

# SAINT LUKE THE EVANGELIST

THE LIFE OF CHRIST WITH SAINT LUKE



## ICONOGRAPHY

We were all made in the image of God, therefore Adam was the first icon and God the first iconographer. Saint Luke was the second iconographer and he depicted the Theotokos for us in the icon known as “The Directress”. When someone is directing, what are they doing? They guide other people - in this case, she’s directing us towards Christ.

“The All-Holy Virgin praised this representation and said, ‘May the grace of Him who was born of me be upon this image.’ - Synaxarion, October 18th

1

### GOAL

After participating in the lesson, tell me about Saint Luke & when is his feast day?

2

### AT CHURCH

Paraklesis:  
Listen & hear about St. Luke as an iconographer

3

### AT HOME

Learn about the lives of the saints on the icons in our home.



**Icon:**  
is a holy image and provides us with a “window to heaven”

~



**Apostle:**  
is a person who is “sent out” to teach others about Christ

~

12 & 70 Apostles



**Evangelist:**  
is a person who preaches the gospel

~

Matthew, Mark, Luke, John

## LIFE OF SAINT LUKE

Commemorated on October 18th

Luke came from the city of Antioch and from a family that was probably pagan. Even as a child, he loved learning, especially about science and art. As an adult, he was particularly talented as both a doctor and a painter. As a doctor, he healed people physically and spiritually. As a painter, he depicted the icon of the Theotokos for us, as well as the apostles. We can learn from Saint Luke that whatever our talents may be, we can use them for the glory of God.

When we talk about the apostles during our lessons about the gospels, we are referring to one of two groups of people:

- **12 apostles** - Jesus' 12 disciples who were sent out to teach others about Christ
- **70 apostles** - 70 additional men who were sent out to also teach others about Christ

Saint Luke is believed to be one of the 70 apostles. He traveled far and wide to tell everyone he met about Jesus' teachings, miracles, death, and resurrection. Saint Luke also traveled with Saint



Paul on some of his missionary journeys. Paul and Luke became good friends on these journeys and Paul refers to Luke as, “the beloved physician.” (Colossians 4:14)

Saint Luke wrote both the Gospel of Luke and the Acts of the Apostles, which tells us about what the apostles did after Jesus' Ascension. We will learn more about this next week.

Later, Luke became Bishop of Thebes in Greece. He ordained deacons and priests, established new churches in the area, and healed people by his prayer.

When Saint Luke was an elderly man, idolaters crucified him on an olive tree because of his deep faith in God.

### EXTENDED LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES FOR TEACHERS & PARENTS:

- *The Synaxarion: September/October Volume* - October 18th
- *The Explanation of the Holy Gospel According to Luke* by Blessed Theophylact ~ There are 3 short accounts of Luke's life at the beginning of the book.
- YouTube: [Picturing Salvation - Chora's Brilliant Byzantine Mosaics and Frescoes](#) ~ A visual tour of the iconography in the Church of Chora
- **Browse our bookstore** for icons to add to your home or for books about iconography and our beloved saints

# GETTING TO KNOW YOU ACTIVITY

## Using Our Talents for the Glory of God

We can spend some of our class time today getting to know new students, as well as, getting to know returning students better.

Go around the room and have the kids introduce themselves to the class:

1. My name is...
2. I am really interested / good at....

Write down each child's interest or talent on the white board and then brainstorm together how each of those interests or talents can be used for the glory of God, just as Saint Luke used his skills as a physician and painter.

For example, possible interests / talents:

- **Music:** Sing as a chanter / choir
- **Speaking / Learning Other Languages:** translating the lives of saints into other languages; missionary work
- **Sewing:** Making vestments; baptismal gowns
- **Cooking:** Helping to make food for fellowship hour after liturgy on Sundays; make food for someone who is sick, lost their job, just had a baby, for someone who needs their spirits lifted
- **Baking:** making prosphora; artos
- **Drawing:** iconography; architect for churches / monasteries; illustrate Orthodox children's books; create resources for Sunday school
- **Math:** treasurer for your parish; stewardship chairman; parish administrator

- **Web Design:** create or maintain your parish, metropolis, or archdiocese website
- **Organizing:** help to coordinate your parish festival; retreat; fundraiser; special event
- **Spending Time with Others:** visit people in the hospital or injured / elderly in their homes; seek out and talk to new people visiting your parish; coordinate a Meal Train for people in need
- **Traveling:** take pictures and write a book about the Holy Land; make videos about special places relating to Christ and the saints



Saint Luke the Physician of Simferopol  
Source: [johnsanidopoulos.com](http://johnsanidopoulos.com)

## SING: MORE HONORABLE THAN THE CHERUBIM / SAVE O LORD YOUR PEOPLE

**Middle School:** Save O Lord Your People...

**High School:** More Honorable Than the Cherubim...

# SAINT LUKE THE EVANGELIST

## AT HOME

### FOR PARENTS

**E**ducation and religion are two radiant lighthouses, which lead seafaring man across life's storm-tossed sea, and keep him safe from every shipwreck and every dangerous trial; they are the two eyes of the soul, by which it sees its surroundings and is able to walk the path of truth leading to happiness and salvation without stumbling; they are the two perfecting tools by means of which wounded man proves himself worthy of his lofty origin and shows himself a being of great dignity.

- St. Nektarios  
*Motherhood and the Raising of Children*

### Teach our children about icons:

Oftentimes, we have carefully chosen the icons we place in our family altar. Share with your children why you chose these icons. Are they your family's patron saints? Is there a story attached to choosing or receiving a particular icon? Your kids will enjoy learning why these icons are in their home and their special meaning to you.

We can also read / sing the [Paraklesis to the Mother of God](#) with our children. "Speechless be the lips of impious ones, those who do not reverence your great icon, the sacred one, which is called Directress, and was depicted for us, by one of the apostles, Luke the Evangelist." - Paraklesis

## HOME ACTIVITY #1

### Choose one:

- Watch the preview videos about [Byzantine Iconography on Udemy](#) - and maybe take one of the courses!
- YouTube: [Picturing Salvation - Chora's Brilliant Byzantine Mosaics and Frescoes](#) ~ A visual tour of the iconography in the Church of Chora
- Take a picture of your family's home altar and text it to Jennifer Hock 859-630-9157 ~ These will be displayed during the coffee hour slide show and on the bulletin boards in the S.S. hallway.

