

22 Green Valley Bay

Winnipeg MB

R2K 3R8

January 25, 2021

St Alphonsus School Centennial Anniversary Committee,

Hi,

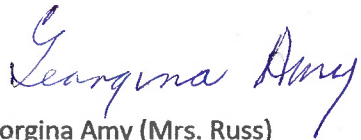
I lived on Donalda across from the church and school in the 50s and 60s. My four daughters attended St. Als. As a proud mother and grandmother, I submit stories of successful students, only possible because of dedicated teachers.

As The Elmwood Herald covered many church and school events, they may allow you to access their files.

Also, there is no harm in advertising often in the church bulletins in both dioceses, *AND SUPPLY A MAILING ADDRESS FOR PEOPLE WHO DON'T HAVE A COMPUTER.*

Here are my stories. Hope they will help make the celebration something to bring back fond memories of good old school days.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Georgina Amy". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'G'.

Georgina Amy (Mrs. Russ)

St. Alphonsus School was used for more than teaching. The wide hall featured piano recitals and practice areas for the annual St Patrick's concert held at the Roxy Theatre. -One year there was not enough room for the girls Square Dancers so I invited them to practice in my basement. When it came to holding a Tea or a Parish Dinner, the desks were cleared out and the ladies of the parish served up a tasty meal that included homemade buns and apple pies, which they made at Anne Ruhr's house.

One year the Catholic Women's League and the Knights of Columbus volunteered to paint the school. I brought my three daughters to the room designated for painting the frames of the storm windows. They played school while I painted the windows that Fr. MacGillvary kept bringing. The oldest, Barbara, acted as teacher. She said "The first subject is Health. Did you know that babies come out of their mother's tummy?" Up shot her sister's hand. "How did the silly things get in there?" OH MY, Father has just brought me another window and I thought that he was going to drop it. I did not dare look up and was saved when the youngest daughter became restless and suggest they have recess. WHEW!

Barbara chose teaching as her profession. She is still working as a Kindergarten teacher at St. Gerard School and never had to answer that health question. Her sisters, Lorraine and Alison, became loyal, hard workers in the business world., Lorraine for Great West Life and Rogers; Alison for The City of Winnipeg; Michele, while on a trip through India, volunteered to work at Mother Therese's House For The Poor. This one day stint in the kitchen drew her to the need to serve others and is now a nurse at Riverview Health Centre.

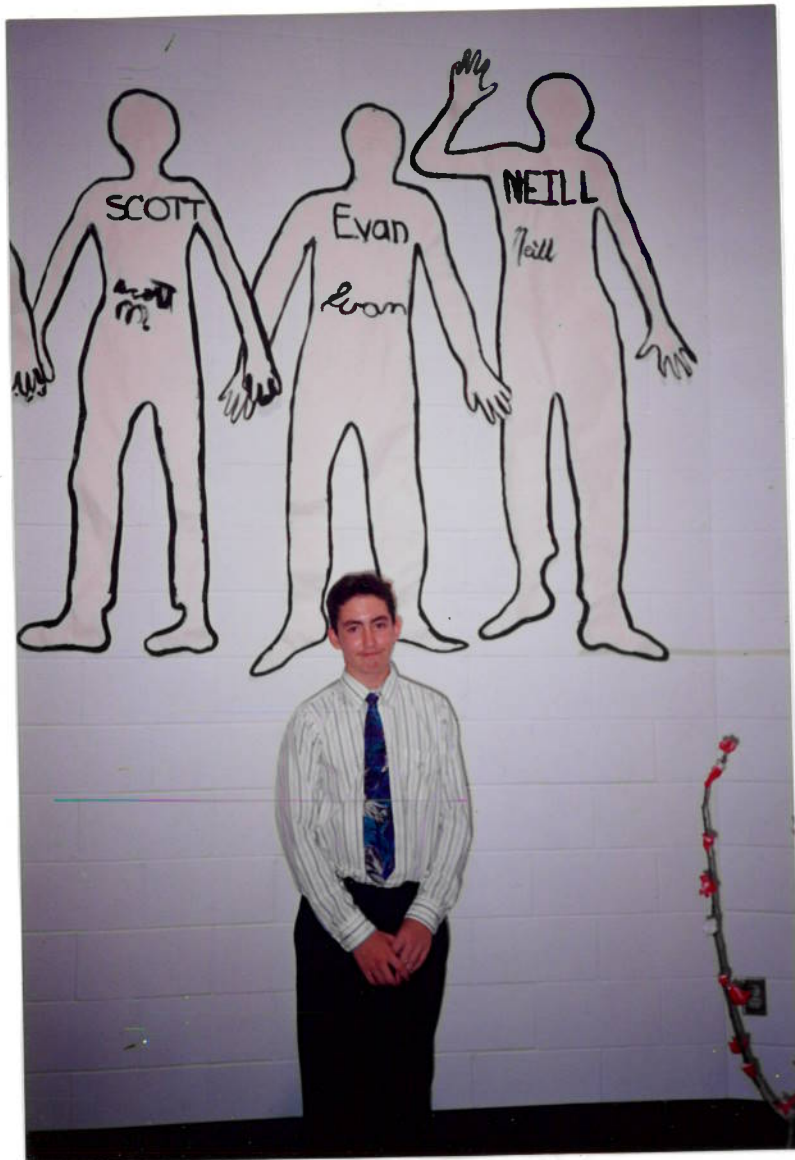
Pictured below is Barbara Amy Potkonjak, Kindergarten teacher and The Amy Family: seated is Russ and Georgina; back is Barbara, Michele, Alison, Lorraine.



