

St. Luke the Evangelist

Feast Day, October 18th

The Patron Saint of Artists, Writers, and Physicians

It is believed that St. Luke was born a Greek and a Gentile in Antioch, Syria and trained as a physician. He was a disciple of Paul, and he wrote the book of Luke as well as the Acts of the Apostles.

Luke's gospel shows special sensitivity to evangelizing Gentiles as with the parable of the Good Samaritan (LK. 10:30-37).

Luke's unique perspective on Jesus can be seen in the six miracles and eighteen parables not found in the other gospels. Luke's is the gospel of the poor and of social justice. Luke is the one who uses "Blessed are the poor" instead of "Blessed are the poor in spirit" in the beatitudes.

Luke also recorded much of what was known about Mary, including the Annunciation and the words that Mary spoke and became part of the Hail Mary prayer we lovingly recite today.

Luke is widely regarded as an excellent historian. Many of the places and events he mentions in his gospel have been verified by modern historians, so it is widely agreed that his descriptions are accurate.

Luke is also known to have traveled with Paul, and on his own to spread the Gospel. When Paul was imprisoned in Rome, Luke stayed with him. Due to Roman persecution, all of Paul's disciples abandoned him at the end of his life, except Luke, who remained with Paul to the end (2 TM 4:11).

Luke had a special ministry to the poor and wrote about the special place of women in the Church.

Luke's fate is unknown, but it is believed he may have been martyred by the Romans near the end of his impactful life. He is often depicted in icons with an ox or a calf, which are symbols of sacrifice.

Today, Saint Luke's apostolic works are widely read and studied, and he is known as a saint, in full communion with Christ in heaven.



ST. LUKE PARABLES

- Two debtors (7:40-43)
- Friend at midnight (11:5-8)
- Rich fool (12:13-21)
- Punishment (12:47-48)
- Barren tree (13:1-9)
- Lost coin (15:8-10)
- Shrewd manager (16:1-12)
- Rich man and Lazarus (16:19-31)
- Persistent widow (18:1-8)
- Pharisee and the tax collector (18:9-14)