
18 MONDAY

FEAST of St LUKE
MONDAY, 29th WEEK of the YEAR

2 Tim 4: 10-17
Ps 144: 10-13, 17-18
Luke 10: 1-9

When St Paul was writing his second letter to his companion and disciple, Timothy, he had St Luke with him, Luke who gave his name to the third gospel and put together the Acts of the Apostles. In that book, Luke tells us a lot about Paul's journeys, work and preaching, and evidently traveled with him some of the time as his companion. In his gospel, Luke tells how Jesus selected and sent out a large number of disciples who were to precede Him to the places He would visit. And, notably, He sent them in pairs. It's also Luke who tells us about a pair of disciples walking together to Emmaus on Easter day. Companionship on a journey is a clear theme, whether the journey of life, going or being sent on a mission, preparing the way of the Lord. The work and mission the Lord gives is not for a solo effort or in isolation: a Christian is always in a community, even if sometimes he/she is physically alone in their mission or ministry. A very old Christian spiritual tradition is that of 'accompaniment', going along with someone, being a soul-friend or spiritual guide. Do I have a soul-friend, to encourage and guide and strengthen me? Who is my "Luke" to share with me God's word? Praying for labourers to be sent to the harvest, let me be aware that I too am being sent, and am sent with others, perhaps with one special 'other' who is to be my partner in mission, partner on the journey. Who is my "Luke"? and for whom am I, perhaps, their "Luke"?

Text wordcount: 275