

- 1 Henry Thoreau is best remembered as a philosopher - one who explores the meaning of life and the values to live by. He was from the United States. In the mid-1800s he made a decision to be prepared to go to jail for refusing to pay a tax which went to support a war with Mexico. It was his view that the war with Mexico was a means of extending slavery further south. A friend of Thoreau (another philosopher and writer), Ralph Waldo Emerson (who also hated slavery) visited him in jail, saying:
"Henry, *why are you here in jail?*"
Thoreau replied,
"Why are you not here in jail?"
- 2 Thoreau wrote:
*"Under a government
which imprisons anyone unjustly,
the true place for a just person
is in prison."*
- 3 Thoreau discussed and wrote about "*passive resistance*", a method of protest that the Indian leader Gandhi later adopted against British rule in his country. "*Passive resistance*" was also used by civil rights activists (such as Martin Luther King in the USA) in the 1960s.
- 4 *Let us pray in the words of Saint Ignatius:*
**Teach us, good Lord,
to give and not to count the cost;
to fight and not to heed the wounds;
to toil and not to seek for rest;
to labour and to ask for no reward,
save that of knowing
that we do your will.
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