ΤΟΝ ΘΕΟΝ ΣΟΥ
ΜΗΤΗΡ ΘΥ

# PHYSICIAN'S PRAYER

**O Divine Physician of souls and bodies, our holy Redeemer, Jesus Christ, Who during your mortal life showed special love for the sick, healing them by the touch of Your almighty hand: we, called to the arduous mission of physicians, adore You and acknowledge You as our supreme model and support.**

**May our minds, hearts, and hands always be guided by You, so that we may merit the praise and honour which the Holy Spirit ascribes to our profession** (cf. Sir 38)**. Increase in us the awareness that we are, in some way, Your collaborators in protecting and promoting human life, and instruments of Your mercy.**

**Enlighten our minds in the arduous struggle against the countless illnesses of the body. May we use science and its advances rightly, so that the causes of illness may not remain hidden from us, nor its symptoms mislead us; and may we, with sound judgment, be able to prescribe the remedies provided by Your Providence.**

**Enlarge our hearts with Your love, so that, recognizing You in the sick**
**—especially in those most abandoned—**
**we may respond with tireless care to the trust they place in us.**

**Grant that, following Your example, we may be compassionate and fatherly, sincere in giving counsel, diligent in caring, and unwilling to deceive; gentle in speaking of the mystery of suffering and death; and, above all, steadfast in defending Your holy law of respect for life against the assaults of selfishness and disordered desires.**

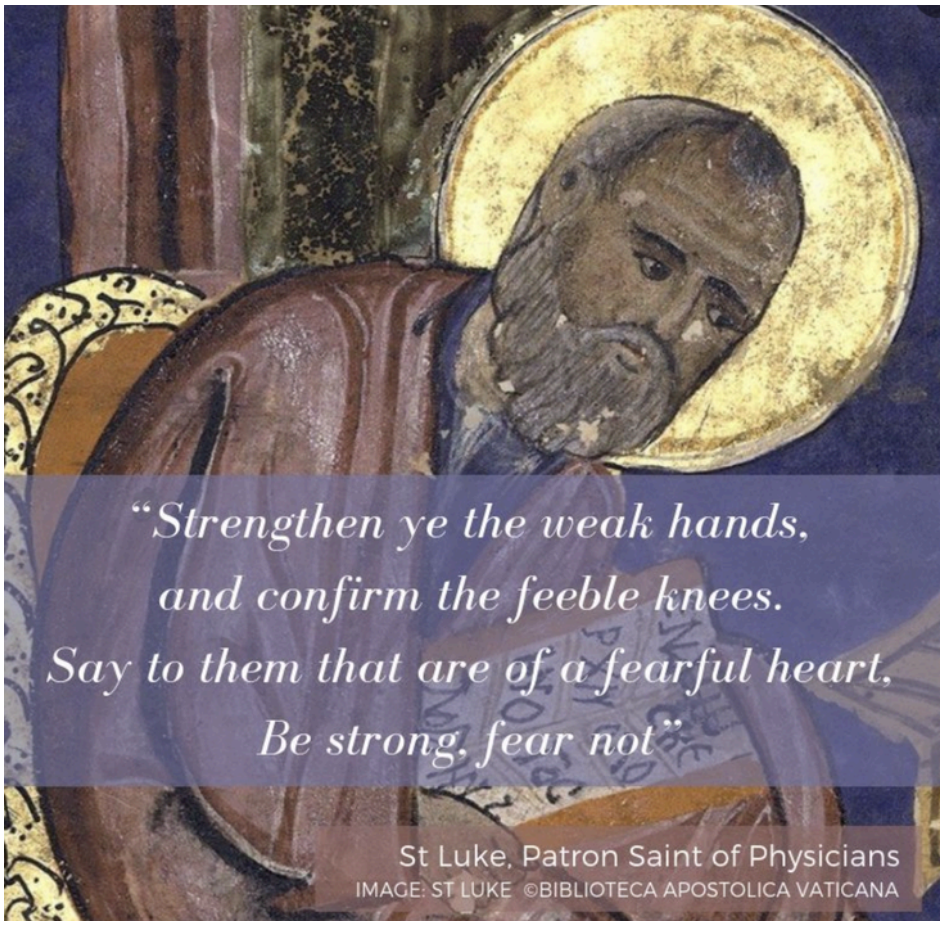
**As physicians who glory in Your name, we promise that our work will always be carried out in observance of the moral order and under the authority of its laws.**

**Finally, grant that, through our Christian way of life and the proper exercise of our profession, we may one day deserve to hear from Your lips the blessed sentence promised to those who visited You in the sick among their brothers and sisters: "Come, you that have received a blessing from my Father, take possession of the kingdom which has been prepared for you since the foundation of the world."**
(Mt 25:34)**. Amen.**

