

# NOTRE DAME DE LA SALETTE BOYS ACADEMY

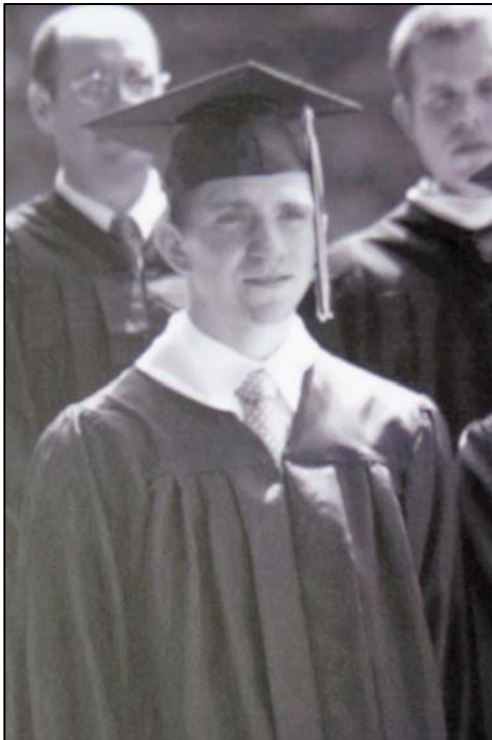
FR. MICHAEL MCMAHON  
HEADMASTER

July 1, 2007

Dear Friend of La Salette,

On the very eve of her happiest day of joy and celebration, tragic news struck the La Salette family . . . with graduation preparations almost complete, we were stunned by the death of 2006 graduate and valedictorian, Michael John-Marie Dolan. Michael was killed in a car accident while driving alone to attend this year's festivities. A young man of keen intellect and determined will, having been accepted with an almost full scholarship to the University of Notre Dame; strong in the Faith, he was considered to be of almost unlimited potential. Tragedy on the merely human level; inexplicable without the Catholic Faith and hope of the Resurrection, and thus we faithfully submit to the will of our Heavenly Father whose inscrutable ways are Divine and not ours.

When we speak of the formation received at La Salette, we often emphasize that a young man will be properly formed in body and soul, enabling him to enter the world - without being of it - to lead a solidly Catholic life, inspiring by example those with whom he comes in contact. The most profound and ultimate goal of this preparation, however, is actually that which Michael met at 1:25 am on a lonely highway in Ohio, immediately after his car struck the guardrail:



**the solemn appearance before the judgment seat of God!**

We must live a holy life in order to die a happy death. We form our children ultimately for that supreme moment so that the Catholic soul, adorned with the wedding garment of Our Lord, may be greeted with those words of everlasting reward: "*Well done, good and faithful servant.*" If that is not done, all our efforts are in vain; when done, there is great joy in Heaven.

Pray, dear friends, for the eternal repose of Michael's soul; pray for the consolation of his parents, family and for his former headmaster who loved him like a father; pray that La Salette continues to form for life, death – and everlasting life – thus fulfilling her most critical and majestic duty. *May his soul and the souls of all the faithful departed rest in peace. Amen.*

In Christ the King,

**Michael Dolan: 1989-2007**

*Requiescat in Pace*

Father Michael

McMahon

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