

- 1 This was a momentous day in 1969 because TV pictures showed two people walking on the moon for the first time.
- 2 Apollo 11 had blasted off from Earth four days earlier. On this day hundreds of millions of television viewers across the world watched as their lunar module separated from the command module of Apollo 11, which continued to orbit the moon. The scenes, beamed back to Earth, showed the moon's surface becoming larger until the lunar module came to rest on an area of land called the Tranquillity Sea.
- 3 Neil Armstrong's words to the Command Centre back in Houston, Texas, were heard by millions:
"Houston. This is Tranquility Base. The Eagle has landed!"
- 4 A little later Neil Armstrong descended the ladder. As he left the last rung of the ladder, he said:
"That's one small step for a man; one giant leap for mankind."
5. They collected 21 kg (47 lbs) of rock samples to return to the Earth, and they planted the American flag on the moon, saying that they landed there in peace and for all mankind. They also left behind on the moon a small sealed capsule which contains the words of one of the prayers of the Bible. It is Psalm 8, and we'll use that as our prayer today:

6 *Let us pray:*

**Lord, our God and King,
your greatness is seen
throughout the earth.**

- 7 **When I gaze at the heavens
which your fingers have formed,
and look at the moon and the stars
which you have set there,**

**I realise how small we are
in the majesty of your creation.**

- 8 **Yet you treasure us
above all that you have made,
and you give us control
over all the works of your hand
- animals both wild and tame,
birds in the air,
and the creatures of the sea.**
- 9 **Lord, our God and King,
your greatness is seen
throughout the earth.**

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