EVAN POTKONJAK, son of Barbara Amy, at his 1992 graduation. Evan now makes his living in Toronto as a computer animator working with crews to create movies and video games, where his name appears in the credits as a Lead Gripper. The latest movie, Dino Ranch, was shown on CBC this January. Some other productions have been Gnomeo and Juliet and the Nut Job movie 1 and Nut Job 2.

Recently, while I was waiting in the reception room to see my doctor, a mother sitting beside me was having trouble holding a restless baby on her lap until she brought out her cell phone and showed these cartoons. I was amazed at how good a distraction it was for so young a child.

Picture and write up contributed by Evan's proud grandmother, Georgina Amy.



Once East Kildonan began expanding, the three roomed school on the corner of Munroe and Brazier was replaced with a bigger one, half a block down beside the church. When a new church was built in 1959, the old church served as the parish hall and gymnasium. Pictured here is a group of girls waiting for a school activity to start. I recognize some and hope others can name the rest. Left to right:

Theresa Dyer, Debbie Lusty, June Sturney, 4 & 5 ?, Therese Daggit, Barbara Amy, Marlaime Campbell.



"St. Alphonsus Schoolboard Sponsors A Jampail Bonspiel"

# St. Alphonsus School

St. Alphonsus School held a Jam Pail Bonspiel recently for students in the school.

The 'spiel was sponsored by the School Board, who also provided trophies for

the winning teams.

Mr. Dondo and his sons, and Dan and Michael McDonald took care of the draw and umpiring.

Hot dogs and drinks were served by the ladies.



Grades 4 & 5 boys', trophy winners, left to right: Alan Isaacson - lead; Gerald Eiers - second; Gordon Mark - third; Neil Scherick - skip; Mr. Jim Baty - Chairman of the Board.



Grade 6 boys', trophy winners, left to right: Blaine Joss - lead; Brian Dondo - second; Greg Wasney - third; Mark Weremy - skip; Mr. Jim Baty - Chairman of the Board.



Senior girls; trophy winners (2 teams) left to right (back row) Michelle Amy - skip; Sharon McGurry - second; Shelby Morrison - third; Theresa Sullivan - skip. Front row: Anita Van Schie - second; Debbie Dudeck - lead; Gayl [unclear] - lead; Mr. Jim Baty - Chairman of the Board.

## MICHELE AMY

While on a trip through India, volunteered at Mother Therese's House For The Poor. This one day stint in the kitchen drew her to the need to serve others and is now a nurse at the Riverview Health Centre.