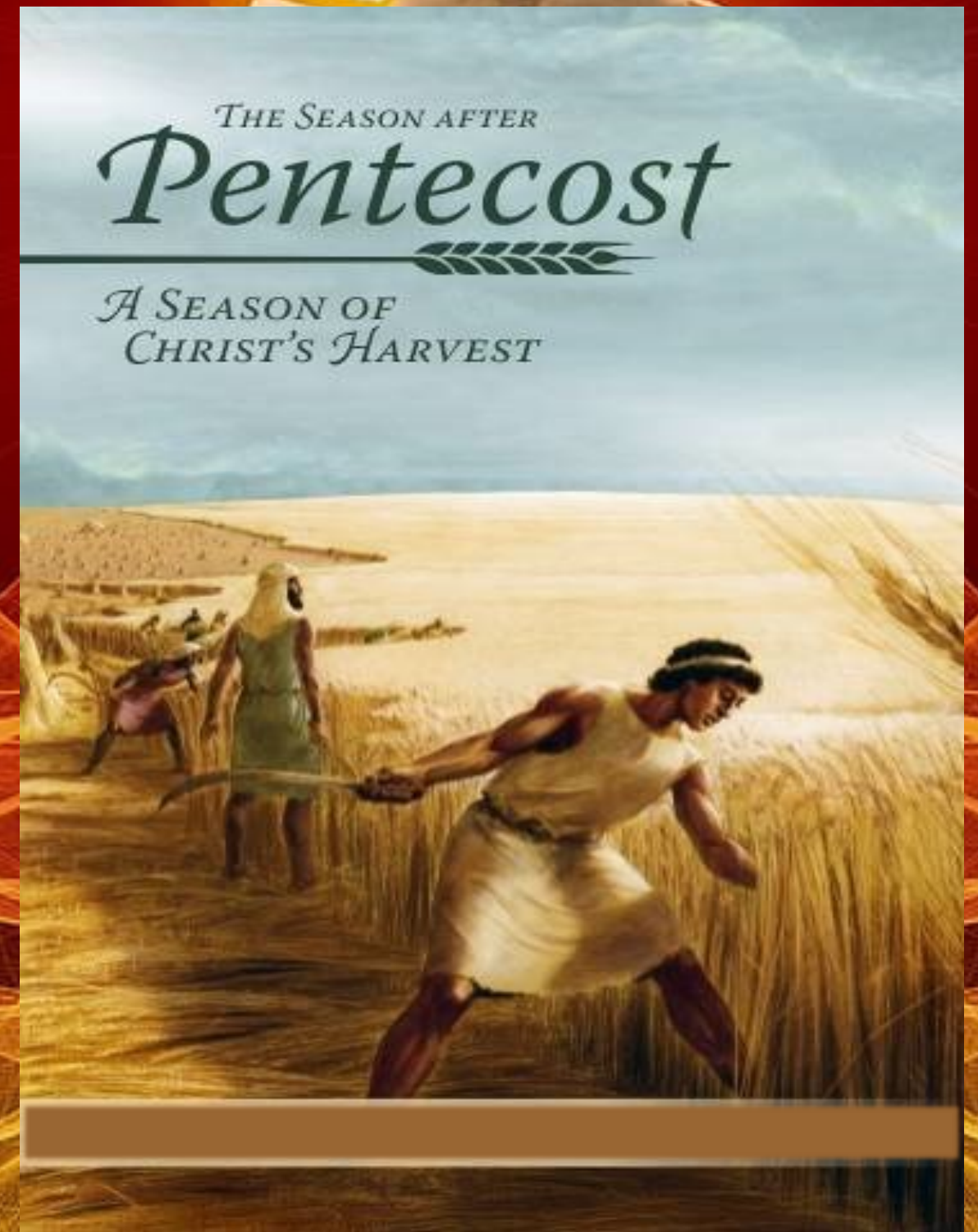


**FIRST ST JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH-WE ARE AN OUTREACH CHURCH**

VOL 53-ISSUE 8

Website: [www.firststjohns.org](http://www.firststjohns.org)

AUGUST 2021







## SUNDAY WORSHIP

BIBLE STUDY 9:00 AM

SERVICE 11:00 AM

"Till all have heard! Thanks be to God!"

