

- 1 We pray today for all who are Scottish, as this is the feastday of the Patron of Scotland - Saint Andrew.
- 2 When Pope John Paul visited Britain in 1982, he spoke to the young people of Scotland. He mentioned Saint Andrew - Scotland's patron saint - as the disciple who led to Jesus the boy who had five loaves and two fish. Meanwhile the huge crowd were far from anywhere and had nothing to eat.
- This is what Pope John Paul said:
- 3 *"Jesus had been teaching a crowd of five thousand people about the Kingdom of God... As evening approached, one of the disciples - it was Saint Andrew - said: 'There is a small boy here with five loaves and two fish; but what is that among so many?' Jesus took the loaves and blessed them... Later the disciples collected twelve baskets of the fragments that were left over..."*
(Jn 6¹⁻¹⁴)
- 4 *"Saint Andrew gave Jesus all that there was available, and Jesus miraculously fed those five thousand people and still had something left over. It is exactly the same with your lives. Left alone to face the difficult challenges of life today, you feel conscious of your own inadequacy and feel afraid of what the future may hold for you. But what I say to you is this: place your lives in the hands of Jesus. He will accept you and bless you, and he will make such use of your lives as will be beyond your greatest expectations!"*
- 5 *In other words: surrender yourselves - like so many loaves and fishes - into the all-powerful, sustaining hands of God and you will find yourselves **transformed** with "newness of life", with "fullness of life".*
- 6 *Let us pray:*
- Lord,
you were given
five loaves and two fish.
I give you
all that I have
and all that I am,
ready to be transformed.
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