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Saint Barnabas: Apostle of Cyprus

Feast Day: 11 June

Saint Barnabas, one of the Seventy Apostles (Gospel of Luke, Chapter 10), was a pioneering figure in the early Church.

Born in Cyprus, Barnabas was originally named Joseph, but the apostles called him Barnabas, meaning "son of encouragement." His contributions to the spread of Christianity are well-documented in the Acts of the Apostles. Barnabas is known for his missionary journeys, particularly his partnership with Saint Paul, which was instrumental in spreading the Christian faith to the Gentiles. His efforts were foundational in establishing early Christian communities. In Orthodox tradition, he is venerated as a saint who exemplifies the virtues of evangelism and service.

Cyprus holds a special place in the legacy of Saint Barnabas, not only as his birthplace but also as a key location in his missionary work. The Orthodox Church of Cyprus considers him one of its founding figures, and his impact is deeply embedded in the island's Christian heritage. Barnabas's return to Cyprus during his missionary journeys led to the establishment of the first Christian communities on the island. The Monastery of Saint Barnabas, near Famagusta, stands as a testament to his enduring influence, serving as a place of pilgrimage and spiritual significance.

For further reading, click the links below:

[Saint Barnabas of the Seventy](#)

[Monastery of Saint Barnabas](#)

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