

and what to avoid in the path of virtue. Thanks be to God for the sickness and sufferings which bring us so close to Him, and which prepare us so well for the kingdom of His glory.

E. J. DEVINE, S.J.

**Daily prayer during this month.**

Divine Heart of Jesus, I offer Thee, through the Immaculate Heart of Mary, the prayers, good works and sufferings of this day, in separation for our sins, and according to all the intentions for which thou sacrificest Thyself continually on the altar. I offer them, in particular, for the grace never to be unmindful of God's gifts.

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**THE FIRST GOOD FRIDAY.**

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Besprent with blood, bruised, pallid, stark,  
Christ hangs upon the tree accursed  
Before the eyes of her who nursed  
His childhood : day swarms on to dark.

The nails are drawn from hands and feet  
The mother's breast now props the head,  
Thorn-crowned : "Jesus," she moans, "is dead."  
What woe is thine, thou mother sweet !

The friends who saw him bleed and die,  
Enter him in a grave of stone ;  
John takes the mother to his own  
Afair, three crosses loom on high.

M. WATSON, S. J.