October 18th: Feast of Saint Luke, evangelist

Gospel text (*Lk* 10:1-9): The Lord Jesus appointed seventy-two disciples whom he sent ahead of him in pairs to every town and place he intended to visit. He said to them, “The harvest is abundant but the laborers are few; so ask the master of the harvest to send out laborers for 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 to us the most details about Jesus‘s childhood and the life of Saint Mary and Saint 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 framework quite well established.

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