

Examination for those during Childhood

(Kneeling, facing the Crucifix. It is good to start, from an early age, the habit of the daily examination.)

Although the culpability of a young child can be greatly diminished, a child will greatly benefit from the development of the habit of making an examination of conscience. To have this habit already solidly in place is of great spiritual benefit and will aid one's maturity and right formation of conscience from the earliest time of one's life through to adulthood.

The basic and fundamental questions contained in this examination may also prove helpful for those of a mature age. While meditating on our fundamental love for God at a more mature age, we must not get stuck in this examination meant for children and fail to examine our self as adults with a more mature, age appropriate, and thoroughly developed examination.

In the name of the ✠ Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

“You belong to God, children” (I John 4: 4a)

Let us pray. Dear Jesus, I love You with all my heart and I ask, with Your help, that You help me to love You more. Open my heart, my mind and my soul to hear Your voice so that I can learn to grow in Your love. Amen.

1. Do I Love God? Do I Love God's Son, my Lord, Jesus Christ? Do I pray to God every day? Do I tell God I Love Him? Do I give God thanks for all the good things He does for me? Do I worship God by going to Church? Do I Love Mary? Do I pray to Mary? Do I pray to the Angels and Saints?
2. Do I say bad words? Do I say mean things about God or about others? Have I misbehaved while in Church?
3. Do I go to Mass on every Sunday?
4. Do I Love my Mom & Dad? Do I listen to them? Do I treat my Mom & Dad, Aunts & Uncles, Grandmas & Grandpas and all my teachers with Love and respect?
5. Have I hit or kicked someone? Have I gotten mad or angry at someone? Have I bullied someone or been a bully?
6. Have I stolen something that was not mine?
7. Have I told a lie?
8. Have I been good to my neighbors? Have I treated my friends nicely?

“This is the commandment we have from him: whoever loves God must also love his brother.” (I John 4: 21)

Let us pray. Lord Jesus, we ask You to look upon me (us), Your child (children) and bring me (us) close to You. May we now, knowing the bad things I (we) have done, say “I'm sorry” and ask for Your forgiveness and love. Amen.

(If the child is at the age of reason, and has made their First Holy Penance, then they should proceed to the Sacrament of Penance.)