

Thoughts on the Daily Word

21st Week of Year. Friday 29th August. Readings: Passion of John the Baptist. Readings: 1 Thessalonians 4:1-8; Psalm: 97; Mark 6:17-29.

Our first reading is of the day while the Gospel fits today's Memorial, the Passion of John the Baptist. Both, however, have the imagery of the focus on sharing God's Word. It will cost both men their lives eventually. The Gospel is one of the most famous passages in Scripture. I often feel sorry for Herodias and her daughter as we do not really have any historical record of the events other than John's actual imprisonment. Perhaps it was false news on the part of Herod to pass the blame on to these dodgy women. If so, it was not really successful as he appeared basically very weak. In the first reading Paul attests the need focus on sharing the Good News of Jesus Christ. Two separate, but equally beautiful, prophetic vocations. A challenge to our own vocation to proclaim the Gospel.