

- 1 The Greek philosopher, Socrates, was sitting by the roadside one day, when he was approached by a traveller who was making his way towards Athens.
- 2 The traveller asked:
 "What sort of people live in Athens?"
 So Socrates asked him:
 "What sort of people live in *your* own town?"
 "Awful," the traveller said. "They are horrible, lying layabouts."
- 3 And Socrates replied:
 "I am *sorry* to tell you that you will find the people of Athens to be just the same as you have found your own people."
- 4 Soon another traveller came by, who also asked:
 "What sort of people live in Athens?"
 And Socrates asked him:
 "What sort of people live in *your* own town?"
 "Marvellous people," the second traveller said; "kind, generous, friendly, honest people."
- 5 Socrates smiled and said:
 "I am *pleased* to tell you that you will find the people of Athens to be just the same as you have found your own people!"
- 6 (*Pause...*)
- 7 *And so we pray:*

**Lord, we come before you as we are.
 We ask you to take away from us
 all that makes us less than human.
 Strengthen us
 with the power of your Spirit
 that our attitude and outlook
 may develop,
 and our "way of looking"
 may become more like yours.**

**Help us to remain positive -
 encouraging and appreciating
 one another,
 looking upon people
 in the same way that you do.
 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