The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.  

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

King Herod heard of the demons cast out and the many who were anointed and cured, for Jesus’ name had become known. Some were saying, “John the baptizer has been raised from the dead; and for this reason these powers are at work in him.”

But others said, “It is Elijah.” And others said, “It is a prophet, like one of the prophets of old.”

But when Herod heard of it, he said, “John, whom I beheaded, has been raised.”

For Herod himself had sent men who arrested John, bound him, and put him in prison on account of Herodias, his brother Philip’s wife, because Herod had married her.  

For John had been telling Herod, “It is not lawful for you to have your
brother’s wife.” 19 And Herodias had a grudge against him, and wanted to kill him.

But she could not, 20 for Herod feared John, knowing that he was a righteous and holy man, and he protected him. When he heard him, he was greatly perplexed; and yet he liked to listen to him. 21 But an opportunity came when Herod on his birthday gave a banquet for his courtiers and officers and for the leaders of Galilee. 22 When his daughter Herodias came in and danced, she pleased Herod and his guests; and the king said to the girl, “Ask me for what-ever you wish, and I will give it.” 23 And he solemnly swore to her, “What-ever you ask me, I will give you, even half of my kingdom.” 24 She
went out and said to her mother, “What should I ask for?” She re-plied, “The head of John the bap-tiz-er.” 25 Immediately she rushed back to the king and re-quest-ed, “I want you to give me at once the head of John the Baptist on a plat-ter.” 26 The king was deep-
ly grieved; yet out of regard for his oaths and for the guests, he did not want to re-fuse her. 27 Immediately the king sent a soldier of the guard with orders to bring John’s head. He went and be-head-ed him in the pris-on, 28 brought his head on a platter, and gave it to the girl. Then the girl gave it to her moth-er. 29 When his disciples heard about it, they came and took his bod- y, and laid it in a tomb.

The Gospel of the Lord. Praise to you, Lord Christ.