

### **Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2014**

On this day in 1862, American President, Abraham Lincoln issued the preliminary Emancipation Proclamation, which set out a date for the freedom of more than 3 million slaves in the United States.

Today there are still people in the world who suffer massive inequalities and unfair treatment. We have a responsibility as global citizens to continue to work towards freedom from oppression in all its forms.

Let us pray for guidance and wisdom to take action against inequality.

Our Father,

### **Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2014**

Today is the feast day of St. Padre Pio. Padre Pio was born in 1887 in Pietrelcina, Italy, a small country town located in southern Italy. During his life, 1918, Padre Pio he received the visible marks of the crucifixion, called stigmata.

It is said that Padre Pio had the ability to read the hearts of the penitents who flocked to him for confession, which he heard for ten or twelve hours per day. Padre Pio used the confessional to bring both sinners and devout souls closer to God; he would know just the right word of counsel or encouragement that was needed.

Let us pray that through speaking to God in prayer, we grow closer to Him.

Our Father

### **Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> September 2014**

On this day in 1975, Dougal Haston and Doug Scott become the first Britons to reach the summit of the world's highest mountain, Mount Everest. The men arrived at the top of Mount Everest via the previously unclimbed south-west face, 33 days after establishing their base camp. The team succeeded on a difficult direct route and set a record for the fastest time up the peak. The success of the climbers was due to their perseverance and working together with their team.

We will face challenges and adventures throughout our lives. We pray for the courage and strength to work with others and do our best.

Hail Mary,

**Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> September 2014**

This Saturday, is the feast day of St. Vincent de Paul who dedicated his life to serving the poor. He was renowned for his compassion, humility, and generosity and is known as the "Great Apostle of Charity".

The St Vincent de Paul Society is an international Christian voluntary organisation dedicated to tackling poverty and disadvantage by providing practical assistance to those in need. The Society is inspired by St. Vincent de Paul's thinking and works. It seeks, in the spirit of justice and charity, to help those who are suffering poverty in whatever form.

There are still many people in Scotland who live in poverty. We pray that we never take what we have for granted and we continue to work towards a more just society.

Our Father,