

“CLC is a class that is unlike any other I have attended. We don’t sit through Powerpoints and take notes every day; we don’t have to stay up all night cramming for finals; we aren’t even in the same building as the rest of Marist’s classes. All of these things and many more set CLC apart. So much emphasis is on learning how to be a leader and how to effectively give direction and guidance while still maintaining a Christian attitude, rather than memorizing information. Through all of our projects and peer educating work, CLC has taken a common cliché and made it into a reality for me: it’s not whether you win or lose, but how you have played the game.” Emilee (’12)

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“I remember on my first day of CLC, as we all started to take our seats we looked at one another. We didn’t know it then, but we would all learn, laugh, struggle, and grow as a team. We would support and compete with each other as we learned, without really realizing what we were learning. As I look back on my experience in my training, I have realized how much the class has done for me, especially in preparing me to lead and serve those around me. It has helped me to be a leader, rather than a follower, and to know how to help people in a way that allows them to help themselves. I had not come to this realization fully until recently, more specifically through the activities the class takes on. In these final weeks, I have been complimented on my leadership, listening skills, resourcefulness, and willingness to help; qualities that I never would have thought I possessed. CLC has helped me gain the skills to be a leader in my community, and to be confident and aware of my abilities.” Amy (’12)

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“Going into CLC my junior year I wasn’t sure what to expect other than the class was about leadership. I honestly didn’t expect to grow as a leader, but just learn about leadership. I didn’t think that all the activities and lessons would actually impact me, or that I would see how I have grown as a leader. However, I was very wrong. All the leadership activities we had to do, especially with the freshmen, revealed how a lot of what I learned in the class showed up in the way I lead. I have grown and learned a lot more through CLC than I would have ever imagined. I grow and learn best through activities, so being able to do multiple activities this past year was very beneficial.” Kashi (’14)

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“Through taking CLC the past two semesters, I have aligned all the planets, or compartments, of my life. In this class, nearly every aspect of my life has been woven together: my Catholic faith, my devotion to family and friends, my academic commitment, and my career goals. This has allowed me to grow as I have had to put less pressure on myself in making sure each of the four was individually taken care of – CLC wrapped all four into one. Instead of me being in the center of my own universe with the parts of my life floating about me, Christ has become my center, infused into me. I am calmer than I was freshman year, sophomore year, and especially the first half of my junior year. I am a little bit wiser. I am more grounded. I walk a little taller. I look to serve others more. I pray often and passionately. I search for those who also have Christ in their core.” Tierney (’12)

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"I used to think that I would never be capable of leading others because I wasn't popular enough or I didn't have the fearless sense of ability that my classmates who were picked for leadership positions naturally assumed. However, as I began the class, I really started to be able to see my strengths and the ways that I could lead in my own special and slightly unconventional way. CLC has helped me grow into someone who is more comfortable stepping up into positions that put me close to the center of attention." Katie ('16)

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"The most important lesson that I've learned in CLC is the value of servant leadership. With an open heart, everyone can be a leader by being an outward extension of Christ. My experience with CLC has been life changing and eye opening. I am grateful for the chance that I have had to grow closer with my classmates and my community and I have never been more confident that I will leave Marist as the student that it has always wanted me to be." Levi ('16)

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"CLC has given me an opportunity to reflect on my experiences, and through these I have realized that Christ is at the center of most of them – almost every time. This has astonished me this semester. To be able to step back and recognize the only way something happened was because of Christ is a feeling like no other. Before CLC, I would have taken experiences for granted, but now I've come into the habit of recognizing these things without even writing a paper! CLC has changed my viewpoint on how I live life and allowed me to realize my true surroundings and all the blessings I have." Joe ('17)