



Catholic Education Division Diocese of Buffalo

**Catholic Schools, Lifelong Faith Formation, Catechumenate
Youth and Young Adult Ministry, Campus Ministry**

June 2010

Dear Parent or Guardian,

We are very glad that your child will join 47 other young people and 10 team members from throughout the diocese next week at the Christian Leadership Institute (CLI). We want to provide you with some additional information about the program.

PROGRAM TEAM

Patty Bubar Spear (Pastoral Associate at St. Joseph University Parish) and I will direct the week and lead our program team. Father Ron Sajdak, pastor of St. Martin de Porres parish, will join us as the Spiritual Director. We are working with seven other trained youth ministry leaders who are the staff for the program.

RESOURCES TO SUPPORT YOUR FAMILY

Thank you for supporting your child on their journey of faith, ministry, and leadership! As a parent, you have a very important role in helping your child to continue to grow and use his/her leadership skills. To help you better support your child after CLI, we are providing some resources for you. We hope these resources will help you better understand the CLI experience and help you follow up with your child at home. Enclosed you will find our overview of CLI, some helpful hints for your family, and some other resources. **More are posted online!** Please visit www.dobyouth.org and go to the CLI page – there you will find some additional helpful resources!

CLOSING PRAYER SERVICE

Parents and other family members are invited to join the CLI community for the closing Prayer Service at 10 AM on Wednesday, June 30. We hope you can join us! If you are unable to attend, please make arrangements to pick your child up at 11 AM.

EMERGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION

- If you need to contact your child during the week in case of an emergency or absolute necessity, you may call the Stella Niagara Center of Renewal (8:30 AM – 4:30 PM; 716-754-7376 ext 2; Evenings – 716-417-8771)
- CLI is a very concentrated educational experience that requires full participation and attention from all who attend. Therefore, we prefer to limit distractions. A phone is available if your child needs to contact you, but all participants will be asked to make only occasional, brief phone calls home and only between 6-7 PM. If a CLI participant needs to call home at a time other than 6-7 PM, they may ask a program team member for permission to use the phone. Because of the potential for distractions and the difficulty in receiving cellular signals at the retreat house, **we ask that participants do not bring cellular phones with them to CLI.** If you have any concerns about this policy, please discuss them with me before the program.

I hope that this information of the week will help you and your family understand the events that your child will experience. I am confident that your young leader will return from the week with many new skills, ideas, and stories. If you have any questions about the week, please feel free to contact the Department of Youth & Young Adult Ministry at 716-847-8789 prior to the Institute. Thank you for the pleasure of your child's company. I hope that you will have a pleasant week.

Peace and blessings,

Kathryn M. Goller
Director, Youth & Young Adult Ministry