

2 JULY

- 1 After the defeat of France at the start of the Second World War, the British Channel Islands were occupied by the Germans on 2nd July 1940.
- 2 The islands of Jersey, Guernsey, Alderney and Sark were the only British territory occupied by Hitler's troops. The Nazis thought it was good propaganda to be able to show photographs of British policemen saluting German officers, and photographs of German soldiers beside road signs in English.
- 3 Hitler was convinced that Britain would try to recapture the Channel Islands before or shortly after landing in France on what we now know as 'D-Day'.
- 4 Hitler had very strong defences put up along the coastline where he thought the Allies might land - along the coast of the Channel Islands, as well as the coast of northern France. The defences were called "*The Atlantic Wall*", and a quarter of all those defences were around the Channel Islands. Many Russian slave-workers lost their lives in building those defences for the Germans.
- 5 *Let us pray:*

God our Father,
in the Bible you tell me
to "*choose life and not death*".
Inspire me
in the choices I will make today
- that I may choose
what is positive and life-giving
and good.
So help me to protect and defend myself
from influences that are not good.
Keep me on the right path
to choose values
that are lasting and beneficial.
Keep my eyes open
whenever there is injustice,

**that I may be willing
to stand with those
who are treated unfairly,
and defend those who need support.
Deliver us, Lord, from all that is evil.
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