4 DECEMBER

- 1 The world's worst industrial accident took place in the early hours of yesterday the 3rd of December in 1984, as poisonous gas escaped from a pesticide factory. The cloud of highly toxic methyl isocyanate moved through the streets, engulfing people as they slept, over an area of 40 square kilometres. 800,000 people were living in the city. Of those people, 300,000 were injured, and as many as 10,000 people were killed.
- 2 Many of the survivors were blinded, or suffered liver and kidney failure. All had breathing difficulties. Doctors stated that most of those who survived will have long-term health problems.
- 3 This disaster took place in Bhopal, a city in central India.
- 4 Let us pray:

We pray today, Father, for the injured and sick who are still suffering from the after-effects of man-made or natural disasters.

We pray that those who have responsibilities may have a "feeling" for others and so grow in care and respect

for those whose lives they may influence.

For ourselves

and those that we care for, lead us to make our choices wisely, and accept responsibility for our own lives and for our choices and actions and their consequences.

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