

- 1 Off the coast of Northumberland in the North East, storms in the North Sea can be very strong. Yesterday, 7th September, marks the day in 1838 when rough storms brought out a response of great bravery.
- 2 Observing the storm was Grace Darling, the daughter of a lighthouse-keeper. The steamer '*Forfarshire*' with 63 people on board had run aground on an island. Grace could see 9 survivors clinging to a rock. Although she was small and her health was poor, the 22-year old Grace launched the small wooden rowing boat with her father, William. Together they rowed the mile to the survivors, across huge waves at the height of the storm.
- 3 When they set off from the lighthouse, they knew they would not be able to row back to land unless some of the survivors were fit enough to help. They rescued 4 men and a woman. William and two of the survivors rowed back to the wreck for the others.
- 4 Grace Darling was awarded a medal for her courage and bravery. She became a national heroine and, after many requests for a lock of her hair, she joked that she was going bald! Grace died of tuberculosis (T.B.) only 4 years later, aged 26.
- 5 *Let us pray:*

**Lord, we know that each of us
will experience difficulties
of various kinds
at different times in our lives.
We pray for courage at those times,
but we also pray
for courage and strength
to join others
and be of support
when *they* are in difficulty.
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