

Homily  
Memorial of Saints Timothy and Titus, bishops  
January 26, 2024

Yesterday, we celebrated the conversion of St. Paul. During the Novena leading up to this great Feast, we discussed how each of us is on a journey and our own conversion is a continual, never-ending process. Each of us has a choice and each day begins anew.

Today, we celebrate the Memorial of Saints Timothy and Titus, bishops and companions of St. Paul. They were called by God to share in the apostolic ministry of St. Paul, to go forth to preach and draw many souls to heaven. They loved St. Paul and followed his lead in their own faith journey. They experienced their own conversions while working closely with St. Paul.

We have the same opportunity. We all share in the same faith and the same call to conversion. And we all have companions to help us along our way. Whether it is our spouse or a close friend, we have someone we can confide in. We also are a companion to others as their support. We are in this together.

We also have those who have gone before us, especially those recognized as saints, such as Timothy and Titus, who have given us an example to follow. And the one thing we all have in common is our desire to eventually achieve our journey's end, a place at the heavenly banquet.

Every step of the way, whether we are walking steadily or stumbling and tripping, we are heading in the same direction toward the same goal. We lean on each other, we seek wisdom and guidance, and we rely on the support of our Lord and Savior who has given us the best example to follow and the best support in His Sacrament of His Body and Blood, which we will soon see become present on this altar and will soon partake. In doing so, we become ever more closely connected to Him and to one another.

Just as Jesus sent the seventy-two other disciples in pairs, we are not alone on this journey, in our mission. The choice is ours to say yes or no, but we can always rely on the support of the Church.

I remember while in formation, the four of us from Covington and the 19 men from the Archdiocese would rely on each other. There were times when one or more of us would be at our wit's end, but the rest of us would provide support so that we all continued on our journey towards ordination. When one of us struggled, we all struggled. Together, we survived. All of us struggled at one time or another, but together we made it.

Good people will struggle the most, because evil can't stand to see us succeed and will try to tear us down. That's why we need to rely on each other, rely on the angels and saints, and especially on the Sacraments. Just don't give up; our struggle is a virtue in itself, and together we will succeed.