

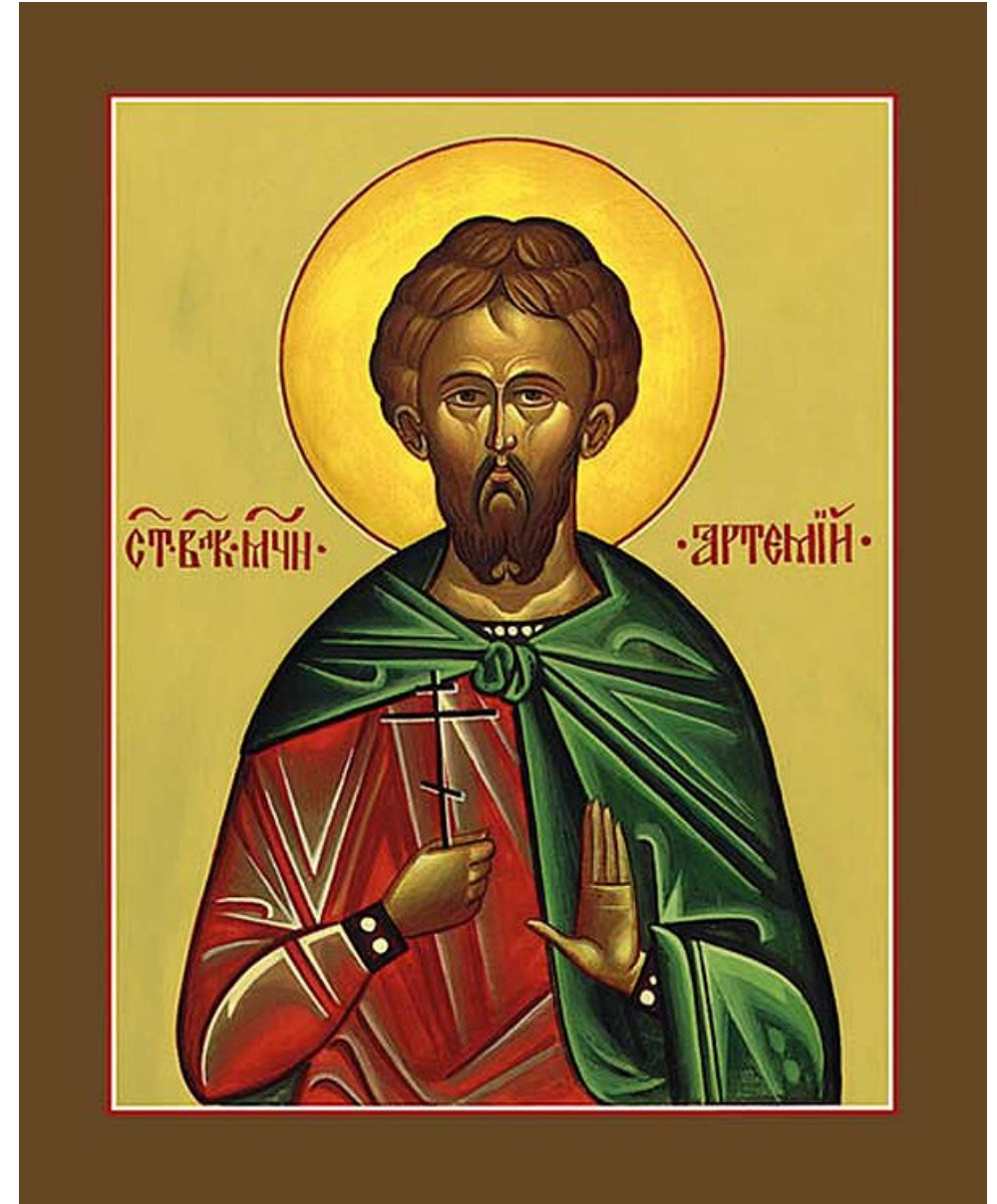
*From the Divine Office for St. James, brother of the Lord (Oct. 23)*

*Foreseeing your holy life from afar, Christ, the Lover of Mankind, chose you, O James as His brother in His foreknowledge, He designated you as the sacred hierarch and chief shepherd of Jerusalem, to celebrate the ineffable Mysteries which He had taught you. Entreat Him to save our souls. (Vespers)*

