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Just Another Picnic... but Oh My!

Ithaca—The leaden skies that hung over Ithaca on Saturday afternoon, Sept. 11, did nothing to dampen the enthusiasm of the large crowd from St. Catherine of Siena Parish who gathered on the church grounds for the third annual parish picnic.

While the kids warmed up for the football game under the watchful tutelage of Bob Earle, Jack Burns, and Mike Stanley, their elders prepared for supper with appetizers of clam chowder, steamed clams, and the first few cold draughts of beer. As the ball game pro-

gressed in size, intensity, and complexity, picnickers and grandstanders moved into the second quarter of their meal—hot sausage and peppers and hot dogs.

Only in the glooming did the activity on and off the field reach its height. At the volleyball court, a valiant attempt at a spike brought the entire net crashing to the ground. The football game evolved into a veritable human maelstrom as limits on team size and sex gave way to youthful exuberance.

On the food serving line, even

those already feeling their belts strained gathered as the succulent barbecued chicken was lifted from the grill. As darkness gathered, the perfect meal was topped by a bit of ice cream and coffee, and the sighs of the satisfied expressed thanks to those who had worked so hard.

Praises were sung for Merle Lalonde, Angelo and Joe Di-Giocomo, Jim May, Jay and Jim Heck, Jack MacDonald, John Carr, Karl Krell, John O'Brien, Charlie Burness, Danny Murphy and Bob Boothroyd. Also to be thanked were the many who spontaneously staffed the toughest committee of all, clean-up. Chairs and tables were stacked and carted off, garbage removed and odd bits of trash collected by volunteers.

The only sad note of the day was the realization that it signaled an end to summer with its abundance of fresh air and sunshine. It is now back to school and work in earnest. However, one thing is certain for those who attended St. Catherine's picnic: none will return hungry to their labors.



Young picnickers Mike, Christine and Peter Ziegler join a canine picnic guest, Souffle.

Ithaca Area Notes

Stanley — A revision of the parish cemetery map and records of deeds are under preparation at St. Theresa's. Persons having information concerning the founding or early burials in cemetery are asked to contact the rectory at St. Mary's in Rushville or Emmett Dailor, Francis Floor, or Art Thompson.

Ithaca—A youth meeting for all members of St. Catherine of Siena in Grades 9-12 will be held in the parish center on

Sunday, Sept. 26, at 7:30 p.m. The religious education program for this age group which begins Oct. 3 will be discussed.

Groton—Choir practice is under way at St. Anthony's. The choir is in need of 12-15 new members. Anyone, including high school students, who is interested in joining, will be welcome.

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