

- 1 On this day in 1914, the Archduke Ferdinand (the heir to the Austro-Hungarian Empire) was assassinated in Sarajevo in Bosnia. This became the spark that started the First World War in which about 19 million people were killed.
- 2 This also was the day on which the Treaty of Versailles was signed in 1919, at the end of that war. Although the First World War had ended 7 months earlier with an armistice, this treaty formally ended the war, setting severe penalties on those who had lost - particularly Germany.
- 3 Some parts of the Treaty of Versailles were unjust to Germany. That injustice fuelled the start of the Second World War in which about 60 million people lost their lives.
- 4 As peace between nations starts with individuals, let's pray first of all that each one of us here appreciates more and more the individuals who are part of our lives. Let's pray that we treat others fairly and with respect.
- 5 Let us pray:

Lord, may peace with justice come to our world, but let peace and justice start with the way each of us lives this day. 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