

22 NOVEMBER

- 1 In the early 1960s many primary schools still issued their students with blotting paper. It was used to absorb excess ink from writing with wooden pens that had metal nibs. After only a few words those pens had to be dipped into the inkwell to take up more ink.
- 2 In the 1930s in Hungary, Ladislao Biro produced thick quick-drying ink. He placed that ink into a thin capillary tube in a plastic casing. The pen had a rotating ball of metal at its point. No longer would people have to use inkwells or fountain pens, but his “biros” (as they became known) were very expensive at first.
- 3 Thousands of “biros” were used by members of the armed forces in Britain and America, and so became very popular, and they were then produced more cheaply. It was on this day in 1946 that they first went on sale in Britain.

4 *Let us pray:*

**God our Father,
until the time
of the printing press,
people copied the Gospel,
writing it by hand.
Slowly the Gospel took shape
- both on the page
and deep within themselves.
I ask that the Gospel
- the Good News of your love -
may be written in me
not with ink
but with the Spirit of God. 2 Cor 3³
Only then
will I grow as a credible witness
of the wealth of your love.**

- 5 **Day by day,
as the pages of my own life turn over,
remind me**

**that you write my name
on the palm of your hand. Is 49¹⁶
I ask this prayer
through Jesus,
who is your Word,
living amongst us. 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