

attention to them, and offering them up to St. Francis Xavier; or instead thereof, they may say ten times the Lord's Prayer, ten times the Hail Mary, and ten times Glory be to the Father, etc., in memory of the ten years that St. Francis Xavier spent in the Indies; begging of the Saint whatsoever they desire, and praying as he did for the conversion of infidels.

Though the proper time for performing this Novena be from the 4th till the 12th of March, which is the day of the canonization of St. Francis Xavier, yet it may be performed at any other time of the year.

How much this devotion daily spreads is well known; St. Francis obtained favors for several persons, as they themselves have testified. In the year 1688 it was performed at Madrid, with extraordinary solemnity, in the royal chapel of the palace,