

- 1 One of the world's great painters, Vincent Van Gogh, was born in Holland in 1853. He lived briefly in England and Belgium, and then went to live in Paris with his brother, Theo, an art dealer, before moving to Arles in Provence, southern France.
- 2 He produced a drawing or a picture every day for the last few years of his life, but it's thought that he only sold one painting during his life-time, and he felt a failure as well as suffering from moods, depression, instability and even madness, cutting off part of his right ear.
- 3 He committed himself voluntarily to a mental asylum. There he continued to paint, and he produced a portrait of a doctor who helped him. That painting is called "*Portrait of Doctor Gachet*", and it became the world's most expensive painting on this day in 1990 when it was sold at auction for £45.5 million.
- 4 *Let's pray in silence for a moment  
for all who are going through  
great difficulties...*  
*(pause...)*
- 5 *Let's pray in silence  
that we may be people  
who support and encourage others...*  
*(pause ...)*
- 6 *Let's think in silence for a moment  
of two people  
to set out to encourage today...*  
*(pause...)*

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)