### REGULAR CHURCH EVENTS AND WORSHIP

**Sunday -** 9:00 AM Bible Study  
11:00 AM Sunday Worship

#### Monday-

**Panera bread distribution 9:00-11:00 AM**

#### Wednesday

6:30 PM - Adult Choir (September through May/June)

#### Thursday

6:30 PM-Narcotics Anonymous Meeting (Suspended)

OUR WEBSITE ADDRESS:

[www.firststjohns.org](http://www.firststjohns.org)

### WELCOME

Our calling is for all to know Jesus as Lord and be an effective magnet involving lives for Jesus Christ. Worship should always be focused on God, the time honored traditions of worship are observed here, we want worship to be glorifying to God, honoring to God and reminding us of the greatness and glory of God. People say that they have truly worshipped after our Sunday morning service.

We are a very welcoming church and we want to help you to know Jesus.

### Contact Us

Phone 717.843.8597

E-Mail: [firststjohns@verizon.net](mailto:firststjohns@verizon.net)

First St. Johns Lutheran Church  
140 W. King St., York PA 17401

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### SUNDAY SERVICES

Communion and Non-Communion, Services are held during the month, Prayer and Preaching Non-Communion services are held on the 5th Sunday of months with 5 Sundays.

We print bulletins in English (small and large print), and Chinese for morning worship. Please contact us in advance if you need a Spanish bulletin.

PHONE: (717) 843-8597



If you would like to receive the monthly newsletter by email please contact the church office at (717) 843-8597 or send an email to [firststjohns@verizon.net](mailto:firststjohns@verizon.net).



If you or someone you know is a shut-in, has an illness or is unable to worship with us due to other circumstances, please call the church office.

The church phone number is: 717-843-8597

OR

EMAIL: [firststjohns@verizon.net](mailto:firststjohns@verizon.net)



## Mary, mother of Jesus

**Mary** was a 1st century Galilean Jewish woman of Nazareth, the wife of Joseph and, according to the gospels, the virgin mother of Jesus.

Both the gospels of Matthew and Luke in the New Testament and the Quran describe Mary as a virgin. She is betrothed to Joseph, according to Matthew and Luke. According to Christian theology, Mary conceived Jesus through the Holy Spirit while still a virgin, and accompanied Joseph to Bethlehem, where Jesus was born. According to the apocryphal Gospel of James, her parents were called Anne and Joachim.

According to Catholic and Eastern Christian teachings, at the end of her earthly life, God raised Mary's body directly into heaven; this is known in the Christian West as the Assumption of Mary.

Mary has been venerated since early Christianity, and is considered by millions to be the holiest and greatest saint because of her extraordinary virtues as seen at the Annunciation by the archangel Gabriel. She is said to have miraculously appeared to believers many times over the centuries. The Eastern and Oriental Orthodox, Catholic, Anglican, and Lutheran churches believe that Mary, as mother of Jesus, is the *Theotokos* (Mother of God; Θεοτόκος). There is significant diversity in the Marian beliefs and devotional practices of major Christian traditions. The Catholic Church holds distinctive Marian dogmas, namely her status as the Mother of God, her Immaculate Conception, her perpetual virginity, and her Assumption into heaven. Many Protestants minimize Mary's role within Christianity, basing their argument on the lack of biblical support for any beliefs other than the virgin birth (actually a virginal conception). Mary also has the highest position in Islam among all women. She is mentioned in the Quran more often than in the New Testament, where two of the longer chapters of the Quran are devoted to her and her family.



## Bartholomew the Apostle

### Bartholomew

(Aramaic:

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ⲁⲃⲧⲟⲗⲙⲉⲱ Ancient

Greek: Βαρθολομαῖος, romanized: *Bartholomaios*; Latin: *Bartholomaeus*; Armenian: Թորոմայոս; Coptic: ⲁⲃⲧⲟⲗⲙⲉⲱ; Hebrew: ברוך-תלמי, romanized: *bar-Tôlmay*; Arabic: برثولماؤس, romanized: *Barthulmāwus*) was one of the twelve apostles of Jesus according to the New Testament. He is said to have been martyred for having converted Polymius, King of Armenia, to Christianity. He has also been identified as *Nathanael* or *Nathaniel*,<sup>[1]</sup> who appears in the Gospel of John when introduced to Jesus by Philip (who also became an apostle; John 1:43–51), although many modern commentators reject the identification of Nathanael with Bartholomew.<sup>[2]</sup>

According to the Synaxarium of the Coptic Orthodox Church of Alexandria, Bartholomew's martyrdom is commemorated on the first day of the Coptic calendar (i.e., the first day of the month of Thout), which currently falls on September 11 (corresponding to August 29 in the Julian calendar). Eastern Christianity honours him on June 11 and the Catholic Church honours him on August 24.

