

- 1 Today is Saint George's Day, the patron saint of England, and we pray for all English people.
- 2 It is also the day on which William Shakespeare was born in 1564. He died on his birthday in 1616.
- 3 In his play, *Richard II*, (*the second*) Shakespeare has one of his characters say:

*"I count myself
in nothing else so happy
as in a soul
remembering my good friends."
(Richard II, Act 2, Scene 3)*

- 4 Each of us can think for a moment of a few individuals who have improved the quality of our lives, whom we remember as good friends.

(pause...)

- 5 In Shakespeare's play, *King Henry VI*, (*the sixth*) the king says:

*"O Lord, that lends me life,
Lend me a heart replete with thankfulness."
(King Henry the Sixth', Part 2, Act 1, Scene 1)*

- 6 *Let's take these ideas and pray:*

**Lord, as you lend me life,
lend me a heart full of thankfulness,
that I may treasure good friends
and be appreciative
of all who are part of my life.**

**Inspire me each day
to live positively and cheerfully,
living in such a way
that I express thanks
and encouragement
to others,
so that, together,
we may bring out the best
in each other.**

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