May 25th

The Third Discovery of the Head of John the Baptist

Stichera at the Praises

Byzantine Chant Tone 5
Special Melody: Rejoice

Adapted by Dn. John El Massih

1) Rejoice, thou sacred head full of light,
revered by Angels, yet cut off by the sword of old;
for thou hadst, with cutting censures, thyself rebuked and hewn down
lawless deeds of shame and vile licentiousness.

O fountain that waterest all the faithful with miracles,
the saving advent of the Savior didst thou declare,
and thou didst perceive when the Spirit, with wing'd descent,
came and abode upon Him in time past; and thou didst become

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he that of grace medi at ed be tween the

Old and New Cov enants. Be seech Christ the Sav ior

dhat for give ness and Great Mer cy be grant ed to our souls.

2) Though in_____ a sil ver ves sel con cealed,

now is the head of John the Bap tist made man i fest,

sent up in the sight of all___ men out of the depths of the earth,

pour ing forth a bun dant___ streams of mir a cles.

For this is the same that washed in the wa ters the head of Him

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that doth support His chambers high in the waters and
now doth make divine pardon rain down on mortal men.
Let us then call it blessed, since it truly is praised of all;
and on the feast of its finding, let us keep
festival joyously as it doth beseech Christ
that forgiveness and Great Mercy be granted to our souls.

3) That head which hath proclaimed unto all
the Lamb of God, Who was made manifest in the flesh;

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and which made the saving ways of repentance plain unto all

through divine instructions and admonishments;

which rightly had once reproved Herod's lawless iniquity,

and for this reason, from its body was then cut off

and did undergo a concealment of many years,

now riseth up upon us like a splendidly beam-ing sun,

crying: Repent ye, and with all sincere com-

-punc-tion of heart and soul cleave unto the Lord God,

Who bestow eth His Great Mercy and peace upon the world.

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