Bartholomew the Apostle is remembered in the Church of England with a Festival on 24 August.

The Armenian Apostolic Church honours Saint Bartholomew along with Saint Thaddeus as its patron saints. *Bartholomew* is English for *Bar Talmi* (Greek: Βαρθολομαῖος, transliterated *Bartholomaios* in Greek) comes from the Aramaic: ܒܪ-ܬܠܡܝ *bar-Tolmay* native to Hebrew "son of Talmi", or farmer, "son of the furrows". Bartholomew is listed among the Twelve Apostles of Jesus in the three synoptic gospels: Matthew, Mark, and Luke, and also appears as one of the witnesses of the Ascension; on each occasion, however, he is named in the company of Philip. He is not mentioned by the name "Bartholomew" in the Gospel of John, nor are there any early *acta*, the earliest being written by a pseudepigraphical writer, Pseudo-Abdias, who assumed the identity of Abdias of Babylon and to whom is attributed the Saint-Thierry (*Reims*, Bibl. mun., ms 142) and Pseudo-Abdias manuscripts.

In art Bartholomew is most commonly depicted with a beard and curly hair at the time of his martyrdom. According to legends, he was skinned alive and beheaded so is often depicted holding his flayed skin or the curved flensing knife with which he was skinned; thus, he is remembered and approved as saint of leather makers.



## Music & Worship Notes

The summer is drawing to a close. One more month, August, is left. then, in September, the church's activities for the Fall begin. Choir is one of those activities.

Choir rehearsals will resume on Wednesday, September 8, at 6:30 pm. As in the past, we will be meeting in the Bible Class room.

There are two special services that are coming up in September. Please mark your calendars. The first one will be the installation of Geoff Abendschoen as the Vicar of both First St. John's and St. Paul's congregations. That will be on Sunday, September, 5. This will be an early afternoon service. Please watch for more information in your bulletin. Also, a letter about this service will sent to all congregation members with all the information concerning the service and anything else that will be planned for that day.

The second special service will be on Sunday, September 12. This is a service of remembrance. It will be held in Columbia in the Locust Street Park across the street from St. Paul's Church The time of the service is 10:00 am. This is a joint service between First St. John's And St. Paul's Congregations. There will be a brunch following the service. This is the only service that will be conducted that day.

There will be special music for both of these services. Instrumentalist may be involved also.



### THE ADULT CHOIR:

Karen Hildebrand,  
Lois Hollinger,  
Lois Stambaugh,  
Dave Stambaugh,  
Ding Wang,



Ken Sanders,  
Minister of Music

### Scripture of the Month

For You are my hope, O Lord GOD;  
You are my trust from my youth.

<sup>6</sup> By You I have been upheld from birth; You are He who took me out of my mother's womb. My praise *shall be* continually of You.

<sup>7</sup> I have become as a wonder to many, But You are my strong refuge.

<sup>8</sup> Let my mouth be filled *with* Your praise *And with* Your glory all the day.



## Bible Study

9:00 AM

**AUGUST 2021  
PARISH VISITOR**

SEPTEMBER 2021 DEADLINE

Articles Due

Friday, August 20th

Mail Date

Thursday, August 26th

**Newsletter**

### MEETINGS IN AUGUST

**Worship Committee**

**To be announced**

**Church Council**

**12th (Thursday)**

**Future Committee**

**1st and 3rd Wednesday of the month**



### UPCOMING AUGUST 2021 SERVICES

August 1st, Communion (10<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost)

August 8th, Non-Communion (11<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost)

August 15th, Communion (12<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost)

August 22th, Non-Communion (13<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost)

August 29th, Non-Communion (14<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost)

August





OPPORTUNITIES TO KNOW JESUS  
Bible Study 9:00 AM  
Sunday Morning Service 11:00 AM

First St. John's Lutheran Church  
140 West King Street, York, PA 17401 / 843-8597

