



# *Academy of Our Lady of Grace*

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December 23, 2018

Dear Parents,

To follow the lead of Jesus and Mary in always doing the will of God.

Jesus shows us the qualities needed to do God's will.

God gives us guidelines to follow:

- The Ten Commandments tell us how to relate with God and our neighbors.
- The two great commandments: Love the Lord God. Love your neighbor as yourself.
- In the Eight Beatitudes, Jesus lists moral qualities that mirror God's qualities: Be pure in spirit; mourn; be meek; hunger and thirst for righteousness. Be merciful, clean of heart, peacemakers and be willing to suffer for the kingdom.
- In Matthew's Gospel when Jesus talks about the Final Judgement, he tells us to put those "being" qualities into "doing." Feed the hungry. Clothe the naked. Welcome strangers. Care for the sick. Visit prisoners.

The more we can let the Spirit of God control our spirit, the more we will be drawn to do God's will. Selfishness will give way to selflessness. Those qualities mentioned in the Beatitudes and the actions listed in the Final Judgement will come naturally. We will be drawn by love to do God's will.

As we approach the altar, we know that the Child, whose birth 2,000 years ago we celebrate soon, is born anew in us each time we receive Communion. May we, like Mary, do his will by sharing Christ with the world.

Fr. Peter