



Saint of the Week

Barnabas

First Century

Feast Day—June 11

The story of this early missionary, a Cypriot Jew called Joseph, is told in the Acts of the Apostles. He was named Barnabas (son of encouragement) by the Twelve Apostles when he sold property and gave them the money (4:36-37). He introduced the convert Paul to the apostles (9:27), was

officially sent by the Jerusalem church to Antioch (11:22-26), was set apart with Paul by the Spirit for a mission to Cyprus (13:2), attended the Council of Jerusalem (15:12), and returned to Cyprus with Mark (15:36-41). By tradition, he was martyred there.



Acts 12:1-3

Now there were in the Church at Antioch prophets and teachers:

Barnabas, Symeon who was called Niger, Lucius of Cyrene, Manaen who was a close friend of Herod the tetrarch, and Saul.

While they were worshiping the Lord and fasting, the Holy Spirit said,

“Set apart for me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them.” Then, completing their fasting and prayer, they laid hands on them and sent them off.