CHURCH OFFICE  
Phone Number 717-843-8597

AUGUST 2021

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>1</b> 10th Sunday after Pentecost C/ Green	<b>2</b> Panera Bread 9:00-11:00 am	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> Future Com.Mtg. 9am	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>8</b> 11th Sunday after Pentecost NC/ Green	<b>9</b> Panera Bread 9:00-11:00 am	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING. 6:00 PM	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b> H.O.B. Board Mtg. 2:30 pm
<b>15</b> 12th Sunday after Pentecost C/ Green	<b>16</b> Panera Bread 9:00-11:00 am	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> Future Com.Mtg. 9am	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>22</b> 13th Sunday after Pentecost NC/ Green	<b>23</b> Panera Bread 9:00-11:00 am	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>
<b>29</b> 14th Sunday after Pentecost NC/ Green	<b>30</b> Panera Bread 9:00-11:00 am	<b>31</b>				
		LAY READER Carla Allison	USHER Bill Lupp	ALTAR GUILD Lois Stambaugh		



*Pregnant?*

**WOMEN'S CARE CENTER**

Formerly Pregnancy & Family Resource Center

40 South Richland Avenue


York, PA 17404


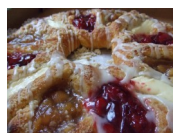


Phone: (717) 854-6285



**FIRST ST. JOHN'S MEMBERS AND GUESTS**

WE WELCOME AND ENCOURAGE YOU.  
ENJOY OUR "LIVE" WORSHIP.





**FREE BREADS AND DESSERTS**

**DONATED WEEKLY BY: PANERA BREAD**

**to First St. John's Lutheran Church**

**140 W. King St., York, PA 17401**

**EVERY MONDAY**

**From 9:00 through 11:00 am - Pickup at the church**

**DOORS OPEN AT 9:00 AM**



#### **PRAYERS**

Ruthetta Fogle  
 Christians especially in the Middle East– persecuted  
 Prayer Warriors—Spirit is moving  
 Helen Wu-Husband in nursing home  
 Joyce Devan-Health issues  
 Ruth Strathmeyer-Health issues  
 Kim Thompson-Health issues  
 Susan vanDyk-Baum  
 Ed Hanes (Nancy Hildebrand's brother)-Health issues  
 Philip Rogers-Health issues  
 Bruce Blankenstein-Wife's Health issues  
 Jeanne Noll-Health issue

#### **FIRST TIME REQUESTS**

#### **SHUT-IN MEMBERS**

Bonnie Abendschoen  
 Joyce Devan  
 Dawn Frey  
 Kim Thompson

#### **LEADERS**

Church Pastor, Minister of Music Ken Sanders, Lay Leaders, Pastor Cosgrove, Pastor Nzinski, Pastor Zimmerman, Pastor Brasso, Pastor Seifferlein (Replaced Adam Koontz),, Pastor Merrell, Pastor Banach, Pastor Robertson, Pastor Schaefer. Sally Hiller, David Maack. District President John Denninger

#### **PRAISE AND THANKSGIVING**

For all of God's Gifts  
 Pastor Gene Merrill-Healing

#### **SPIRITUAL NEEDS**

For all those who do not know Jesus as Lord  
 For our "action" committees/task forces  
 Our Community and Families

**We remember in prayer those who are in need of God's special presence in their lives due to special needs:**



**1st - Christina Lin**  
**1st - Breana Wilson**  
**6th - Norma Null**  
**9th - Marguerite Beck**  
**15th - Alexis Stover**  
**18th - Kay Markel**  
**23rd - Edward Abendschoen III**  
**24th - Chrystal Myers**  
**25th - Tyler Fogle**  
**26th - Daniel Montanez**  
**26th - Jeanne Noll**  
**27th - Idarae Lauer-Olinger**

#### **Early September Birthdays**

**7th - Deborah Stover**  
**9th - Adette Brady**

#### **PRAYER LIST (cont.)**

##### **MILITARY**

Sgt. Tyr Abendschoen U. S. Army



##### **POLICE**

Jonathan



#### **Bonnie Abendschoen**

138 Crown Pointe Drive  
 York, PA 17402

#### **Dawn Frey**

382 West North Street  
 York, PA 17401

#### **Joyce Devan**

2408 Lovegren Court  
 York, PA 17404

#### **Kim Thompson**

30 South Beaver Street  
 York, PA 17401

***If you are aware of any changes with those on the list please contact the church office.***

We encourage you to drop a card or letter to our shut-ins to let them know that they are missed and a valued member of the congregation.

