

- 1 The greatest explosion to occur in modern times took place on the night of 27th/28th August in 1883. The volcano on the island of Krakatoa in Indonesia erupted. It is estimated that the explosion was heard over 8% of the Earth; certainly it was heard 3,000 miles away (4,800 km). The “*tsunamis*” (often called “tidal waves”) reached as high as 35 metres (120 feet), and they travelled 8,000 miles (13,000 km) before dying out. The huge waves killed about 36,000 people.
- 2 Ash and dust from Krakatoa reached a height of 34 miles (55 km) into the atmosphere. 10 days later, dust fell over 3,000 miles (5,000 km) away. Fine dust was carried around the upper atmosphere for at least 3 years, resulting in brilliant colours in the sunrise and sunset across the world during that time. These coloured skies were caused by the refraction (bending) of the light rays from the sun by the tiny dust particles, in the same way as water droplets in the sky on a sunny day can cause a rainbow.
- 3 *Let us pray:*

**Lord God, Creator of light  
at the rising of your sun  
each morning,  
let the greatest of all lights - your love -  
rise, like the sun,  
within my heart.  
Amen.**

This is an excerpt from the page of this date in  
*'Praying Each Day of the Year'*,  
a 3-volume book  
by Nicholas Hutchinson, FSC.

For details:

<http://www.matthew-james.co.uk/>

Could make use of a search engine  
to research this topic further.

This material is part of  
the prayer and education website  
of the De La Salle Brothers  
in Great Britain:  
[www.prayingeachday.org](http://www.prayingeachday.org)