16 FEBRUARY

- 1 Howard Carter, the archaeologist, and his patron, Lord Carnarvon (who gave him money in sponsorship) both researched and dug in the Valley of the Kings in Egypt to find some of the remains of the pharaohs, the rulers of Egypt from about 3000 years before Christ. Carter and Carnarvon hoped that they might find a tomb that had not been looted and its treasures stolen, as had happened to the other tombs and pyramids.
- 2 One of Howard Carter's workers discovered a set of steps under a pile of rubble. At the bottom of the steps was a sealed door which Carter opened. He had made one of the greatest archaeological discoveries of all time: this was the unopened tomb of Tutankhamen who had become Pharaoh as a young boy in about 1343 B.C., ruling for only nine years before his early death at about the age of 18. Carter was amazed to find its treasures still there statues, ornaments, furniture, vases and treasure chests.
- 3 A further door was discovered in that room and, on this day in 1923, the sealed door was opened. Carter peered in. From behind him, a voice was heard: "What do you see?"

"Wonderful things!" replied Carter.

4 Let us pray:

Lord Jesus,
as you touched
the eyes of the blind man,
touch us
so that our eyes may be opened
so that we can "really see"
the many wonderful things around us
and in our own lives.
Amen.



- The Tutankhamen exhibition toured the world
- Song: "What a wonderful world" by Louis
 Armstrong
- Some of the "wonderful things" we tend to take for granted - stars at night; intricacy of a flower; uniqueness of each fingerprint; different kinds of movement of a thumb; everyday miracle of birth; life of a tiny insect
- What "wonderful things" would each person like to see?
- See the first paragraph of the book's Introduction for several quotes on "wonder".
- Christ is our king; God's Spirit is in my heart; I give my hands

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