

- 1 In September 1997 a version of the 7-sided 50 pence coin was introduced in Britain - smaller than the original 50 pence. The larger coin had been introduced in 1973, the year that the United Kingdom joined what was then called the *"European Economic Community"*.
- 2 One of the versions of the large 7-sided 50 pence piece shows nine hands linked together in unity, representing the then nine members of what is now called the *"European Union"*. The hands shown on the coin were sculpted by David Wynne.
- 3 In a radio interview, David Wynne told of how the Queen sat for a sculpture of her face. He asked if he might touch her face, and the Queen mentioned that she was surprised that other sculptors had not asked that before. David Wynne said that the Queen went on to remark how important it is for parents to touch and cuddle their young children. "Touch" can convey care and love and support.
- 4 *Let us pray:*

**Lord Jesus,**  
**you took young children in your arms**  
**and blessed them.**  
**Many times we find in the Gospel**  
**that you touched people**  
**and cured them.**  
**Place your hands on us today**  
**that we may know**  
**your healing in our lives.**  
**May we live in such a way**  
**that we help to bring**  
**healing and peace and reconciliation**  
**to those who share our lives each day.**  
**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)