

(See also 16 July.)

- 1 Wine-producing areas of France lost money whenever their wine went sour. Louis Pasteur discovered that this was due to the presence of micro-organisms, often called bacteria or “germs”. He showed that heating sugar solutions before using them would kill off any bacteria.
- 2 Louis Pasteur also showed that milk can be prevented from going sour if it is first heated to a high temperature under pressure. We now call this “pasteurised milk”, after his name.
- 3 A 9-year old boy, Joseph Meister, was brought to him, having been bitten badly by a rabid dog. Pasteur injected him with a vaccine of a weakened form of the killer disease, produced from the bodies of infected animals. It was on this day in 1885 that young Joseph Meister recovered from the rabies that otherwise would have killed him.
- 4 Before Pasteur’s discoveries about germs, 6 people died out of every 10 who had operations. He started the use of disinfectants to kill germs in operating theatres.
- 5 The name of Louis Pasteur became widely known throughout France, and he received national honours for his scientific achievements. He was given a state funeral in Paris’ Cathedral of Notre Dame.
- 6 *Let us pray:*

**Lord, I need to keep an eye
on the small things in my life
as well as the bigger issues,
because my thoughts
become my attitude,
my attitude becomes my words,**

**my words become my actions,
and my actions form my character.
Be there, Lord,
in that instant before every thought,
that I may choose wisely
my thoughts and my attitude,
my words and my actions,
so that I grow
as the person you call me to be.
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