July-September Alms collection will go towards  
 First Responder's Organizations. .



### **STEWARDSHIP-AUGUST 2021**

"When it comes to stewardship, a favorite Bible verse is the account of the widow's mite (Luke 21:1–4). It's a moving account. Our Lord praises the seemingly small gift of two copper coins given by a poor widow above the abundance of gifts given by the rich, saying, "Truly, I tell you, this poor widow has put in more than all of them" (Luke 21:3). And that is usually where we stop. But the text goes on. "For they all contributed out of their abundance, but she out of her poverty put in all she had to live on" (Luke 21:4).

"She ... put in all she had to live on." She gave everything. She held nothing back. She trusted that the Lord who made her and all creatures; who gave her everything she had; who redeemed her from her own sin, from death, and the power of the devil; who called her by the gospel and enlightened her with His gifts of Word and Sacrament; would continue to do this. He would provide her with all that she needed for this body and life because that is the character of the God she had.

But this is not why we give small gifts. Her gift, though it appeared small, was actually large. When we are tempted to give small gifts, it is precisely because we want them to be small! We don't trust the Lord to provide for us. We give small gifts because we lack faith in the One who created us, redeemed us, sanctifies and keeps us in the one true faith. We give small gifts because we doubt that God will really give us what we need and desire. We give small gifts because we are not content with what God has already given.

We are not slaves, children of the slave woman, under the Old Covenant (Galatians 4). We are adopted sons of the free woman. And since we are sons, we are also heirs. And heirs receive the inheritance. For everything is already ours in Christ. And thus, moved by the willing spirit of adoption, we do the will of God in financial matters far beyond all that done by those under the Old Covenant who were forced by legal demands.

So, what have you decided to give? How do I decide what to give? Let the Scriptures be your guide.

We are to give proportionally to what we have received from God's giving to us (Luke 12:48; 1 Corinthians 16:1–2, 2 Corinthians 8:12). But you have not been set free to give nothing. See that you excel in the grace of giving (2 Corinthians 8:7)!

We are not free to live selfishly outside the Gospel, without regard for God who gives us all good gifts, without generosity for our neighbor who needs us and our gifts, without supporting the community of faith in which we live, without care for our spiritual fathers and those who teach and help raise our children in the faith, and without resources for the poor and needy.

In short, we are not free to live unto ourselves, hoarding what God has given us only for us. For love is the fulfillment of the law (Romans 13:10). And the sum of the law is this: Love God and love your neighbor (Matthew 22:34–40). We love because He first loved us. We give because He has given to us.

Luther once said, "Possessions belong in your hands, not in your heart" (LW 14:240). There is a reason your 10 fingers spread apart. With your hands you catch God's gifts for what you need and let the rest fall through your fingers to your neighbors – your family, your friends, your community, your church.



**STEWARDSHIP**  
*Managing God's Gifts To Us*



## DEAR CONGREGATIONAL MEMBERS:

Sunday, Sept. 5, 2021 brings a notable Celebration to First St. John's Church in York, and to many other people, especially our partners in Christ at St. Paul's Church in Columbia. The glad occasion is Geoff Abendschoen's commissioning to become an SM - P Candidate. That's, Special Ministry - Pastor. We'll explain SM-Pin more detail another day.

Geoff is answering the Holy Spirit's Call to dedicate his life as our shepherd as the Vicar of First St. John's and St. Paul's. in Jesus' Name. The Worship time, for both congregations, has been changed to 1:00 pm on that date. The event will take place at First St. John's Lutheran Church.

We invite any and all friends to come and share a light lunch at First St. John's at 12:00 Noon. You will need to call the First St. John's church office at 717-843-8597, or send an email to [firststjohns@verizon.net](mailto:firststjohns@verizon.net) to register for the lunch. The deadline for lunch reservations is Noon on Friday, August 27<sup>th</sup>. After lunch, worship will begin at 1:00 p.m. Pastor Dr. James Banach, our Circuit Visitor, will be the afternoon's Preacher and Worship Leader.

The Worship Offerings will be gathered, as usual, at the back of the sanctuary. Named offering envelopes will be forwarded to the appropriate Congregation after the Service. Cash donations will be sent to Concordia Theological Seminary as a gift to help other students pay for their schooling there.

