

- 1 Today is “**United Nations Day**”, being the day on which the UN was established in 1945, after the world had seen what total war could do.
- 2 At the inaugural session of the United Nations in 1945 at the end of the Second World War, Britain’s Prime Minister - Clement Attlee - stated that

*“It is for the peoples of the world
to make their choice
between life and death.”*

- 3 We know that “peace” isn’t simply the “absence of war”, and so the UN seeks to promote good relationships between people and countries. The UN’s choices for “life” include working
 - for refugees,
 - in health care,
 - in the growing of food, and
 - in promoting science and culture.

- 4 A passage in one of the first books of the Bible has God speaking these words about “*choosing life*”:

*“I set before you
life or death,
blessing or curse.
Choose life, then,
so that you and your descendants
may live in my love.”*

(Deut 30¹⁹⁻²⁰)

- 5 *Let us pray about “choosing life”
in our own daily circumstances:*

**God our Father,
peace in our world
begins with the attitude and actions
of individual people.**

**We pray
that we may live in such a way
that we are positive in our attitude,
choosing “life”
in the small events of this day**

**- rather than choosing “death”
that comes from a negative attitude
of criticism and finding fault,
of doing others down
and being miserable.**

**In choosing
“life” rather than “death”,
living positively and cheerfully,
may we bring life to others.
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