

# SAINT LUKE

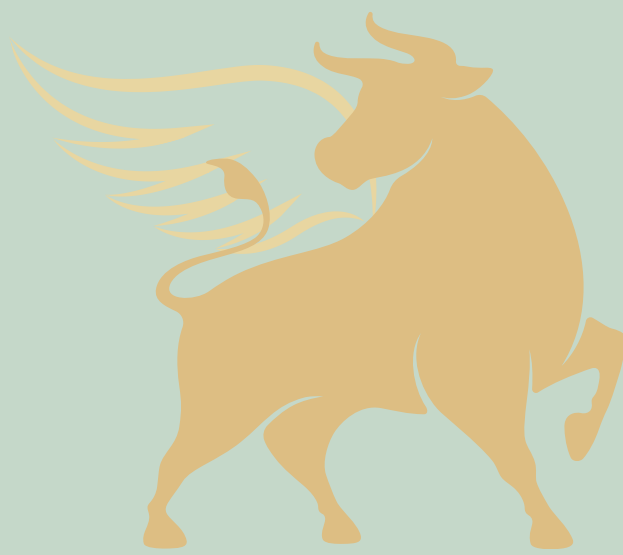
# THE EVANGELIST

FEAST DAY: OCTOBER 18

PATRON SAINT OF: ARTISTS, NOTARIES, PHYSICIANS, AND SURGEONS

## *Origin of Saint Luke*

IT IS BELIEVED THAT LUKE WAS BORN A GREEK AND A GENTILE. HE WAS FROM ANTIOCH, THE CAPITAL OF THE ROMAN PROVINCE OF SYRIA. IN SEVERAL OF HIS EPISTLES, SAINT PAUL IDENTIFIES LUKE AS A PHYSICIAN AND CLOSE COMPANION (COLOSSIANS 4:14; PHILEMON 1:24; 2 TIMOTHY 4:11).



LUKE'S SYMBOL IS A WINGED OX. AS AN ANIMAL OF SACRIFICE, THE OX REPRESENTS THE SACRIFICE OF CHRIST THAT LUKE EMPHASIZES IN HIS WRITINGS. THE WINGS ARE A REFERENCE TO EZEKIEL'S VISION OF FOUR WINGED CREATURES.

## *Death*

DETAILS ABOUT THE END OF SAINT LUKE'S LIFE ARE UNCLEAR. HE IS SAID TO HAVE PREACHED THROUGHOUT THE MEDITERRANEAN AFTER PAUL'S DEATH. THE EARLIEST TRADITION STATES THAT HE DIED AT AGE 84 IN BOEOTIA, GREECE, AFTER WRITING HIS GOSPEL ACCOUNT.



## *Evangelizaiton*

SAINT LUKE WAS A CLOSE FRIEND OF SAINT PAUL AND ACCOMPANIED HIM DURING HIS TRAVELS. LUKE WAS PAUL'S ONLY COMPANION WHO DID NOT ABANDON HIM DURING HIS FINAL IMPRISONMENT AND DEATH IN ROME. NEAR HIS END, PAUL WROTE, "ONLY LUKE IS WITH ME" (2 TIMOTHY 4:11).



## *Biblical Contribution*

LUKE IS CREDITED WITH WRITING THE GOSPEL OF SAINT LUKE AND THE ACTS OF THE APOSTLES. MOST LIKELY, LUKE WAS NOT AN EYEWITNESS TO JESUS' MINISTRY, BUT HE COLLECTED ACCOUNTS AND WROTE DOWN HIS FINDINGS IN HIS GOSPEL ACCOUNT. AS THEY WERE BOTH CLOSE TO SAINT PAUL, MARK AND LUKE KNEW EACH OTHER WELL. LUKE'S GOSPEL WAS WRITTEN AFTER MARK'S, SUGGESTING THAT LUKE USED MARK'S GOSPEL AS ONE OF HIS SOURCES. LUKE'S GOSPEL IS THE LONGEST OF THE FOUR AND IS THE ONLY ONE TO INCLUDE DETAILS ABOUT THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY.