

(See also 15 July.)

- 1 One of France's greatest scientists was Louis Pasteur, who lent his name to the process of "pasteurising" milk. He became well-known in his lifetime, receiving national honours in recognition for his scientific achievements.
- 2 One day he was travelling by train and was reading the Bible to himself. The man who happened to be sitting next to Louis Pasteur did not know who he was, but saw that he was reading about Jesus feeding 5,000 people with five loaves and two fish. The man said to him: "You don't believe that story, do you?"
- 3 "Yes, I do believe it," said Pasteur. The other man, not knowing who he was speaking to, said, "Well, **I** don't believe it. I'm a scientist, you see, and that story doesn't fit in with science."
- 4 At that point the train slowed and the man was about to get off. He said goodbye, giving his name. He was more than surprised to hear in response, "And my name is Louis Pasteur." The man, claiming to be a scientist, had been very dismissive of the religious beliefs of Louis Pasteur, one of the world's greatest scientists.
- 5 *Let us pray:*

**Lord, I ask for the gifts
of knowledge and wisdom
and understanding.**

**What I pray for
I intend to work at,
so that I may develop
an open mind,
a thirst for knowledge,
and a wisdom that makes good use
of my knowledge and experience.**

**I know that any gifts are useless
if I do not also have
love and concern for others,
and so I ask that you inspire me
to live in such a way
that I am caring and compassionate
and promote understanding
between people.**

**May others respect me, Lord,
as much as I respect them. 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