November 13th
Our Father Among the Saints John Chrysostom
Archbishop of Constantinople

Stichera at the Aposticha at Vespers
Adapted by Dn. John El Massih

1) Rejoice gold-bright, divinely inspired,
and tuneful instrument delighting the Church of Christ,
O tongue making known the sun-dry ways of repentance for us in a gracious manner full of love for man;
Rejoice, mind of golden form, fairest swallow of golden voice;
O psalmic dove that hast thy pinions of sparkling gold,
Glittering like gold with the virtues' clear radiance;
Rejoice, fairest river bright as gold, whence issue most might-y floods,
O mouth of God and assurance and pledge of God's certain love for man. Implore Christ, O Father,
to send down abundant peace and Great Mercy on our souls.

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Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America, Rev. 2, 1/7/19, CAH
Verse: My mouth shall speak wisdom, and the meditation of my heart shall be of understanding.

2) Rejoice, most speedy help of the wronged,
father of orphans and provider of needy folk;
uprighting of fallen sinners, food of the hungered and poor;
most revered and skilful healer of men's souls;
exactness and faithful rule of exalted theology,
elucidation that distinctly doth clarify all the Holy Writ of the Spirit, O Chrysostom;

O contemplation and action, the height of wisdom and end thereof. Implore Christ, O Father,
to send down abundant peace and Great Mercy on our souls.
Verse: The mouth of the righteous shall meditate wisdom; and the lips of righteous men know graces.

3) Thou didst build up thyself as a house devoted to the sacred virtues; and for this cause, the virtues took up their dwelling in thee, O all-blessed John, as though in a temple holy and most pure.

For wisely directing all of thy bodily senses, thou didst keep thy mind pure of the passions as if it were in a treasure-house bolted fast and impregnable.

Wherefore, since thou becamest wholly Godlike, O Chrysostom, adorned with grace as a hierarch, thou didst preside o'er the holy Church, with fervor entreating Christ our Savior, Who bestoweth Great Mercy on the world.