*With hymns of praise, let us sing of the son of Joseph, the first Bishop of Jerusalem, James, the brother of God, who saw Him with his own eyes. We cry out with faith: "Grant us the perfect gift which comes down from the Father of lights. Deliver us from the affliction threatening us for the multitude of our sins. For our enemies have lifted up their arm against us: we are surrounded by the sons of Ishmael. Make haste to break their bow, O blessed and sacred hierarch, that all of us together may honor you as an apostle. (Ikos)*



**SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER THE HOLY CROSS  
OCTOBER 20, 2024**



**GREAT MARTYR ARTEMIOS**

**OCTOBER 20**

**Our Lady of Perpetual Help Melkite Catholic Church**

256 Hamilton St.

Worcester, MA 01604

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Rev. Deacon Elias Bailey

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Divine Liturgy: Sunday 10:00 AM

**Antiphon (1st)**

1: Shout joyfully to the Lord, all the earth, and sing praise to His name.

*Through the prayers of the Mother of God, O Savior, save us.*

2: Say to God: How awesome are Your deeds! So great is Your power that Your enemies cringe before You.

*Be shafa'ati Walidatil Eelah, ya Mukhallisu, khallisna.*

3: Let all the earth worship You and sing praises to You; let it sing praises to Your name, O Most High!

*Through the prayers of the Mother of God, O Savior, save us.*

**Entrance Hymn**

**Priest:** Come let us worship and bow down before Christ

**People:** *O Son of God Who are risen from the dead, save us who sing to You: Alleluia!*

**Troparion of the Resurrection (Tone 5) Pg.**

Let us, O faithful, praise and worship the word, coeternal with the Father and the Spirit, born of the Virgin for our Salvation; for He was pleased to be lifted in the flesh upon the cross and to endure death and to raise the dead by His glorious resurrection.

**Patronal Troparion (Tone 1) Pg.15**

In giving birth, you have preserved your virginity and in falling asleep you did not forsake the world, O Mother of God. You have passed to life being the Mother of Life. Through your intercession, save our souls from death.

**Kontakion (Tone 2) Pg. 16**

O never failing Protectress of Christians and their ever-present intercessor before the Creator, despise not the petitions of us sinners, but in your goodness extend your help to us who call upon you with confidence. Hasten, O Mother of God, to intercede for us, for you have always protected those who honor you.

**Luke as an Iconographer**

In the sixth century Theodore, a reader at Hagia Sophia in Constantinople, compiled a history from various sources. In it he describes an image of the Theotokos which Empress Eudoxia found in Jerusalem and sent to Constantinople. This may have given rise to the belief, first recorded in the ninth century, that St Luke had painted the first icon of the Theotokos. The Hodigitria icon (she who shows the way), which was prized in the capital until it was lost in the Ottoman invasion, was attributed to him.

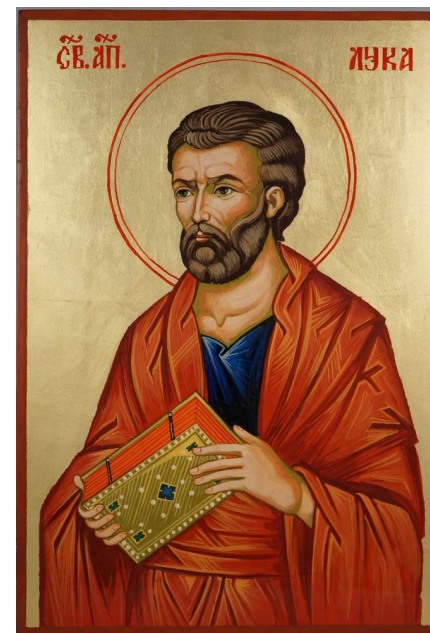
A Byzantine icon of the Theotokos revered in Rome was long held to be by St. Luke, but has been shown to be no earlier than the fifth century in origin. Called "Salus Populi Romani" (the salvation of the Roman people), it is enshrined in the Basilica of St. Mary Major and has been visited frequently by Pope Benedict XVI and Pope Francis.

