

10 JANUARY

- 1 All British stamps bear the head of the Queen or King reigning at the time. Other than that, what is unique about British stamps compared with those of all other countries?
- 2 Stamps of every country - except Britain - bear the name of the country. When stamps first appeared, there was no need to include the country's name to distinguish them from stamps of other countries, since only Britain was then producing stamps.
- 3 On this day in 1840, Rowland Hill introduced a system of paying to the Post Office a penny for a stamp which would be stuck on the envelope. The penny stamp would cover costs of delivery of letters throughout the United Kingdom. Before that time it would be the person receiving a letter who had to pay.
- 4 When letters were delivered, time was being wasted in waiting for people to answer the door. Another invention of Rowland Hill then, was to have a slit in doors through which letters could be put - hence our letter boxes in doors.
- 5 *Let us pray:*

**Commemorative stamps, Lord,
call to mind famous people,
sport and inventions,
and nature, art and history.**

**As I value what these images represent,
lead me particularly, Lord,
to value every individual person
- made as we all are
in your image and likeness.**

**Inspire me to show appreciation
to all who are a part of my life.**

**May I use well
all the opportunities that come my way
to make my part of the world
a better place. 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