

The Junior Observer

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A Good News Story

John the Baptist Points Out Herod's Sin

Catholic News Service

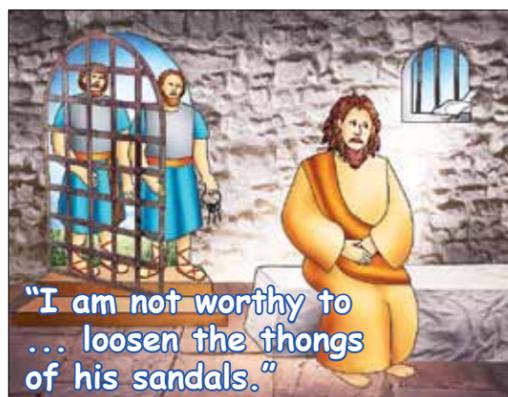
Before Jesus began his public ministry, his cousin, John the Baptist, was living in the desert.

John dressed in clothes made of camel's hair and ate locusts and wild honey. He told the people to repent and be baptized in the Jordan River for the forgiveness of sins, and he also told them about the coming of the Messiah.

John's actions were prophesied in the Old Testament book of Isaiah: "Behold, I am sending my messenger ahead of you; he will prepare your way. A voice of one crying out in the desert: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths.'"

"One mightier than I is coming after me," John told the many people who flocked to him for baptism. "I am not worthy to stoop and loosen the thongs of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

John was not afraid to tell people that they were sinning and needed



(CNS)

afraid of John because he was holy and righteous. He decided to have John arrested and put in jail.

While John was in jail, Herod threw a big party that was attended by many important people. During the party, Herodias' daughter performed a dance for Herod and his guests. Herod liked the performance so much that he promised to give the girl anything she wanted, even up to half of his kingdom.

The girl went to her mother for advice on what to ask for.

Herodias told her daughter to ask Herod for John's execution.

When the girl told Herod that she wanted John killed, the king did not want to do it. But he had made his promise in front of so many people that he felt forced to keep his word.

Herod then sent an executioner to the jail to kill John.

When John's followers heard what had happened, they came to get his body and laid it in a tomb.

Bible Trivia

Who were John's parents?

Zechariah and Elizabeth

to repent. For example, John told King Herod that he was being sinful because his marriage to Herodias was considered unlawful.

Herodias did not like being told that she and Herod were being sinful. She held a grudge against John and wanted him dead.

Herod, on the other hand, was

Where did John baptize people?

Who hated John and wanted him dead?

Read more about it in Mark 6



(Photos provided)

Hampshire Kids Knock Rosary Makers Challenge Out of the Park

The St. Charles Borromeo Parish Rosary Makers teamed up religious education and parish school students and teens preparing for confirmation. The Rosary Makers made 400 rosaries, which Father Sylvester Nnaso, pastor, blessed for the SCB students. The Rosary Makers then challenged the youngsters to pray the rosary daily with their families, asking Mary to intercede in their families. In total, they prayed the rosary 4,095 times.