



Saint Charles  
Catholic School

<http://www.stccs.ca>

# THE CHARGER

ALUMNI NEWSLETTER

FALL/WINTER 2013

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## Robyn's View

As the staff and students said goodbye to the graduating grade eight class in June, we the Alumni welcomed our newest members with open arms.

Each graduating class is special and unique in their own way and grown into themselves throughout their time at St. Charles. They really

and truly evolve in grade seven and especially during their last year in grade eight. By the time June comes, the school community has a strong sense of what kind of citizens we can expect to see.

While we don't always hear much in those first years when students graduate from St.

Charles...we have some exciting updates and we hope to have more to share in our Spring/Summer edition!

3-2-1 Chargers

**Robyn Powell (deBeer)**  
**'82-90, Alumni Rep,**  
**Board of Directors**

*Estote fideles - Be faithful*

## Our Recent Alumni... Welcome!



Our Grade 8 graduates:

Front Row: Kyra Thiessen, Amy Todoruk, Madison Bewer, Jamela Foronda, Jenna Braun, Mitch Justl.

Middle Row: Adam Jagla, Evan McNeill, Bryce Wells, Trajan Bourdon, Zach MacLaren, Harrison Gilmore,

Back Row: Justice Thevenot, Bryce Stubbings, Rory Thompson, Mrs. Ashley Milne (Teacher), Brendan Veert, Paul Evans, Kevin Tobin, Ryan McDonald.

The theme for our Farewell ceremonies for the 2012-13 Grade 8 class was; *"I Won't Let You Go"*. This class was a very special group of friends who often referred to each other as family. Their message reflected how much they cared for each other.

# Principal's Update

-Dr. Anne P. Penny

***"Faith based  
education is  
an inviting,  
welcoming  
atmosphere"***  
- Family  
Graduation  
Survey 2009



This past June, the Canadian Council of Catholic School Trustees held their annual convention in Winnipeg, and our school was selected to perform at the final banquet, immediately after the St. Paul's High School Band. Our students were excellent, and received a standing ovation – the only one to occur at the conference! The SCCS music program has really come of age, with our groups being solicited to perform at events throughout the community. Last week, one of our violin groups, together with a couple of alumni who are currently at SMA (Carly Zelisney and Justine Foronda), opened the Virtuosi Series with their renditions of Amazing Grace and We Are Marching.

Last spring, we began a major renovation project which is now coming to a conclusion. The area which was once the pool has been covered and converted into a second gym space. Soon this will be the home of our Irish Dance class which is being taught by Phil Brady and one of our alumni, Alex Lillies.

I had a visitor to my office this past week, a Ms. Cathy Rimmer. Cathy was a former student of SCCS, and "many years ago when St. Charles was a girls only boarding school I was their only English speaking student. I have never

forgotten the positive impact many of the nuns had on my life." She shared a few tales about the nuns who used to teach here.

She reminded me of one of Sr. Emma's favorite sayings: we are sometimes the only Bible that others read. This past June, we bid farewell to another awesome group of young people. Many in the graduating class had attended St. Charles since Kindergarten. Some had even started in Academy Kids Daycare. We wished them well as they shared their plans to continue with their academic lives, quietly yet confidently exuding that unique spirit that was nurtured at St. Charles! May they continue to be worthy "bibles" to be read.

That evening, we also bid farewell to a family who had been an important part of our school community for many years. Anne-Marie Ford, Jeff Theissen and their four children, Jay, Shane, Dylan and Kyra were very involved in the life of the school over the past 13 years, and we are very thankful for their contributions! We wish them all the best for the future.

Wishing God's blessing upon all of you,

- Dr. Anne P. Penny, Principal

**keepintouch**

Our alumni are our greatest ambassadors, and we like to acknowledge your personal and professional milestones. If you've got news you'd like to share, photos or memorabilia, contact us by email at [alumni331@stccs.ca](mailto:alumni331@stccs.ca) or call the school office at 204-837-1520. We would really like to hear from you. Check out what's happening with SCCS Alumni on Page 6.



