

1 On this day in 1982 Pope John Paul II started his Visit to Great Britain. Later in the day he met many sick and disabled people and gave them the Sacrament of the Sick. Only a year after being shot and seriously wounded, he spoke to those who were ill or disabled:

2 *"I myself have had a share in suffering, and I have known the physical weakness that comes with injury and sickness. It is precisely because I have experienced suffering that I am able to affirm with ever-greater conviction that nothing at all can ever separate us from the love of God.*

3 *"Dear friends, there is no force or power that can block God's love for you. Sickness and suffering seem to contradict all that is worthy, all that is desired. And yet no disease, no injury, no infirmity can ever deprive you of your dignity as children of God.*

4 *"We often find in the Gospels the loving bond of affection between Jesus and the sick or disabled. We believe in Christ's healing love, and we reaffirm that nothing will separate us from that love. Surely Jesus wishes to say: 'Be clean; be healed; be strong; be saved.' "*

5 *Let us pray:*

**Lord Jesus, we read in the gospel
that you spoke individually
to many people and said:**

"Be cured"; *Lk 5¹³*

"Get up and walk"; *Lk 5²⁴*

"What do you want me to do for you?"
Mt 20³²

"Of course I want to cure you: be healed";
Mt 8⁵

"Let what you want be done for you";
Mt 9²⁹

"Receive your sight"; *Lk 18⁴²*

"Receive back your hearing"; *Mk 7³⁴*

"Young man, arise"; *Lk 7¹⁵*

"Go, your son will live"; *Jn 4⁵⁰*

"Go, your faith has saved you." *Mk 10⁵²*

Knowing that you are present

in our midst,

we ask you today

to touch each one of us individually

and bring us your healing

of body, mind and spirit. 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