

May 25th

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

1) Flash - ing bright - er than the sun it - self, thy head hath
dawned from thē earth and hath made _____ all the
faith - ful shine with it light - ning bril - lian - cy,
O most bless - ed Fore - run - ner _____ John. As a di -
- vine _____ treas - ure giv - en un - to us,
we draw forth rich _____ and a - bun - dant grace there - from;
and _____ we are sanc - ti - fied both in soul and bod - y
Un. _____ and in all our thoughts. Where - fore, keep - ing fes - ti -
- val to - day, we call _____ thee _____ blest.

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2) Pour - ing forth an ev - er - flow - ing grace, thy sa - cred
head was made known to the Lord's god - ly -
-mind - ed priest, who till then knew nought there - of,
O most bless - ed Fore - run - ner John. He then made
haste, filled with faith and led by grace,
to search it out, and he made its find - ing known.
And he was sanc - ti - fied with the god - ly - mind - ed
Un. peo - ple and the king who clave un - to Or - tho -
- dox - y with a fer - vent zeal.

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3) We observe the third discovery of thine all-
 -ven-erable head, which was crowned by the
 Trin - i - ty when, because of god - ly zeal,
 it was cut off, O bless - ed John. Now at its
 find - ing, the ranks of An - gel hosts,
 di - vine A - pos - tles, the Mar - tyrs' com - pa - nies,
 and all the Proph - ets' choir are ex - ceed - ing glad; with
 them, re - mem - ber us at all times, O glo - ri -
 - ous Fore - run - ner of the Lord.