**The Death of St. Luke**

We know little about St. Luke after the martyrdom of St Paul. He is said to have returned to Asia Minor, preaching in the Churches there, in Greece and the Balkans. According to a fairly early tradition he died in Boeotia, a district in central Greece, and was buried in Thebes, its principal city. After the founding of Constantinople, when many well-known relics were brought to the capital, St Luke's body was taken to Constantinople during the reign of the Emperor Constantius, son of St Constantine the Great.

Some time before 1187 – the circumstances are not known – the body was brought to Padua, Italy and enshrined in Padua's Church of St. Justina where it remains. In 1992 the Orthodox Metropolitan of Thebes requested a portion of the relics from the Roman Catholic Bishop of Padua. Carbon-14 dating and other tests were carried out on the body and on the reputed skull of St Luke enshrined at St. Vitus Cathedral in Prague. The skull and the body were demonstrated to be that of a single individual from Syria who died sometime after ad 72. The Bishop of Padua sent to Thebes the rib closest to the heart which was then reburied in the original tomb of St. Luke.

In December, 1997 the tomb began exuding myrrh and since then the interior of the tomb has been fragrant.





### DIVINE LITURGY INTENTIONS

**Today**                    **Antonio Solitro**  
**Our families and friends living and deceased**

**October 27**            **+James (JR) Rahall (2yr.)** Requested by Susan Rahall and family

**This morning's Coffee Hr. is hosted by Eric Ewanco**  
**Next Sunday's Coffee Hr. will be hosted by Susan Rahall & family**

**Please remember in your prayers:** George Arraj ,Jr., Peter Abraham, Mark Bashour, Robert Ghiz, Sadie Mirante, Charlotte Stockhaus, Richard Abraham, Sr., Frank Boyda, Carol Boyda, Bob Lynch, Joe Najemy, Michael Mooradian, Dennis Desplaines, Thomas Houde, Michael McNeil, Jeff McNeil, Jeannine McNeil, Linda Gartner, Billy Rahall, Dan Rahall, Lauren Abraham, Nicholas Haddad, Nicholas Halal, Elaine Foley, David Ahlin, Elio Kanaan, Susan Bailey, Jacqueline Ventriglia, Antonio Solitro, Thomas Houde, those affected by the natural disasters throughout the world, the people of Gaza, and for peace in Ukraine & the Middle East.

If there are people for whom you would like me to pray, please reach out and give me their names. Part of our vocation as Christians is to pray for each other, especially when someone is sick or suffering in any way.

#### Collection 10.6.2024

<b>Weekly</b>	<b>\$ 1,211</b>
<b>Candles</b>	<b>\$ 42</b>
<b>Coffee Hr.</b>	<b>\$ 21</b>
<b>Rent</b>	<b>\$ 2,000</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 3,274</b>

**PLEASE PRAY FOR INCREASED  
GENEROSITY TO THE PARISH!**

**GOD BLESS YOU!**

#### Last Week's Collection

<b>Weekly</b>	<b>\$ 969</b>
<b>Candles</b>	<b>\$ 43</b>
<b>Coffee Hr.</b>	<b>\$ 35</b>
<b>Diocesan</b>	<b>\$ 25</b>
<b>Picnic</b>	<b>\$ 50</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 1,122</b>

**PLEASE PRAY FOR INCREASED  
GENEROSITY TO THE PARISH!**

**GOD BLESS YOU!**

**Welcome to any visitors we have with us this morning! We are happy to have you worship with us.**

**Please join us downstairs in the church hall for the coffee hour so that we can get to know each other better and answer any questions you may have about the parish or the Melkite Church.**

#### BISHOP'S APPEAL UPDATE

**To date, we have contributed \$2,390 to the Appeal. Our parish goal is \$8,000. We're doing a great job, so please keep it up! With your help, we can reach and even surpass our goal. For any amount we raise over our goal, we get 50% back from the Diocese!**

**There is much work to be done to strengthen and expand the mission of the Melkite Church in the United States. Each of us needs to do what we can to make the Appeal a success! Your contribution helps make that possible! If you have already made a donation, thank you! If not, please prayerfully consider donating to the Bishop's Appeal.**

**God bless you for your generosity!**

**Fr. Bryan**



#### PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

**We will have a Parish Council meeting on Tuesday October 29 at 6:30PM. If you would like to serve on the Council, please plan to attend. We will elect officers and begin to plan a vision for the future of the parish.**

AFTER THE EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS (September 14) we begin the Cycle of St Luke. Selections from his Gospel are appointed to be read every day at the Divine Liturgy. About one month later, on October 18, we keep the remembrance of St Luke himself.

