

- 1 A World Cup football match was held on this day in 1969 between two countries of Central America. A late penalty was awarded by the referee to El Salvador, against the neighbouring country of Honduras. El Salvador scored from the late penalty, and won the match 3-2. People had become so involved in supporting their national teams that wild riots started in both countries. Opposition fans in each country were beaten up, and looting took place.
- 2 Six days later - as a direct result of the football match - war broke out between the two countries. Before the war came to an end, two thousand soldiers were killed, and both El Salvador and Honduras suffered severe food shortages.
- 3 *Let us pray:*

**Lord, there are many places
in our world
where some people do not respect
the background and traditions
and culture of others.**

**We know that prejudice
can turn to hatred
and even to murder,
and such things often start
in simple ways.**

**Lead us to live in such a way
that our first reaction
is to think good of people,
focussing on the positive
before we ever see the negative.**

Amen.

 *Having beaten Honduras in that round of the World Cup, El Salvador was eliminated in the next round.*

 *Words by Grantland Rice, 1880-1954:
"For when the One Great Scorer comes
To write against your name,
He marks - not that you won or lost -
But how you played the game."*

 Come let us go up to the Lord; If I am lacking love; Lord make me a means; Make me a channel; O Lord, all the world; This is what Yahweh asks of you

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