# Awards and Recognition



Thank you to the Knights of Columbus for donating to SCCS. Their contributions went toward the purchase of a new keyboard for the school performing groups. This new

keyboard has all the capabilities of a larger keyboard, but is light enough to be transported by our students. In addition, thanks to the K of C, we have started up a Curling program. Currently 32 students practice the sport at The Assiniboine Memorial Curling Club Rink under the direction of senior curlers.



**KNIGHTS  
OF COLUMBUS**  
IN SERVICE TO ONE. IN SERVICE TO ALL.

## Student Achievement Awards 2012-13

Louis Caron Award  
Music Student of the Year  
Angelo Golas

Robert Morrison Leadership Award  
Gr. 8—Exceptional Leadership  
Bryce Stubbings

Jordan Paige Citizenship Award  
Gr. 8—Exceptional Citizenship  
Kyra Thiessen

Diane Giguere O'Rourke Award  
Gr. 1 Citizenship  
Jade Smith (Landigan)

Damian Mills Award  
Strong Athletics and Academics  
Megan Smith

Gladys Belhumeur Volunteer Award  
Exceptional Volunteerism  
Theresa Comeau and Jennifer McDonald

Corner Stone Award  
Exceptional Commitment to our School  
Community  
Alexis Rosales

Sharon Blady Peace Keeper Award  
Exceptional Role Model  
Madison Bewer

Please contact Dr. A. P. Penny, Principal at 204-837-1520 or [dr\\_penny@stccs.ca](mailto:dr_penny@stccs.ca) if you are interested in sponsoring a St. Charles Catholic School student award in honour of a loved one.

## El Salvador, by Matt McDonald ('06 -'10)

*The El Salvador Mission Trips have run in 2010, 2011 and 2012. Five SCCS alumni participated in 2012: Drew Jensen, Jessie Augustus, Madison Magnus Walker, Tom Licharson, and Matt McDonald.*

When I was accepted to St. Paul's High School in 2010, one of the opportunities I was looking forward to was the Service Journey to El Salvador. This is a journey that a group of students take to a small town of about 200 people, called Loma Linda. On previous trips, students helped the town by taking athletic and home supplies, donating funds, building a school, irrigating the farmland and completing other physical needs around the town.

There have been 5 St. Charles alumni who have made this journey in 2012, Drew Jensen, Jessie Augustus, Madison Magnus Walker, Tom Licharson and myself Matt McDonald. Just like me, we all were looking forward to meeting the people, experiencing their culture, visiting the country and learning their history, and of course, helping the community. We certainly did all that!

Loma Linda welcomed us very warmly, people from the town came down to the highway to greet us. This really showed their appreciation to us for coming to help them. We worked in the hill side pulling weeds around the village's corn fields. We used machetes to cut down the weeds. We picked rocks from the river bed to

move from the river for the retaining wall at the school. Another job was to dig a 14 foot deep pit for a septic tank for the school to have flushing toilets. These were some of the experiences we had in the laborious conditions they have to work in all day. The community people doing these jobs only receive \$5 for the whole day's work.

Before mission trips came to this village, the kids had to go through a river and up a mountain to get to Cyjanigua, another village. So we walked to Cyjanigua to visit the school where the older children attend. To see first hand how the trip was everyday to just go to school. We realized that our trip just down a flat road was not bad at all compared to what they had to do. We could bike, take a bus, or get a ride. Even if we walked, we wouldn't have it so bad.

Visiting with the people, we truly understood the extent of the poverty. Now, we understood why we came here and why we were needed so badly to help. It was important for us to realize how others lived and the struggles they faced in their daily lives.

We attended a mass at St. Francis of Assisi Church. Even though we were in a



*St. Paul's High School and St. Mary's Academy students at Loma Linda. Jessie and Madison are in the left of the group with red towels around their necks.*



## El Salvador, continued

poor area everyone would dress their best for church. Everyone participated in the mass very enthusiastically. This shows the strength of the Catholicism in the community even they are poor, they have a very strong faith.

During a tour, we went to a historical Wall of Names in San Salvador. Something that shocked me was when our guide was talking about all the civilians that were killed or taken during the civil war and the long wall was filled with over 10,000 names of those people. This was very eye opening of the conflicts this country has gone through. We learned a lot about the religious and political struggle that the country has gone through and heard first hand stories from our guides.

