



**Ava, '20**

**Hometown:** Oyster, NY

**Major:** Biomedical Sciences

**Personal Interests:** I enjoy hanging out with friends, watching cool science-y videos, watching forensic documentaries, painting my nails, and listening to music!

**Campus Involvement:** I'm involved in Campus Ministry, Purple Thread, Best Buddies, St. Jude's, and NSLS.

**How I Can Help As Your Peer Mentor:** I learned a lot during my freshman year and tackled my own battles by myself or with the help of others. Knowing someone older than you gives you some relief and guidance that you wouldn't get otherwise. Even a simple question can be answered and it gives you relief so you won't go crazy. Whether it's about where a certain class is or how to order books, it goes a long way! Never hesitate to ask any question or look for some guidance!

**What I Was Nervous About:** I was nervous about the living situation, getting accustomed to things, and learning my way around. I definitely knew I had a lot to adjust to, but everyone learns how to get here and there and how to do things, and it gets easier. After your first semester, you'll feel like a pro. Though there is still so much to learn, you'll eventually get the hang of things and it'll become natural to you.

**What I Was Excited About:** I was really excited to meet new people. Coming from a small town and graduating with about 100 students that I've known since kindergarten, going to college was a big step in meeting new people—and it's so easy, too! It's okay to be scared, but you have to realize everyone is in the same position as you. Don't be afraid to get out there and just talk to anyone! You can meet some awesome people!

**Advice for the Class of 2021:** Get involved! It's always great to try new things, and I noticed that a lot of the people I was in clubs with were also in different clubs with me. It's great to recognize a familiar face and to have someone to chat with, but it's also great to talk to someone new that you've never spoken to before. Don't be afraid to talk about anything random because in the end it's one more new person you met!

Enjoy your summer and don't be scared for new beginnings, it's going to be great!

**MARIST**  
**1ST**  
**YEAR PROGRAMS**  
The end depends on the beginning