

- 1 Britain's history would have been very different if the country had remained linked by land to the rest of Europe, instead of there being that wide strip of water we call the English Channel. In time of war the Channel has protected us from invasion and occupation.
- 2 The English Channel is 34km (21 miles) wide at its narrowest part across the Strait of Dover. Several attempts have been made to create a tunnel that would link Britain with mainland Europe. Tomorrow, 6th May, is the anniversary of the formal Opening of the Channel Tunnel in 1994. The Queen addressed the French President, Monsieur Mitterand, saying that the two nations complemented each other well, despite individual diversity and age-long rivalry. When uniting in a common cause (such as in the Second World War) unity between the two countries was very successful, she said.
- 3 The building of the Channel Tunnel reminds us to focus on what unites people rather than on what separates and divides.
- 4 *Let us pray:*

Lord,

**lead us to be peace-makers,
building connections
between individuals,
focusing on what unites people
rather than on what separates us
and highlights our differences.**

**Lord, it's easy to harm relationships;
instead,**

**give us the power of your Spirit
that we may build up and make new
the bonds between people.**

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