



WHAT IS THE BIG EVENT?

THE BIG EVENT ANNUAL DINNER & DANCE AND AUCTION IS A

wonderful evening of food, drinks and celebration. It is the single biggest fundraising and community-building event for Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church & School. This year Blessed Sacrament celebrates its 100th anniversary. We invite you to celebrate with us the tremendous growth in our Parish and School community and to contribute and participate in order to ensure our continued success. More than just an auction, the Big Event is *the* party to celebrate the centennial anniversary of our Blessed Sacrament community.

WHEN AND WHERE?

In honor of Blessed Sacrament's Centennial Celebration, The Big Event is being held on **Saturday, March 24 at the historic Brown Palace Hotel in downtown Denver.** The Brown Palace was the location of Blessed Sacrament's

We know what Blessed Sacrament is doing for us. The Big Event is what we do for Blessed Sacrament!

famous Easter Monday Ball, which started in 1915. Like The Big Event, the Easter Monday Ball was a fundraiser that helped pay for a school which was staffed by the Sisters of Loretto. It also raised money to build, in 1923, the three-story rectory next door.

WHAT IS THE MONEY USED FOR?

The Blessed Sacrament operating budget relies heavily on The Big Event each year. The proceeds help pay for everything from heating the church to buying new textbooks. And every year, the Special Appeal of the live auction provides much-needed upgrades to the facility and much-appreciated extras for our community, such as scholarships and enrichment classes for the children of Blessed Sacrament. Our church offers us so much: daily Mass and weekend Liturgies, Children's Liturgy, Dinner Group, Sacramental preparation, and so much more. And our Catholic school is truly an amazing place where our students are challenged and nurtured and cherished in every stage of their growth and development.

WHAT HAPPENS ON THE NIGHT OF THE BIG EVENT?

The evening begins at 6:00pm with cocktails and silent auction bidding. You will be given a bidder number at check-in. Catalogs are sent home prior to the event with information on all the silent and live auction items. The catalog also includes closing times for silent auction tables.

You'll want to get to the very popular **Buy-A-Share** table early in the evening. These are great parties for adults and/or children of which you "buy a share" for you and your spouse or for your child. Some examples from previous years are: the a 1st- and 2nd-graders movie night, a Middle School "Poetry in the Park" workshop, a Left-Center-Right card party, and an 80's-themed costume party. Costs for these fun experiences vary by event, but all sell out quickly!

As the silent auction closes and people make their way to their tables for dinner, the live auction portion of the evening begins. Hunting and fly fishing trips, homes in Mexico and the Bahamas, a ready-made wine cellar—these are some of the big-ticket items of recent years. And the amazing student art projects (valued at "priceless") generate thousands of dollars for the Blessed Sacrament community.

Even if your family budget is tight, you can celebrate; come just to enjoy the excitement and/or give as little as \$5 to the Special Appeal and know that you have been an important part of this stewardship of the church and the school.

WHAT CAN FAMILIES DO TO HELP?

Donations are the first step in making The Big Event successful.

Parishioners and parents are requested to bring in one item at a minimum value of \$50. People often share special skills and talents (photography, personal training sessions, computer consulting) and showcase their businesses (lawn care and landscaping, realty and special events planning). Other families, along with the Acquisitions team, gather great deals on memberships, event tickets, hotel rooms, etc.

The auction is a great opportunity to experience the services and products of local businesses.

If you would like to help with donations but would prefer to simply donate cash, this money will be used specifically toward the purchase of auction items.

Host a party. If you have a creative idea for your own Buy-A-Share (see left), get together with another couple or two and donate a new party. Contact Hilary Afshary, Acquisitions Co-Chair at 720-212-1440 to discuss details and complete an application no later than January 15.

Volunteer to help on one of the auction committees. We can use help with big and small tasks. If interested contact Chris Hegstrom, Auction Volunteer Chair at hegstrome@yahoo.com

Sponsor others to attend. If you are interested in purchasing sponsorship tickets to cover the cost for other Blessed Sacrament families, teachers and staff to attend, you can contact Kate Devlin at 720-255-7962. There will be several opportunities to donate to this sponsorship program in the coming months.



The Big Event Centennial Celebration is THE party you don't want to miss.

Come give back to the community that gives so much to you and your family. We will see you on March 24!