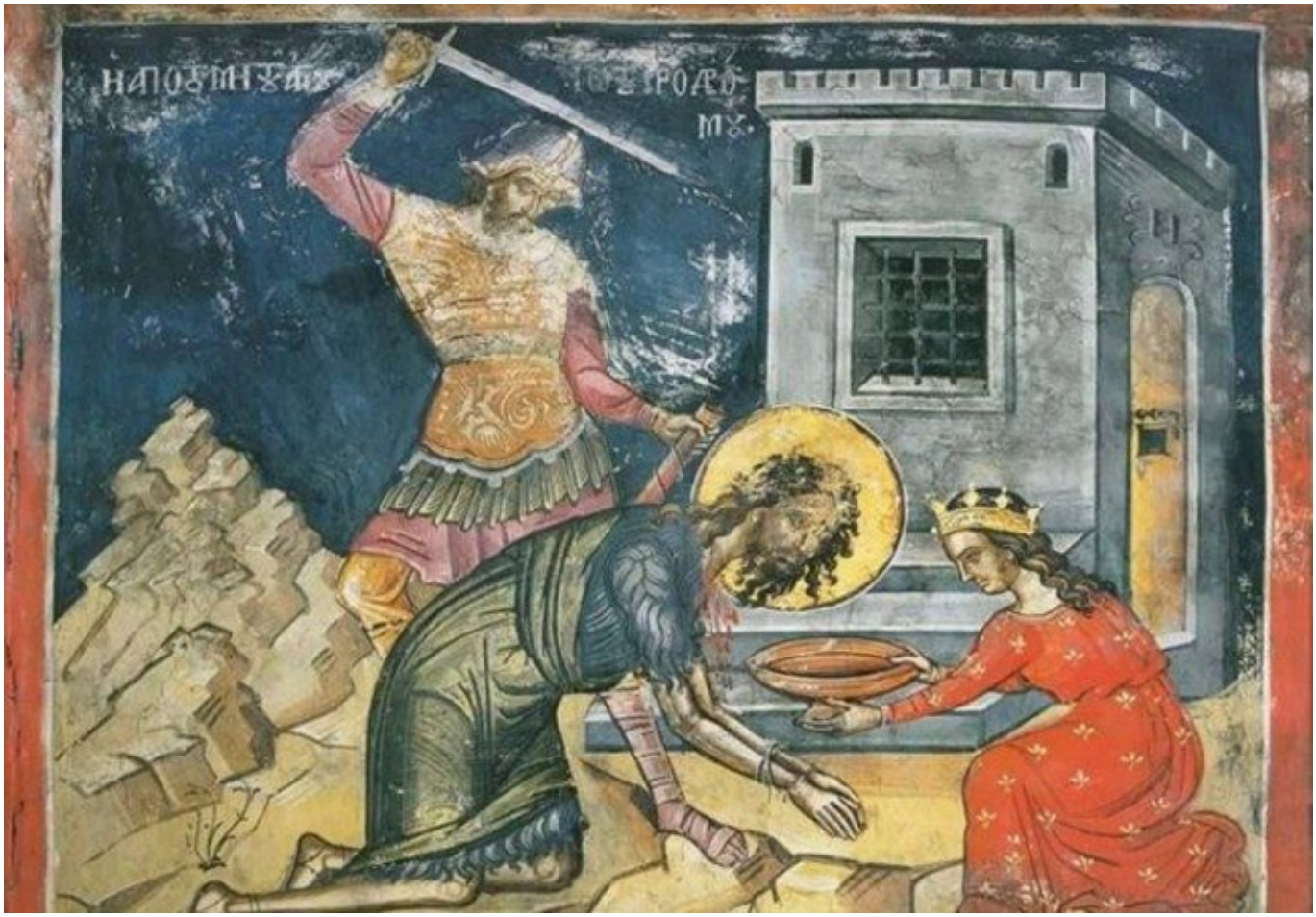
29/08/2022

Church commemorates Beheading of the Holy and Glorious Prophet, Forerunner & Baptist John



The Church today commemorates the Beheading of the Holy and Glorious Prophet, Forerunner and Baptist, John.

John is the divine Baptist, the Prophet born of a Prophet, the seal of all the Prophets and beginning of the Apostles, the mediator between the Old and New Covenants, the voice of one crying in the wilderness, the God-sent Messenger of the incarnate Messiah, the forerunner of Christ's coming into the world.

On the occasion, the Pemptousia platform has posted several programs and features.

The memory of the Forerunner was venerated throughout Greece today and Sunday.

An archieratical Divine Liturgy was held in the dedicated and celebrating

Metropolitan Cathedral in the northeast Greece city of Xanthi, officiated by the Metropolitan of Didimoticho, Orestiada and Soufli, His Eminence Damaskinos, and co-officiated by other hierarchs, including the the resident Metropolitan, His Eminence Panteleimon, and the Patriarchate of Alexandria's Bishop of Bukoba and Western Tanzania, His Grace Chrysostomos.

Numerous faithful also attended the Archieratical Vespers on the eve of the commemoration, officiated by the Metropolitan of Kastoria, His Eminence Kallinikos.

A litany of the holy icon of the Forerunner followed the Vespers, along with an artoklasia service, whereby five loaves of bread were offered by individual faithful, and concluding with a celebratory sermon in the city's central square.

Elsewhere, the annual pilgrimage to shrine devoted to John the Baptist, located in Cape Spatha, in western-most Crete, was held on Sunday. Several Archpriests participated in the con-celebratory service, at the invitation of the resident Church of Crete's Metropolitan of Kissamos and Selino, Amphilochios.