

October 18th: St. Luke, evangelist

Gospel text (Lk 10,1-9): The Lord appointed seventy-two other disciples and sent them two by two ahead of him to every town and place, where He himself was to go. And He said to them, «The harvest is rich, but the workers are few. So you must ask the Lord of the harvest to send workers to his harvest (...))».

Saint Luke, evangelist

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Today, we celebrate the feast of the so-called "the Evangelist of Christ's gentleness and meekness". Luke was born in Antioch (1st century). Pagan parents, probably of Greek descent, he possessed a great culture, was physician and connoisseur of Jewish customs. Author of the third Gospel and of the "Acts of the Apostles".

He met Jesus Christ through Saint Paul, with whom he spent much of his apostolic life. During the years of St. Paul's imprisonment, Luke remained with him ("only Luke is with me", wrote Paul). It is the evangelist who has transmitted us more details about Jesus' childhood and the life of St. Mary and St. Joseph. In the "Acts of the Apostles" Luke compiled the most important events of the Apostles activities as well as the birth of the Church in a geographic and temporal frame quite well established.

—Saint Luke, guide us through the new evangelization the Lord is demanding from us.