*The Venerable Pope Pius XII*, Acta Apostolicae Sedis – 8th July AD 1957

*Front cover: a beautiful Greek Orthodox icon showing Jesus Christ, the Blessed Virgin Mary and St. Luke the Physician, guiding a Christian physician as he tends to the sick.*

# ST LUKE THE EVANGELIST




Saint Luke, the Evangelist, was a Greek doctor; he was called "Our Beloved Luke, the Physician" by the peripatetic Saint Paul of Tarsus (Col. 4:14). There is much evidence of Saint Luke's medical background throughout his Gospel. For example, when the other two synoptic evangelists recorded Christ's warning that a rich man will have no more ease passing through the gates of Heaven than would a camel passing through the eye of a needle, they used the household term for a woman's sewing needle. On the other hand, Saint Luke uses the Greek word for a surgeon's suturing needle.
At another point, in telling the story of the woman who suffered from haemorrhage, Saint Luke – keenly aware of the mercenary pitfalls of his profession — adds the sardonic observation that the woman had already spent all of her money seeking the advice of many physicians, and yet had been helped by not one of them (Luke 8:43-48 vs Matthew 9:20-22).

Saint Luke alone of the evangelists recounts Christ's stunning allegory of compassion and selflessness in the context of providing healing care for the helpless, the injured and afflicted — the Parable of the Good Samaritan (Luke 10:29-37).

An inherently pro-life physician, Saint Luke uses the same Greek word for "baby", whether writing about a baby in the womb or a babe in the manger; and it is he who recounts how Saint John the Baptist, while still in the womb of Saint Elizabeth, leapt for joy at the approach of Jesus, unborn but very much alive, within the womb of his Virgin Mother (Luke 1:39-45). Finally, within his Gospel, Jesus makes His only reference to us practitioners of medicine: "Physician, heal thyself!" (Luke 4:23).

"Strengthen the weak hands, and confirm the feeble knees" is a well-known biblical call to encouragement found in Isaiah 35:3-4 and referenced in the New Testament in Hebrews 12:12.

Cut along the fold to make the front into a prayer card

# St Patrick's Roman Catholic Church

*The Edinburgh Oratory in Formation*
*and Shrine of the Ven. Margaret Sinclair*

Clergy: Fr Ninian Doohan (Moderator), Fr Gerard Hatton & Fr Davide Redaelli

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## CATHOLIC MEDICAL ASSOCIATION

The inaugural meeting to establish a branch of the Scottish Catholic Medical Association will meet here at St Patrick's on Friday 20th November at 7.30pm. The meeting will feature an invited guest speaker involving a topic of vital interest to all those in the medical and healthcare profession, opportunity for discussion, and the planning of future meetings, in an environment of unity, solidarity and prayer. Contact Isla.tierney@icloud.com

Thereafter future meetings will take place on the First Friday of the month. On every First Friday we already have 5.45pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, concluding at 6.30pm with Benediction, before the 6.45pm Holy Mass. The focus of the First Friday centres around devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus, symbol of Divine Love. At 7.30pm the meeting of the nascent Branch would take place following a similar pattern of a featured talk, discussion, hospitality, fraternity and prayer. Dates for your diary:

Friday 4th December 2026; Friday 1st January 2027 (Exposition and Mass, but no meeting); Friday 5th February; Friday 5th March; Friday 2nd April; Friday 7th May; Friday 4th June, Friday 2nd July (Exposition and Mass, but no meeting); Friday 3rd August (Exposition and Mass, but no meeting); Friday 3rd September; Friday 1st October; *Sunday 17th October, Annual 11am "White Mass"* (closest Sunday to 18th October, St Luke's Day) also *Monday 18th October 5.45pm Mass for St Luke;* Friday 5th November; Friday 3rd December.

**Scottish Catholic Medical Association (SCMA) Autumn meeting and AGM 2026**
Talk on 'Magnifica Humanitas & A.I. in healthcare' by Mr. Naoise Grenham, Senior Policy & Research Analyst for the Catholic Bishops' Conference of England & Wales. 2pm & 3.30pm AGM Glasgow University Catholic Chaplaincy, Turnbull Hall 15 Southpark Terrace, Glasgow, G128LG RSVP by 29/10 to scottishcma@gmail.com for catering purposes. https://scottishcma.co.uk/

**Catholic Medical Association (CMA) Annual Conference**
Saturday 21st-22nd November 2026. Location: Our Lady of Lourdes, London, E11 2PR
https://catholicmedicalassociation.org.uk/



St Patricks is a parish of the Archdiocese of St Andrews & Edinburgh, a charity registered in Scotland No. SC008540