

# **Liturgy Alive of Feast of Saint Barnabas, Apostle**

## **Introduction**

Of noble birth, he did not consider his riches his own private property. He spent it in the service of his people, defended the poor and the oppressed and spoke out against injustice. Later, as a priest and a bishop, he continued his prophetic role. This displeased the established order and he was murdered at the altar during a eucharistic celebration. He is the patron saint of Poland.

## **Opening Prayer**

Compassionate God,  
with joy and admiration we celebrate today  
St Stanislaus, the patron saint of Poland.  
May we follow his example  
of caring for the poor,  
of being the prophetic voice that speaks out  
for victims of injustice and discrimination.  
Do not let us keep to ourselves  
the treasures of the gifts and goods we have  
but make us place them in the service  
of people in need.  
This we ask you through Christ our Lord.

## **Prayer over the Gifts**

Lord our God,  
we bring this bread and wine before you  
as signs that we want to be one with Jesus  
in his self-giving for the sake of others  
until it cost him his life.  
Make us generous and available  
to anyone who needs us,  
like your Son, who lives with you  
and with us, now and for ever.

## **Prayer after Communion**

Our living God,  
where can we learn better  
to live by the values of the gospel  
than by celebrating the eucharist with Jesus?  
Make us listen to him  
when he tells us how we have to live.  
By the bread of life may he give us the strength  
to live as he has taught us.  
Grant us this through Christ our Lord.