We saw the beauty of the countryside in the volcanoes and botanical gardens as well as the faith of the people in their work, sports and dance. At the end of our time there, we had a celebration in Loma Linda; we really felt how appreciative they were to have us come and help them in their community. They really cherish us coming and they gave us a big celebration with dances and activities.

I chose this journey to learn about the culture of El Salvador and to understand their heritage more. As well to understand the struggles that a third world country would face. The biggest challenge for me was getting used to their culture and used to the working conditions because it was very hot. If I were to go again I think it would be good to hear everything again to be able absorb all the information we received. The biggest thing on the trip was trying to process and let everything sink in because it was so condensed and packed in to such a short time of 14 days. I would tell someone who is going on the trip is to try to take in the moment because before you know it, it will be over. You have to try to absorb the most you can before you're gone. You may never do something this powerful again.



*In the image of The Pit, Drew is on the left in blue and Matt is taking the bucket. Jessie is in the small group girls picture.*

# Alumni Updates

Let us honour  
our dear  
Alma Mater.

Let us sing in  
one voice her  
fair name.

Greater  
schools there  
may be, but  
none dearer

To our hearts  
than the one  
we acclaim.



Winter 2007

The New Wine Press • 3

Congratulations to **Dylan Thiessen** (2012) on being selected by the Western Hockey League's (WHL) Brandon Wheat Kings in this year's Bantam Draft. Dylan is playing for the Winnipeg Monarchs for the 2013-14 season along with a fellow alumni member Dane Bumstead (2012).

Congratulations to the St. Paul's Crusader Junior Varsity Cross Country team who capped off a perfect season by winning the MHSAA Provincial Championship at Spruce Woods Provincial Park. This is the 11th title in 12 years for the JV team. Grade nine speedster **Bryce Stubbings** (2012) placed 7th overall and top grade nine finisher. **Ryan McDonald** (2012) also ranked in the top five for the Crusaders.

## St. Charles school initiates hockey program

Each week, students have the opportunity to practice on the ice. The school has a full-sized rink, and many of the students are already hockey players. The program was initiated by the school's hockey coach, Mr. [Name], who has been coaching for several years. The program is open to all students, and it is a great way for them to stay active and learn teamwork.



St. Charles students Kyle and [Name]

of the program. When he was in the school, he was a hockey player, and he wants to help other students who are interested in the sport. The program is a great way for students to learn teamwork and stay active.

## alumni

**Paul Kraemer** (2005) played for the Ellsworth Community College baseball team in Iowa and is currently a pharmacist.

Welcome back to **Emma Boyd** (2005)! Emma has been student teaching at SCCS this year.

Congratulations to Miss **Nadya Pankiw** (2010)! Nadya, together with her grandmother, Dr. Mary Pankiw, have published a children's book which was recently launched at McNally Robinson. *Misilla Mouse* is a story of a little mouse who excitedly prepares a Christmas party for her friends. It's a delightful tale with colorful artwork – a great read.



Did you catch the article in the Winnipeg Free Press about **Jordan Stephensen** (2004). Stephensen studied graphic design at the University of Manitoba. Together with a couple of business partners, he has created a line of clothing design and a retail store to sell it on Osborne.

<http://www.winnipegfreepress.com/our-communities/souwester/Putting-their-stamp-on-street-chic-220397041.html>

Congratulations to the Violin Ambassadors, together with alumni who performed at the Virtuosi Concert Series. One of the audience members was Donald Bailey. Mr. Bailey is the author of *Music: The Essential Component in Education*. He sent the school a copy of his which explains how music education, especially violin performance skills, can enhance a child's cognitive, emotional, and intellectual development. Only 30 pages in length, it covers everything a parent would want to know about the effect that music programs such as ours have on children!





