



*Walking With
John Baptist
de La Salle
in the
Footsteps
of
Jesus*

**A Collection of Quotations
For Each Day of the Year
From the Writings
Of
St. John Baptist de La Salle
1651-1719**

Brother Nicholas Hutchinson, FSC

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INTRODUCTION

Brother Nicholas Hutchinson, member of the District of Great Britain, is well-known among Lasallians for the many volumes of prayer resources and prayer services he has created over the years. His works are used and appreciated not only in his own country, but throughout the English-speaking world.

Brother Nicholas describes this booklet as a collection of short excerpts from the writings of John Baptist de La Salle for each day of the year. It is not intended to be an anthology of his writings. Instead, quite deliberately, the quotations are kept as short as possible. The hope is that they may offer clarity of focus for inspiration, reflection and prayer, especially if phrases are memorized for occasional reference later in the day.

Over a third of the excerpts match the date – whether of the feast days for which John Baptist de La Salle wrote, or of a letter he sent, or of a Lasallian anniversary.

Extracts are taken from the *Meditations for Sundays and Feasts*, the *Meditations for the Time of Retreat*, the *Letters*, the *Collection*, the *Memoir on the Beginning*, the *Personal Rules of John Baptist de La Salle*, the *Explanation of the Method of Interior Prayer*, the *Rule*, the *Conduct of the Christian Schools*, and the *Rules of Christian Decorum and Civility*.

Brother Nicholas' original version is intended primarily for Lasallians of the District of Great Britain. It includes references to British saints and special feasts. He has kindly authorized the Christian Brothers Conference Regional Office to substitute saints and special feasts of the United States and to adopt U.S. spelling and usage.

The United States/Toronto Region of the De La Salle Christian Brothers is grateful to Brother Nicholas Hutchinson for permitting this special United States version.

- January -

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(cf. Med 3:3)

1 January - *Feast of Mary, Mother of God*

I will often pray to God for you.
I wish you a happy and holy New Year,
and I am, my very dear Brother,
Devotedly yours in Our Lord,
De La Salle

*Letter 58 - To Brother Mathias in Mende:
from Paris, 13 January 1708*

2 January

I wish you and all the Brothers,
to whom I send my greetings,
a successful and happy New Year.

*Letter 125 - to Brother Barthelemy, Superior General:
from the Seminary of St Nicolas du Chardonnet, 17 January 1718*

3 January

Do not forget to thank God
for all the blessings he bestows on you.

*Letter 76 - To a Brother Director,
date unknown*

4 January - *St. Elizabeth Ann Seton*

Ask Almighty God for the grace to touch hearts.
It is the grace of your state.

*Med 81.2
(On St. Ambrose)*

5 January - *St. John N. Neumann*

Enlightened by the star
and even more so by the light of faith,
the Magi go to announce a new Sun of Justice
in the place where he was born.

*Mal 3:20
Med 96.1
(Epiphany: Mt 2:1-12)*