



*It is difficult to realize how much good a detached person is able to do in the Church.
The reason for this is that detachment shows a deep faith.*

*A person who abandons himself to the Providence of God is like a sailor who
puts out to sea without sails or oars. Beg God through the intercession
of Saint Barnabas for the disinterestedness that is so necessary in your profession,
and on your part, strive to make this virtue your own.*

MED. 134.1

De La Salle

Reflection by Josefina Burgos - Philipines

“To seek to procure only God’s glory as far as one is able and as God requires”. This Lasallian prayer and way of life aptly reflects how St. Barnabas’ life offers a powerful reflection on the virtues of faith, detachment, and generosity in the life of a Christian. Barnabas, whose name means “son of encouragement,” exemplifies these qualities, demonstrating the deep impact a life fully entrusted to God can have on the Church and its mission. One of the most striking characteristics of Saint Barnabas is his radical detachment from material possessions. As narrated in the Acts of the Apostles, Barnabas sold his land and placed the proceeds at the feet of the Apostles (Acts 4:36-37). T

his act of generosity reflects not only his faith but also his recognition that the treasures of this world pale in comparison to the treasures of God’s Kingdom. In a world often driven by consumerism, Barnabas’ selflessness reminds us of the enabling influence of trusting fully in God’s providence. His example inspires and challenges us to examine our attachment to worldly goods and to consider how we might use our resources to serve others. *How far can we go and how much can we give to sustain our mission?* In serving as a bridge between Paul and the Christian community in Jerusalem, St. Barnabas displayed a profound spiritual generosity encouraging others to be converted through his witness.

As educators, parents, or leaders, Saint Barnabas’ life offers an important lesson in the power of encouragement and tender care. Just as he worked tirelessly for the spiritual growth of the early Christians, we are called to nurture those entrusted to our care with generous love and kindness. When we act with the same goodness and faith that Barnabas exhibited, we not only inspire others to live as true Christians but also witness the transformative power of God’s grace in their lives. On this feast of Saint Barnabas, let us pray for the grace to imitate his detachment, faith, and generosity. May we, like Barnabas, become instruments of encouragement and channels of God’s love, always striving to lead others closer to Him.