

- 1 Some libraries throughout Britain and the United States - especially small ones - bear some wording on the building: *"Funded by Carnegie"*.
- 2 Tomorrow, 11th August, is the anniversary of the death in 1919 of Andrew Carnegie. He was born of a poor family in Scotland, and later emigrated to the United States, aged 13. There, in the State of Pennsylvania, he found work as a bobbin boy, replacing cotton bobbins in a mill, having to work 11 hours a day. Later he worked his way up in a telegraph office and with a railway company.
- 3 He had started with nothing, but became very wealthy in the Pullman Railway Company and by investing in land where there was coal, iron and oil. After the American Civil War he founded a company that produced iron railway bridges, and then he formed his own iron and steel corporation.
- 4 Although he had little education himself in school, he was always particularly interested in education and books. Whilst he was alive, Andrew Carnegie gave away more than \$350 million to projects dealing with education, culture and peace. 1,700 libraries across the United States and Britain received money from him.
- 5 Andrew Carnegie said:  
*"The man who dies rich,  
dies disgraced."*  
We can pause to ask ourselves what he may have meant by those words.  
*(pause...)*
- 6 *Let us pray:*

**Lord Jesus,  
you talked about the need for us  
to have our priorities right,  
and not to hoard possessions.**

**You said that where our treasure is,  
there our heart and commitment  
will really be.  
Touch our hearts  
that we may love people  
and use things  
- and never the other way around.  
Inspire us to seek first your kingdom  
and use our talents and gifts  
for the benefit of others. Amen.**

*"The man who dies rich,  
dies disgraced."*

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](http://www.prayingeachday.org)