

# 9 NOVEMBER

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- 1 For 40 years after the end of the Second World War in 1945, the Western World and the Communist World were hostile to each other. It was called the “*Cold War*”. Germany was still divided into East and West, and so was its former capital, Berlin.
- 2 In 1961 Communist East Germany had put up a 28-mile wall to stop its own citizens leaving for West Berlin. Some died as they tried to cross the Wall. Then, in 1989, there were mass demonstrations throughout the countries of Eastern Europe, protesting against the lack of freedom in those Communist countries. Their governments began to give way, and parts of the Berlin Wall were opened up to allow free access to the West.
- 3 On the night of the 9th/10th of November 1989, ordinary people used hammers to begin to demolish parts of the huge Berlin Wall.

4 *Let us pray:*

**Lord,**

**if I ever “build walls”,  
cutting people off  
or isolating myself  
from the needs of others,  
alert me to what I am doing.**

**Open my eyes**

**to see what unites people  
rather than what divides us.**

**Show me**

**how to be inclusive  
and build bridges between people  
instead of being exclusive  
and putting up walls that divide.**

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