



**May's Insight is from Marist Youth Intern
Billy Carvalho**



He recaps the recent intern trip to Central Catholic!

In this month's edition of intern insights I will be looking back on the trip to Lawrence MA, where Marissa and I were able to visit Central Catholic for the first time. Although I have met so many great people from Central at different Marist events, and I got to visit Camp Marist last year, I had never been to Central Catholic before. Matt, Maureen, Marissa spent the weekend in Esopus at Sharing Our Call, and I met up with them on Monday. I was unable to attend Sharing Our Call due to my graduation ceremony. However, after I got to Esopus we all hopped in Matt's car to begin our drive north to see our Marist family in MA.

By the time we got checked into our hotel rooms, it was time to go to dinner with some of the faculty from Central Catholic. We went to the restaurant Tuscan Grill, which is owned by a central alumni and has some of the best food I've ever had! (Mom if you're reading this I'm sorry). Besides the amazing food, I was thrilled to see Brother Rene again. I have had the pleasure to lead encounter groups with Brother Rene in Esopus. He has a certain energy about him that makes everyone around him enjoy themselves that much more. After dinner we made our way back to the hotel for the night.



The next day I woke up excited to go to Central and see the city of Lawrence for the first time. When we got to school I was taken back by the size, both from the outside and the inside. The first thing we did when we got there was go on a tour with Chris Sullivan before having our meeting. The thing to know about Chris is his amazing ability to tell stories. He is also a great marist but he can keep you on the edge of your seat waiting for the punchline.

That being said Chris is the best tour guide at Central because there's a story behind every hallway. The school was built in stages throughout history, so as you walk down the hallways you can tell that this part of the school was built in the 70s or this part was built more recently. One of my favorite parts of the tour was the story behind Central's gym. When it was being built the Marist Brothers at the time we're having a competition between schools to see who could build the bigger gym. So the brothers at central stole blueprints to a plane hanger to build their massive gym. If I'm not wrong Central has the second biggest gym between the marist schools in the US, the first being Molloy.

After the tour we had a meeting with Chris about how Central Catholic implicates the Marist Mission in their school and their teachings. It was clear listening to Chris how important the mission is to him personally and how prominent it is amongst the rest of the faculty. An example of how the importance of the mission amongst the faculty reflects onto the students is when I went to the bathroom. When I came out of the bathroom I saw my friend Hannah Watson who is a senior at Central. Hannah and I met in the DR when we went on a service trip together through blue missions. Seeing her at school and being able to catch up reminded me of how Marist she is.

After the meeting we went to spend some time in the campus ministry office. We got to hear about the events coming up at Central as well as plans for Camp Marist over the summer. Being able to talk and have fun at campus ministry is another clear example of the emphasis on being Marist at Central Catholic.



After leaving Central for the day we went back to the hotel to get changed and hang out. Then for dinner we met Jim O'Neil at Kimball Farms. This was no ordinary farm, they had fresh seafood, ice cream, golf, mini-golf, bumper boats, an animal exhibit, zip lining, and a lot more! Besides all of the activities, the ice cream portions there were gigantic! A large was half a pint and the smallest size was two big scoops.

The next day, before leaving we stopped at Central to say our goodbyes. We were lucky enough to help prepare for the sophomore field day by making popcorn in Central's new cafe. All in all I had such a great time and got to learn so much about Central Catholic and how important the Marist Mission is. It was great to see everyone again and catch up. Thank you to everyone who made this trip so much fun and I can't wait for what is next.