

St Marys of Lanesville has successful picnic

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Since the first ever church picnic was held at St. Mary's Church in Lanesville, hospitality has been the main ingredient in the whole affair.

Over 4,000 dinner tickets were sold Sunday at the 75th picnic on the hill overlooking Lanesville, about 20 miles west of Louisville on State Road 62.

The picnic was held for 20 consecutive years, between 1924 and 1943. The picnic was discontinued because of World War II, but was continued again in 1955, and has been going strong ever since then.

When the 1st picnic was held in 1924, Father Adam Baron told the parishioners of St. Mary's at the time that "while neighboring pastors ran their picnics, he was not going to run St. Mary's," according to records from the church.

Rev. Baron insisted that the success of the picnic depended on overall parish involvement, and did not want the picnic to become the main source of revenue for the parish.

The net amount of money made in 1924 was \$1,600, and the picnic has continually grown in size over the years.

Homemade quilts are one of the main draws to the picnic, and normally when the quilts are all gone, the crowd largely is gone as well.

The picnic is still a parish wide event, whether the parishioner is young, middle age, or elderly.

Over 700 parishioners work together to make the event a success, and here are a few other impressive statistics: 1-Over 3,800 lbs. of chicken will be cooked and eaten every year, 2-It takes 450 loaves of bread for their special recipe dressing, 3-600 lbs. of cabbage has been prepared, 4-800 meals per hour are served between the hours of 11 a.m. and 2 p.m., and 5-the ladies doing the quilts spend nearly 2500 man hours on their handiwork. Join St. Mary of the Knobs to celebrate St. Patrick's Day in style! Their 4th Annual Reverse Raffle is set for Friday, March 13 at 7:30 p.m. Only 100 tickets sold in increments of \$100, \$50, and \$25. Total cash prizes of \$5,500 – even losers have a second chance to win!