

came out from the caverns of the earth as from a mo - ther's womb.

It per - fumes the whole earth with the myrrh of ho - li - ness,

as you preach the way of re - pen - - tence,

in - ter - ce - ding for our souls be - fore the Sa - vior of all.

Cantor: Now and ever...

Aposticha Theotokion, Tone 2, page 34

Troparia: Troparion of the Resurrection, Tone 1, page 34, then:

Cantor: (Tone 4) Glory...

Like a heav - en - ly treas - ure hid - den in a field, Christ has re - vealed your head

for us, O proph - et. Hav - ing gath - ered together at its dis - cov - er - y,

we sing hymns to the Sav - ior who de - liv - ers us by your pray'rs.

Cantor: (Tone 4) Now and ever...

Festal theotokion, Tone 4, page 68

Vesper Propers, May 25, 2008
Third finding of the head of Saint John the Baptist

Supplement for The Order of Vespers for Sundays after Pentecost, 2005

Tone of the Week: Tone 1 (begins on page 24) stichera 10-4

Cantor: (Tone 8) Because with the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption,
 (on 3) Israel indeed he will redeem from all its iniquity.

Stichera of the Finding - Tone 8 samohlasen

O ho - ly John, bles - sed Fore - run - ner, when your head was found on earth,

it shone more bright - ly than the sun, gi - ving light to all be - liev - ers.

Pos - ses - sing it as a di - vine treas - ure, We are enriched with grace and sanctified

in body, soul and spi - rit as we celebrate this feast, we all call you bles - sed.

Cantor: Praise the Lord all you nations; **Psalm 116**
 (on 2) acclaim him all you peoples.

Your head, O bles - sed Fore - run - ner, that un - ceas - ing source of grace,

was re - vealed to the ho - ly hier - arch who had ne - ver known where it lay hid - den.

In faith he hastened and found it. Dis-cov-ered and present-ed for ve-ne-ra - tion,
 it brought sanc-ti - fi - ca - tion to the Chris-tian peo - ple, and their ru-lers
 the staunch de - fen - ders of the Orth - o - dox - faith.

Cantor: Strong is the love of the Lord for us;
(on 1) he is faithful forever.

O won-drous Fore - run-ner of our God, we ce-le-brate the third fin-ding of your head
 which had been sev - ered be-cause of your zeal for our God.
 The Ho-ly Trini-ty has crowned it. The choir of angels exult at its dis-cov-er-y,
 to - ge-ther with the assemblies of prophets, apos - tles and mar - - - tyrs.
 As you stand in their midst, be ev-er mind - ful of all of us.

Cantor: *(Tone 6)* Glory...

O - Forerun-ner, your head (di-vine-ly pre-served), has risen from the bo-som of the earth
 as a trea - su - ry of the gra - ces of God. Ha - ving re - ceived
 it, we bow down in re - ver-ence, O glo - ri - ous pro - phet of Christ.
 Through you, we have been gi - ven won - drous mi - ra - cles
 and have ob - tained the re - mis - sion of our sins.

Cantor: *(Tone 1)* Now and ever...

Dogmatikon in Tone 1, page 30

Aposticha, Tone 1, Page 33

Cantor: *(Tone 2)* Glory...

O il - lus - tri - ous John the ve - ner - a - ble reliquary of di-vine thoughts
 your head, which had clear-ly fore-seen the mys-tery of the-In - ef - fa - ble One