**Preparation for Examination of Conscience**

We would ask that you would openly and honestly read and think about what is said on these pages in preparation for your DeColores Ministries Weekend.

Lord Jesus, search me, and know my heart, test my thoughts. Point out anything you find in me that makes You sad, and lead me along the path of everlasting life (Ps 139:23-24 L.B)

Do you realize that God knows all about you? If you want your heart to be right before God, you should ask for divine examination. Ask God to show you anything that displeases Him, even the things of which you might not be aware. God may see a wrong attitude, a spirit of complaining or criticism that needs to be changed. A root of bitterness may have to be removed. You may be disobedient, self-willed or self-seeking. We need to permit God to reveal anything in our lives that is hindering our spiritual growth. Not only is God the great reveler, but through Christ, He gives us victory over our weakness.

1) SEARCH ME: Am I willing for God to search me?

2) KNOW ME: Know my heart, my life, even my thoughts.

3) TRY ME: What are the results of this test on my life?

4) SEE ME: Do you see anything in my life that displeases You?

5) LEAD ME IN THE PATH OF EVERLASTING LIFE: May our prayer be that we not waste time on things that are transitory, but live each day with eternity’s values in view.

**EXAMINATION OF CONSCIENCE**

IN REGARD TO MYSELF, HAVE I:

Through Mediocrity

Excused myself from guilt because of sin in habitual, or caused by social pressure.

Acted because of whims and feeling.

Used time ineffectively.

Organized myself so intensely that I’m not longer capable of spontaneous generosity.

Through Disorder and Lack of Planning

Used goods or a good improperly.

Been weak in making and holding to decisions.

Lacked perseverance and logic in carrying things out.

Left work half-done, without serious reason.

Been discouraged by difficulties or setbacks.

Failed to take time for being alone, for reflection, for recollection.

Through Pride and vanity

Been vain, praise-loving, round, smug.

Indulged in allowing my feelings to be hurt.

Acted out of ambition or the desire to be noticed.

Failed to recognize my limits and accept them.

Made snap judgments and comments to give the impression that I know all about a subject.

IN REGARD TO OTHERS, HAVE I:

Against Charity

Loved others selfishly, wanted to monopolize others’ affections, been jealous.

Considered no one but myself.

Never felt real anguish for the misery of others.

Passed by, indifferent to others’ troubles.

Had habitual contempt for others: less educated people, people of different racial, national or economic groups.

Sought to be respected without respecting others.

Often kept others waiting.

Not paid entire attention to a person speaking to me.

Talked too much of myself, and not given others a chance to express themselves.

Failed to try to understand others.

Out of selfishness or pride, expected to be served.

Failed to help a person in distress.

Seen only those whose friendship might prove profitable.

Abandoned my friends in their difficulties.

Said hurtful things.

Done harm, by remarks, (false or true) that blacken other’s character.

Betrayed a trust; violated a confidence.

Given scandal by the split between the life I lead and the principles I advertise as mine.

IN REGARD TO MY FAMILY, HAVE I:

In Family Matters

Made my family and its affairs my sole occupation.

Failed to be a full partner and source of strength to my spouse.

Taken for my own use an unfair share of what our family has (clothes, car and free time).

Failed to respect the individuality of another, even a child.

Expected more of the children that I have courage to do myself.

Talked idly and indiscreetly about the faults of those close to me.

IN REGARD TO THE CHURCH, HAVE I:

By Thought

Thought of the Church as a sect or party rather than the mystical Body of Christ.

Never read or reflected on the New Testament.

Not held myself responsible for my part in the inadequacy or Christians.

By Words

In any way stifled the personal development of another.

Spoken of the clergy as “them” instead of “us”.

Criticized irresponsibly the leadership of the Church, both clerical and laity.

By Acts

Used church organizations to justify my own personal hang-ups.

Ran away from trying to solve the Church’s internal problems.

Acted to support the church only when it met my approval.

By Omission

Not tried to make the Church more vital.

Failed to contribute my tithe to the church for her material needs.

Neglected to pray for those in leadership.

TOWARD GOD, HAVE I:

Waited for God to manifest Himself, instead of looking for Him in the realities of life.

Not relied on God to do the rest, after I’ve don’t all I can.

Not seen and loved Christ in others.

Given up trying to make Him my model.

Not made an effort to bear with him the sins of the world especially those in my own social group.

Because so heavenly minded that I’m no earthly good.

Not found time to Pray.

Prayed only to ask, never to adore, never to tank, never to act as a member of the mystical Body, never to love.

Thought of the spiritual life as something to do only after everything else has been taken care of.

I pray to the Lord.

LORD HAVE MERCY.

But while (the prodigal son) was still a long way off, his father saw him, and his heart went out to him. He ran toward him, flung his arms around him and kissed him. (Luke 15:20)