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# NOTRE DAME DE LA SALETTE BOYS ACADEMY

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HEADMASTER

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*“The greatest wisdom of all is to seek first the Kingdom of God by despising the things of this world.”*

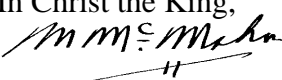
Dear Friend of La Salette,

These words from the *Imitation of Christ* would serve very well as our new year’s motto forming the basis of the best of resolutions. A man is meant for wisdom; to be wise, that is to be a man of maturity and depth, one who clearly sees reality, seeks to penetrate Truth, to understand the essence and purpose of things. As a gift of the Holy Ghost, wisdom gives one the ability to judge all things according to Divine standards, *i.e.* from God’s perspective and a consequent relish of Divine Truth.

Wisdom, then, aptly expressed by the *Imitation* is seeking first the Kingdom of God – to seek the knowledge of God and discover His will. Were not those three most rightly called wise who followed God’s star and found Our Lord in the manger? Our *First Communion Catechism*, so simply, succinctly and yet profoundly expresses man’s very purpose: to know, love and serve Almighty God. The first step toward this serving, however, is to despise the things of this world and more importantly the spirit of this world – so inimical to the spirit of Our Lord.

Properly understood it is not the things themselves, but these things as obstacles to our knowing and loving God, of fulfilling our duties. This is frequently expressed by Incarnate Wisdom Himself in various parts of the Holy Gospel: *“If your hand offends, cut it off. . . if your eye causes you to sin, pluck it out.”* From God, all things are good, but in our fallen state, wounded by Original Sin, a condition greatly exacerbated by our personal sins and imperfections, the things of this world, impede – and often greatly so – our sanctification, our knowing and loving God.

Let us, dear friends, take this new year’s opportunity to carefully and candidly examine our disordered attachment to things – people, places, entertainment, our own selfishness - and *“cut them off”* so that we may find that true peace promised to those of good will. Remember what the Wisemen found at the manger – Truth, wrapped in swaddling clothes in the arms of the Virgin Mother. Let us wisely go with confidence to Her, the Seat of Wisdom, the Throne of Grace now and throughout this New Year!

In Christ the King,  


Father Michael McMahon