NOVENAS TO GOOD ST ANNE

I T sometimes happens that persons write to us to know the proper manner of making a novena to Good St Anne.

Nothing can be more simple. Good St Anne is the spiritual ancestress of all Christians and what child does not know how to ask his grandmother for what he wants? And how pilgrims do pray!

To meet the wishes of our correspondents we have only to remember and to summarize the manifestations of piety that we have witnessed. Each one can select what suits his devotion.

1. *Confession and communion.* — As intimate friends are always the most favored, those who have recourse to St Anne must above all obtain pardon of their offences great or small by a good confession and win the heart of the dispenser of all gifts by one or more fervent communions or even by a novena of communions, if the confessor allows it. It is a fact established by experience that the greatest number of cures and favors obtained through St Anne's intercession are obtained at the moment of holy communion.

2. *Holy Mass.* — According to St Leonard of Port-Maurice, holy Mass devoutly offered up or heard is the surest means of making heaven favorable to us ; it is the golden key that opens to us the treasury of divine favors and blessings. No doubt the Lord grants his graces at all times and in all places; but he grants them more easily and with greater abundance during the Holy Sacrifice of Mass. Why? Because then we no longer pray alone ; then Jesus-Christ prays with us and for us ; then he unites with St Anne to intercede with God in our favor. Therefore St John Chrysostom asserts that graces not obtained in Church during Holy Mass are obtained with great difficulty and perhaps never at other times and in other places.

3. *Prayers and reading.* — There can be no better prayer than the ardent desire of a heart full of confidence in our heavenly Father, but at the same time accepting in advance all that heaven wills. Begin by this, pious faithful ; with a child's confidence open your heart to Good St Anne ; tell her a thousand