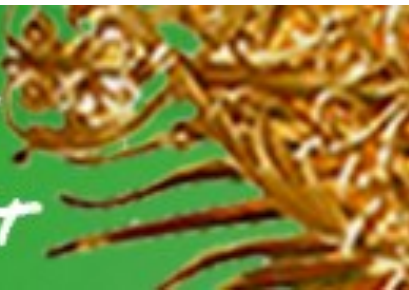




Pray for Life, Marriage, and Religious Liberty JOIN THE MOVEMENT



Friday June 28: St. Irenaeus

Intention:

For the courage to keep witnessing to the truth and beauty of marriage, the lifelong, fruitful union of one man and one woman.

Did you know?

On Wednesday of this week, the Supreme Court struck down part of the federal Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA) and refused to rule on the merits of a challenge to California's Proposition 8. In a [statement](#), Cardinal Timothy Dolan and Archbishop Salvatore Cordileone called Wednesday "a tragic day for marriage and our nation." They said, "Now is the time to redouble our efforts" in witnessing to the truth of marriage. Learn more about Proposition 8 and DOMA from [this backgrounder](#).

Quick Links

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- ⇒ [Fortnight for Freedom Facebook event](#)
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Reflection:

St. John the Baptist, whose birth we celebrated on Monday June 24, was a martyr for truth and justice, particularly the truth about marriage. He was put in jail, and ultimately executed, because he rebuked Herod for marrying his brother's wife, Herodias (see Mt 14:3-12 and Mk 6:17-29). St. John the Baptist's defense of marriage cost him his head.

In his [Angelus address](#) on Sunday, June 23, Pope Francis said of the saint, "He died for the sake of the truth, when he denounced the adultery of King Herod and Herodias. How many people pay dearly for their commitment to truth!"

Today, standing up for the counter-cultural truth of marriage as the lifelong, fruitful union of a man and a woman can be difficult and lonely. But Christ is always with us and asks us to be witnesses of His loving truth, which is worth defending, no matter what the cost. As our Holy Father exhorted the crowd, "Forward, be brave and go against the tide! And be proud of doing so."

St. John the Baptist, pray for us.

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