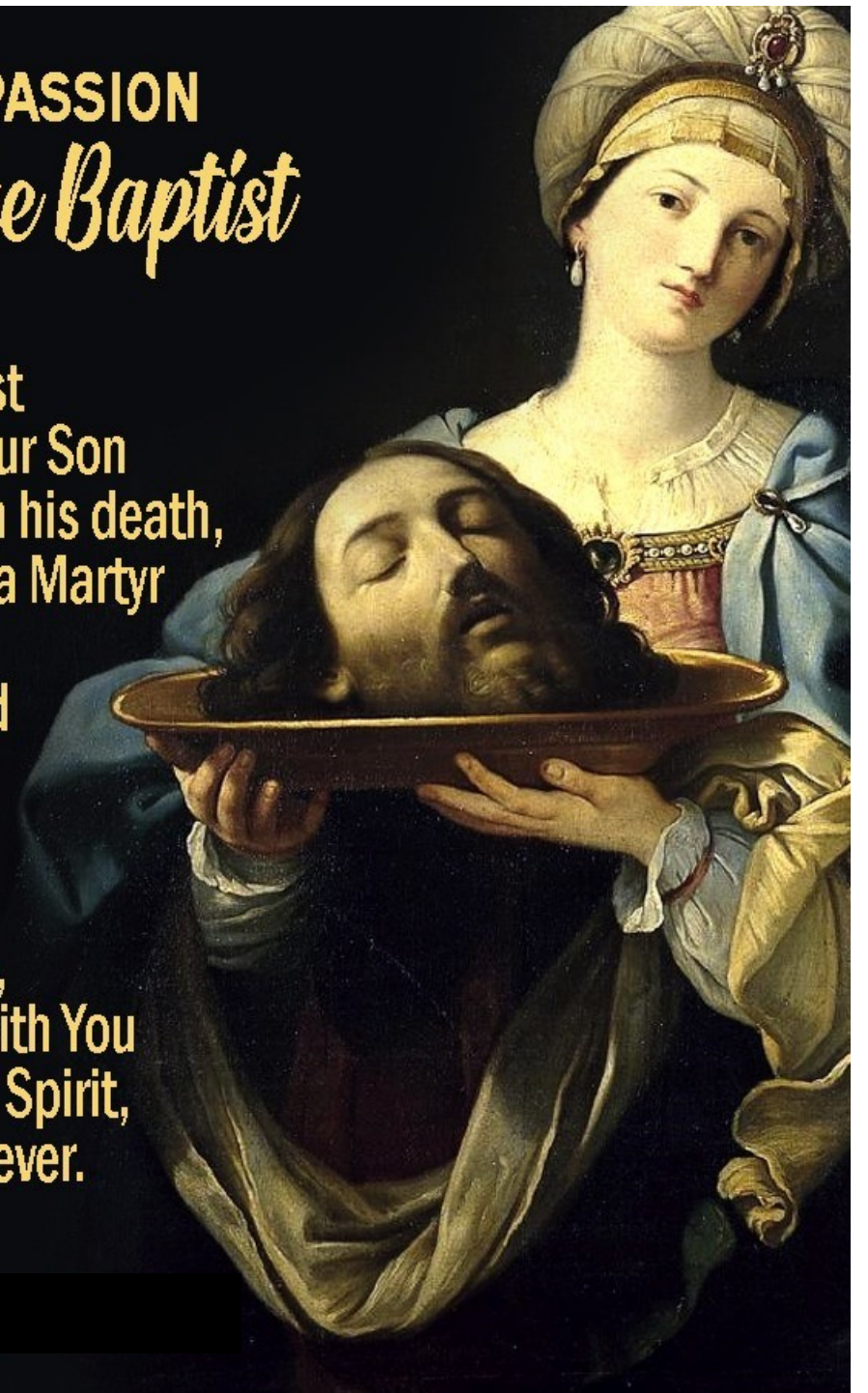
After Worship there will be time for individuals to greet, congratulate and chat with Geoff and his family members present. Notify your friends of this gathering and invite them to come with you.



## PRAYER ON THE PASSION

### *St. John the Baptist*

O God, who willed  
that St John the Baptist  
should go ahead of Your Son  
both in his birth and in his death,  
grant that, as he died a Martyr  
for truth and justice,  
we, too, may fight hard  
for the confession  
of what You teach.  
Through our Lord  
Jesus Christ, Your Son,  
who lives and reigns with You  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, for ever and ever.  
Amen.



## Jesus' Family Tree