Aside from a few bits of information in the Scriptures we knew little about St. Luke, even though he composed a substantial part of the New Testament itself. Besides the Gospel St Luke composed the Acts of the Apostles as the second part of the story of Christ and the early Church (cf., Acts 1:1). Some commentators think that St Luke also had a part in writing the Epistle to the Hebrews.

Luke was a companion of St Paul, probably since his stay at Troas, on the coast of Asia Minor. It is here that St Luke begins speaking of Paul and his companions as “we” (Acts 16:10). Luke is mentioned as St Paul’s companion in two epistles, Colossians and Philemon, both written towards the end of Paul’s life. When St Paul appealed to Caesar, St Luke accompanied him from Caesarea to Rome (cf., Acts 28:16). Towards the end of St Paul’s life, it seem that Luke was his only companion (cf., 2 Tim 4:11).

#### **Luke and Antioch**

Ancient authors speak of Antioch as Luke’s birthplace (Eusebius’ *Church History III* and *Gospel Questions IV*) while St Paul says that he was a physician (Col 4:14). It seems that he was not a Jew. In the same passage others are mentioned as Jews but Luke is not. “*Aristarchus, my fellow prisoner greets you with Mark, the cousin of Barnabas, about whom you received instructions (if he comes to you, welcome him), and Jesus, who is called Justus. These are my only fellow workers for the kingdom of God who are of the circumcision*” (Colossians 4:10-11).

As a native of Antioch Luke was likely a Greek but he may have been one of the many Greek proselytes to Judaism in the city, which also had a notable Jewish population. In the first-century AD proselytes to Judaism were generally pagans (Greeks and Romans) who had come to believe in one God, worshipped in the synagogue and observed the morality of the Jews. They had not accepted circumcision, nor did they observe ceremonial laws. Many of them came to accept Jesus as the Christ.

#### **Did St. Luke See Christ?**

One tradition, first mentioned in the *Panarion* of Epiphanius, says that St. Luke was one of the Seventy, the second circle of disciples called by Christ. He is often mentioned in commentaries as the unnamed companion of Cleopas who encountered the risen Christ on the road to Emmaus. This idea is even found in our Menologion, the liturgical book containing the service for his feast.

Others, however, say that there was no evidence that Luke, an educated Greek from Antioch, had been in Galilee or Judea during Christ’s ministry, although it cannot be ruled out. In the first verses of the Gospel Luke describes himself as having investigated everything carefully, which is why he wrote this narrative for Theophilus. This suggests to many that Luke was not recording first-hand impressions but compiling the reminiscences of others.

Perhaps the liturgical designation of Luke as an apostle and as one of the Seventy resembles calling St Paul one of the Twelve. “Twelve” and “Seventy” were understood in the early Church as designations of office rather than as historical references.

#### **Prokimenon**

**Reader:** You, O Lord, will keep us and preserve us always from this generation.

**People:** You, O Lord, will keep us and preserve us always from this generation.

**Reader:** Save me, O Lord, for there is no longer any holy man, for truthfulness has vanished from among the children of men.

**People:** You, O Lord, will keep us and preserve us always from this generation.

**Reader:** You, O Lord, will keep us

**People:** And preserve us always from this generation.

#### **Epistle: Gal. 6: 11-18**

#### **Alleluia**

Your favor, O Lord, I will sing forever; from generation to generation, my mouth will proclaim your fitfulness.

**Verse:** For you have said, “My kindness is established forever.” In heaven you have confirmed your faithfulness

#### **Gospel: Lk 8:27-39**

### **THANKSGIVING FOOD DRIVE**

**This year, we will again be collecting food for Thanksgiving dinners and delivering them to Pernet Family Health Services. Please take a form from the back of the church. More detail will be forthcoming. This is an opportunity to help our brothers and sisters who may be experiencing food insecurity during this time.**

**Thanks in advance for your generosity!**