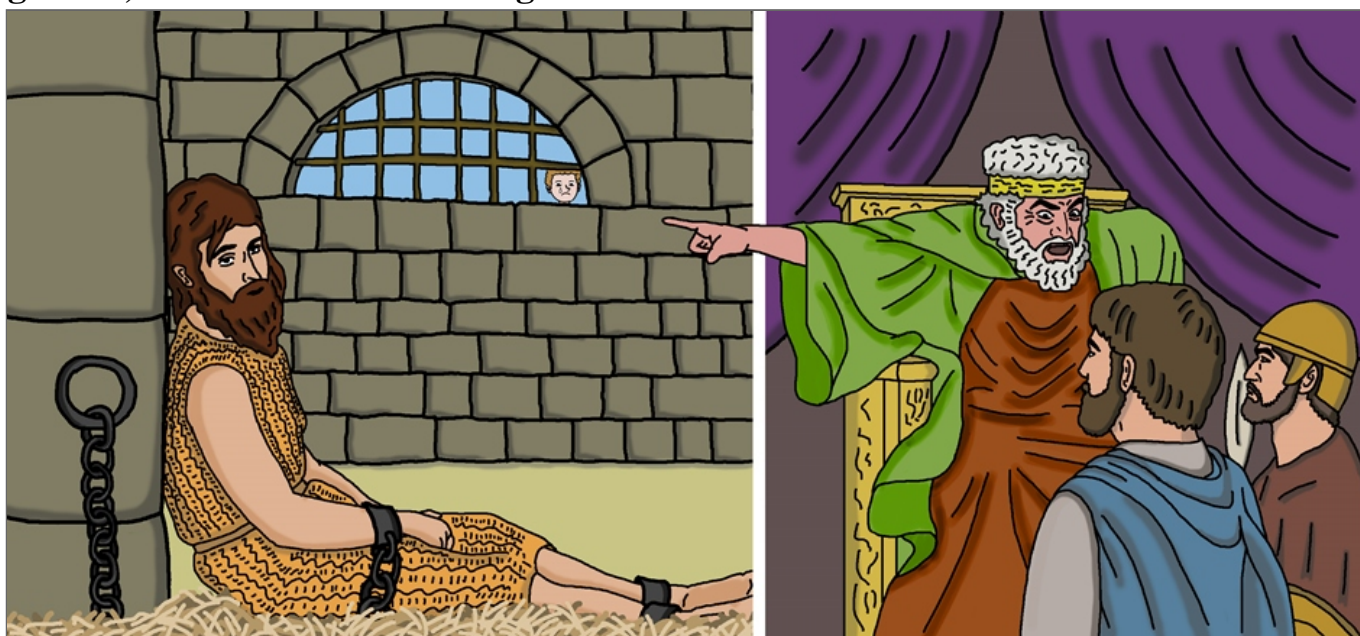


Saturday of the Seventeenth Week in Ordinary Time

Gospel text (Mt 14,1-12): On Herod's birthday the daughter of Herodias danced in the midst of the guests; she so delighted Herod that he promised under oath to give her anything she asked. The girl, following the advice of her mother, said, «Give me the head of John the Baptist here on a dish». The king was very displeased, but because he had made this promise under oath in the presence of the guests, he ordered it to be given her.



Today we are faced with a regrettable historical event: King Herod, who was having an affair with his sister-in-law, orders the beheading of John the Baptist. And this because of that irritating mess of love affairs.

- Whoever lives in a trap risks the danger of behaving ruthlessly. Marriage is a very serious matter!