# Grads From the Past...



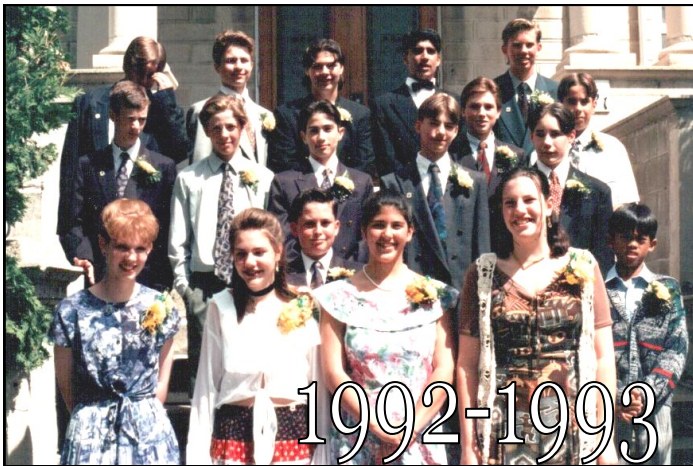
Left-Right: Valerie Fisher, Yvonne deRoquigny, Germaine Verhaeghe, Janet Pelletier



Front row: Janice Renkewitz, Donna Russell, Alice Gendreau

Second row: Deborah Hayward, Denyse Lambert, Diane Laflèche.

Third row: Jill White, Alice White, Colette Laurin



## Grade 8

1st row: Jodi Baxter, Amanda Cancade, Scott Stroh, Jaycee Lavallée, Jodie Miller, John Lachica.

2nd row: Craig Mazepa, Curran McNicol, Damian Mills, Chris Petryna, Nick Rowe, Matthew Côté, Sean Sandney.

3rd row: Justin Kulbacki, Nicholas Louizos, Chris Bullock, Kanwal Kumar, Andrew Stevens.

Missing: Natalie Eklund, Kathleen McNeil, Andrew Seymour.





# Grads From the Past...



## Grade 9

Front Row: Angela Athanasopoulos, Reetu Bharadwaj, Lisa Walker, Mike Sitko, Jackie Treffers, Darlene Weber.

Second Row: Kelly Farrell, Kerry Richardson, Douglas Dick, Maelynn MacLean, Candyce Ibbott, Lisa Wawryk.

Back Row: Michael Brugger, Brenda Norris, Jonathan Devlin, Morgan Porath, Ian Boyd, Bernadette Demong.

Teacher: Mme. Shirley Sylvestre

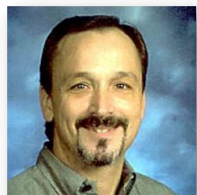


## Grade 12

Left to Right: Yvonne Gélinas, Theresa Paupanekis, Lorraine Devlin, Lorraine Laflèche, Beulah Stangl, Edith Havixbeck, Rosaline Chartrand.



## SCCS Events



### Robert Morrison 14th Annual Texas Scramble Golf Tournament

Monday, May 26th, 2014

Breezy Bend Golf & Country Club

For more information, contact the school office 204-837-1520. Information will be made available shortly on the school web site [www.stccs.ca](http://www.stccs.ca).

We would like to thank everyone for their support to another successful SCCS Golf Tournament. This was the SCCS' 13th Annual Robert Morrison Golf Tournament that was supported by 68 golfers and the newest addition to this years tournament, 8 Junior Golfers.

Due to the overwhelming support from our sponsors and cash/prize donors, we raised around \$15,000. With this we have been able to support the purchasing of iPads (Pilot project), and classroom projectors so teachers and students have access to technology and learning in their classrooms at their fingertips.

As well, the proceeds will help to purchase musical keyboards, library holdings, equipment for the new gym and

to complete our capital projects that are currently being finished at our school (additional bathroom, air conditioners for each classroom and a new gym area).

Thank you to everyone that helped make this another successful fundraiser for SCCS and save the date for next year... Monday, May 26, 2014 at Breezy Bend. Hope to see you there!



*Golfers, from novice to pro, Alumni and current students, enjoyed a wonderful day of golf, fun and camaraderie all for a great cause.*

## Our Sympathies... To the Caron Family



The Alumni Association wishes to extend condolences to the family of Louis Caron ('29 - '39), who passed away on Sunday, November 17, 2013, at 90 years of age. Mr. Caron was a gracious supporter of SCCS. The Louis Caron Award, a Music Award named in his honor, is given annually to the SCCS Music Student of the Year. We would like to express our gratitude for support of our Music program. *Thank you.*

Mr. Caron's obituary can be found on the Wojcik's website.

