

1 This was the birthday in 1874 of Ernest Shackleton, who would become an explorer of the South Pole. In the London 'Times' newspaper, Shackleton printed a small advertisement:

2 *"Men wanted for hazardous journey.
Small wages, bitter cold,
long months of complete darkness,
constant danger, safe return doubtful.
Honour and recognition
in case of success."*

3 5,000 people replied to the advertisement, and Sir Ernest Shackleton selected 27 to join him in his exploration of Antarctica, the South Pole.

4 Let's pause for a moment to think why it might have been that so many replied to that advertisement.

(pause...)

5 *Let us pray:*

**God our Father,
there are many difficulties
and challenges in life,
and we see or experience
more of them
each day we live.**

**Give us the power of your Holy Spirit
that we may have courage and
determination,
and may live in such a way
that we encourage one another.**

**Enable us to transform
whatever is negative,
and remain positive in attitude
throughout our lives.**

**Lighten our darkness
and keep us safe. 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