

their Catholic majesties being every day present.

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### THE FIRST DAY OF THE NOVENA.

The person performing this devotion, kneeling before the altar or the image of St. Francis Xavier, shall lift up his heart to God, profoundly humbling himself in spirit, and offering up all his prayers, thoughts and words to his glory, and in honor of the Blessed Virgin Mary, St. Francis Xavier and all the angels and saints in heaven ; he shall make the sign of the cross, and say the following prayer :

O LORD JESUS CHRIST! True God and Man, my Creator and Redeemer, for Thy sake alone, and because I love Thee above all things, I am sorry from the bottom of my heart for having offended Thee ; and I do firmly purpose never to fall into sin again, to shun all occasions of offending