*With heartfelt Sympathy*

## SCCS Events...

St. Charles students enjoyed cookies and juice after their performance at the Aulneau residence of the Oblate Sisters. This was a part of the annual Christian Service Day activities, during which students reach out to organizations in the community. The students were so glad to see so many of our sisters present: Sr. Marie Beaupré, Solange Bourgeois, Pierrette Caron, Thérèse Croteau, Bernadette Descorcy, Caroline Deters, Cécile Fontaine, Marguerite Hamel, Berthe O'Reilly, Hélène Roy, Marie-Luce Roy, Jeannette St-Vincent, Dora Tétreault, and Sr. Emma. It was so nice to be able to perform for the Sisters and to visit with Sr. Emma.



## knights of columbus

Captain Miles MacDonell Assembly #370

• Winnipeg • Manitoba • Canada •



Captain Miles MacDonell Assembly #370 holds an Annual Dinner and Draw fundraiser for Catholic education. St. Charles Catholic School will be the recipient of the proceeds from their 2014 Fundraiser.

**Date:** April 23rd, 2014

**Location:** Blessed John XXIII

**Time:** Cocktails: 6:00pm Dinner: 7:00pm

**Cost:** Dinner and Draw \$60 (with \$25 tax receipt)

Draw only \$30 (with \$25 tax receipt)

Tickets will be available at the School Office.

***Come out and enjoy a wonderful evening and support a worthy cause.***

Honk! JR. Is presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI).

### ST. CHARLES CATHOLIC SCHOOL

PRESENTS OUR SPRING MUSICAL HONK JR.  
AT THE WINNIPEG ART GALLERY (WAG)

**PRODUCTION DATES: MAY 5TH & MAY 6TH. 2014**



## 2013-2014

### Kindergarten Open House

Tuesday, January 28th, 6:30 p.m.

### K-8 General Open House

Wednesday, February 26th, 6:30 p.m.

St. Charles is a K-8 school, offering full day, every day kindergarten, a violin enrichment program, K-8 French, a hockey skills development program, arts and drama, as well as before and after school care. Academy Kids Daycare is also located on the premises. For more information, please contact St. Charles Catholic School: Office: 204-837-1520 or visit our website at [www.stccs.ca](http://www.stccs.ca).

*Quality Education that is  
Intellectually Challenging  
and Faith Filled*

### MEMBER SUBSCRIPTION

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

MAIDEN NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

GRADUATING CLASS: \_\_\_\_\_

- ☐ ☐ I have enclosed my membership fee of \$10.00. Please continue mailing a hard copy of "The Charger".
- ☐ ☐ I have enclosed an additional donation of \_\_\_\_\_. Please send a tax receipt to the above address.
- ☐ ☐ Please send the Electronic Charger to the above electronic mail address and enter my name in the draw for a "CHARGERS" Touque
- ☐ Please contact me about upcoming fundraising events.

## HOW CAN I HELP?

Bursary  
Funds



St. Charles Catholic School believes that every child should have the option of benefiting from a Catholic education.

Thanks to our Student Bursary fund, we are able to welcome families from all circumstances. Last year, the school sponsored \$40,000 in bursaries to families in the school. A collection was also taken up at our Christmas Concerts this year with enough money donated to sponsor an entire tuition! Donations of all amounts are

greatly appreciated and will ensure the Bursary Fund's ability to assist.

Donations over \$20.00 will receive a tax receipt and can be forwarded to:

St. Charles Catholic School  
331 St. Charles Street  
Winnipeg, MB  
R3K 1T6

**Thank you** for your ongoing contributions towards this important fund.

*"The Bursary Program has been a real blessing to our family. I am filled with gratitude for the generosity that makes bursaries possible to families who otherwise could not afford a Catholic education for their children. Jesus said "Let the children come to me", and I believe that enabling a child to have a Catholic education is another way of empowering those words."*

- St. Charles Parent



**Saint Charles  
Catholic School**

**RETURN ADDRESS:**

331 St. Charles Street  
Winnipeg, Manitoba  
R3K 1T6

POSTAGE

LABEL