The Third Discovery of the Head of John the Baptist  
Stichera at "O Lord, I have cried"

Byzantine Chant Tone 8  
Special melody: O strange wonder

Adapted by Dn. John El Massih from various sources

May 25th

1) Flashing brighter than the sun itself, thy head hath dawed from the earth and hath made all the faithful shine with its lightning brilliancy,

O most blessed Forerunner John. As a divine treasure given unto us,

we draw forth rich and abundant grace therefrom;

and we are sanctified both in soul and body and in all our thoughts. Wherefore, keeping festival to-day, we call thee blest.

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Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America, Rev. 0, 5/10/18, CAH
2) Pouring forth an everflowing grace, thy sacred head was made known to the Lord's godly-minded priest, who till then knew nought thereof, O most blessed Forerunner John. He then made haste, filled with faith and led by grace, to search it out, and he made its finding known. And he was sanctified with the godly-minded people and the king who clave unto Orthodoxy with a fervent zeal.
3) We observe the third discovery of thine all-ven-erable head, which was crowned by the Trinity when, because of godly zeal,
it was cut off, O blessed John. Now at its finding, the ranks of Angel hosts,
divine Apostles, the Martyrs' companies,
and all the Prophets' choir are exceeding glad; with them, remember us at all times, O glorious Fore-run-ner of the Lord.