

Today is the memorial of the Apostle Barnabas.

Barnabas was originally from the island of Cyprus, was a Jewish convert to Christianity, and after St. Paul's conversion, introduced him to the Apostles.

Having been sent to Antioch as their bishop, he sought out Paul in Tarsus for assistance.

The two of them had many adventures in evangelization throughout Asia Minor, recorded in the Acts of the Apostles.

After a time working together, the two of them split up and continued their ministry separately.

He died a martyr in Cyprus in the year 61 AD.

Both Paul and Barnabas had ups and downs in their ministry - both together and apart.

This should remind us that in the Christian life, we too will experience all sorts of turns of events.

The key is to realize that God knows what He is about. And with the grace of the Holy Spirit we can live the law of Christ - the law of Love.

As we approach this altar to receive the Sacred Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity of Jesus Christ ... let us pray for the grace to persevere in our mission as disciples of Jesus Christ.