

came out from the caverns of the earth as from a mother's womb.

It perfumes the whole earth with the myrrh of holiness,

as you preach the way of repentance,

interceding for our souls before the Savior 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 heavenly treasure hidden in a field, Christ has revealed your head

for us, O prophet. Having gathered together at its discovery,

we sing hymns to the Savior who delivers us by your prayers.

**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 holy John, blessed Fore-runner, when your head was found on earth,

it shone more brightly than the sun, giving light to all believers.

Possessing it as a divine treasure, We are enriched with grace and sanctified

in body, soul and spirit as we celebrate this feast, we all call you blessed.

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

Your head, O blessed Fore-runner, that unceasing source of grace,

was revealed to the holy hierarch who had never known where it lay hidden.

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