

(See also 25/26 January)

- 1 In the New Testament there are 27 short books. We have the 4 gospels, then the “Acts of the Apostles”, telling of the actions of the first Christians after the resurrection of Jesus. The last book of the Bible is called “Revelation” or “Apocalypse”. The rest of the New Testament is a collection of 21 letters - 13 of them were written by Saint Paul.
- 2 Paul is mentioned often in the “Acts of the Apostles”. We can read this short passage, for example, in which we find a word repeated:
- 3 *“Paul sent for the disciples.  
He spoke words of encouragement to them,  
said goodbye,  
and then set off for Macedonia.  
He gave much encouragement  
to the people he met on his journey,  
and then made his way into Greece.”*  
(Acts 20<sup>1-2</sup>)
- 4 The word that appears twice is “*encouragement*”. Let’s pause for a moment to focus on one person whom I can set out to encourage today, thinking of specific ways in which I can encourage that person.  
(pause...)
- 5 *Let us pray:*  
**Lord, we ask you to inspire us  
to encourage others  
by what we say and do today.  
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)