

9 NOVEMBER

- 1 For 40 years after the end of the Second World War in 1945, the Western World and the Communist World were hostile to each other. It was called the “*Cold War*”. Germany was still divided into East and West, and so was its former capital, Berlin.
- 2 In 1961 Communist East Germany had put up a 28-mile wall to stop its own citizens leaving for West Berlin. Some died as they tried to cross the Wall. Then, in 1989, there were mass demonstrations throughout the countries of Eastern Europe, protesting against the lack of freedom in those Communist countries. Their governments began to give way, and parts of the Berlin Wall were opened up to allow free access to the West.
- 3 On the night of the 9th/10th of November 1989, ordinary people used hammers to begin to demolish parts of the huge Berlin Wall.

4 *Let us pray:*

Lord,

**if I ever “build walls”,
cutting people off
or isolating myself
from the needs of others,
alert me to what I am doing.**

Open my eyes

**to see what unites people
rather than what divides us.**

Show me

**how to be inclusive
and build bridges between people
instead of being exclusive
and putting up walls that divide.**

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