

The Twenty-Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time

OCTOBER 17, 2021

A Prayer to St. Joseph, Defender of Life

Dearest St. Joseph,
at the word of an angel,
you lovingly took Mary into your home.
As God's humble servant, you guided
the Holy Family on the road to Bethlehem,
welcomed Jesus as your own son
in the shelter of a manger,
and fled far from your homeland
for the safety of both Mother and Child.
We praise God that as their faithful protector,
you never hesitated to sacrifice
for those entrusted to you.
May your example inspire us also
to welcome, cherish, and safeguard
God's most precious gift of life.
Help us to faithfully commit ourselves
to the service and defense of human life
—especially where it is
vulnerable or threatened.
Obtain for us the grace
to do the will of God in all things.
Amen.



ST. LUKE THE EVANGELIST

October 18

Early historians said this author of the third Gospel and the Acts of the Apostles was born to a pagan family in Antioch (Turkey) and converted to Christianity. According to Paul's letters and Acts, he was a doctor and Paul's companion during his later journeys and imprisonment in Rome. Luke's New Testament writings in Greek were for gentiles, extending to them the salvation promised to Israel. He is the patron of physicians and surgeons and, because of a legend that he painted a Marian icon, of painters.