

June 11th: St. Barnabas, Apostle

Gospel text (Mt 10,7-13): Jesus said to his disciples, «Go and proclaim this message: The kingdom of heaven is near. Heal the sick, bring the dead back to life, cleanse the lepers, and drive out demons. You received this as a gift, so give it as a gift».



Illustration: Pili Piñero

Today, we celebrate the apostle Barnabas. From the beginning he was generous: he sold a field he owned and brought the money to the feet of the Apostles.. He brought St. Paul to the Apostles, when all were afraid of him and, with Paul, they opened the apostolate to all peoples. His apostolic zeal was an example, as he was putting into practice the Master's commandment: «Go and proclaim this message 'The kingdom of heaven is near'» (Mt 10:7).

—When we see somebody weakening or retreating, let us persevere just as Barnabas did, whose name means “brave man”, and “he who encourages and enthuses”. These are characteristics that we need today.