

## OUR NEEDS AT DIVINE PROVIDENCE

We have just begun our new annual appeal. Our biggest project this year is raising funds for the remaining window replacements. We are incredibly grateful for all the generous donors that are helping us maintain our building, grounds, and purchasing necessary items to enhance the lives of our residents. Thanks to all who have contributed.

Please consider our following needs:

Handicapped Van	\$70,000.00
Window Replacement	\$382,000.00
Window Blinds for Resident Rooms	\$4,300.00
Headphone sound amplifiers for residents in Chapel	\$850.00

Please consider Divine Providence Community Home with a bequest gift in your Will or Estate Plan, a Life Insurance Policy, or an IRA Rollover.

It is an opportunity to strengthen the legacy of caring for those who are most vulnerable, and keeping them safe.

## Shop for Cards and Gifts at DPCH!

Visit the Auxiliary gift shop filled with religious gifts and décor for friends or family members. Additional items include handmade quilts, pot holders, embroidered dish towels, books, and baby gifts. Cards are available for \$1.00 in the main lobby for any occasion. Proceeds benefit the Auxiliary which supports Divine Providence.



### DIRECTORY

Facilities Director.....	Sr. Sharon Williams
Administrator.....	Jayna Groebner
Director of Nurses.....	Michelle Augustin, RN
Social Services.....	Shirley Hornick, LPN
Activity Director.....	ShellyRae Zinniel, ADC
Business Manager.....	Sheena Hoffmann
Dietary Manager.....	Jesse Steinbeisser
Environmental Services.....	Randy Renner
Health Information Manager/HIPAA.....	Alexa Crim
Lake Villa Maria Housing Manager.....	Gina McKeown

**Website: [divineprovidencehome.org](http://divineprovidencehome.org)**

**Facebook: Divine Providence Community Home**

Divine News & Views is a monthly newsletter issued by Divine Providence Community Home and Lake Villa Maria Apartments, Sleepy Eye, MN. The News & Views editor is Becky Sellner. If you wish to receive a monthly copy by mail or email, call Becky at 507-794-3011 or email: [bsellner@dpch.net](mailto:bsellner@dpch.net)

# HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Residents: Adeline Braulick, Delmar Haala,

Leo Hoffmann, Donna Schmitz, Aut Seidl

Employees: Alicia Edick, Ann Mulvany, Sr. Sharon



## EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT

Kathy Moldaschel

CNA



How long have you worked here? 37.5 years

What does your job entail? Bathing, feeding, and walking residents etc.

In terms of successes, which accomplishments are you most proud of?

Being here as long as I have been.

What is the best part about working at Divine?

Being around the elderly and hearing about all the fond memories they have been through. There's never a dull moment.

What's your favorite memory while working at Divine Providence?

There are way too many to list!

Who are some of your biggest inspirations at Divine?

All of the Sisters here at Divine & Shirley Hornick

About your family: Husband- Mark, One son- Trevor (37 years old) and 2 grandchildren

A fun fact about yourself most people don't know:

I enjoy cooking, going for long walks, and the many summer cruises with our classic cars.



# HOG WILD



We had a hog-tastic time celebrating National Pig Month! Thank you to Schwartz Farms for the Piggy Costumes. We were able to be hog wild here at Divine. St. Mary's 1st graders joined in some pig-themed games.

# St. Patrick's Day Celebrations



St. Patrick's day was celebrated with music by Dain's Dutchmen. Special St. Patrick's themed games were played, and Lenten lunches were enjoyed with special guests each week including baby Patrick Pietig with mother Melissa, and little JoJo Braulick with mother Katie.





## Welcome Fr. Larry Wiesler!

Fr. Larry, age 90, is currently residing at Lake Villa Maria and celebrates daily Mass and the Sacraments here. Since he is new to the area, we wanted to learn more about his background and his life story. Here is a snapshot of his life experiences:

**Where were you born and raised?** Fr. Larry was born and raised in Nebraska until age 19. He had 4 sisters and 2 brothers, and the family milked around 10 cows, raised hogs, cattle, chicken, and grew corn & oats. The family sold the farm and moved to Baudette, MN in 1953 for better farming opportunities.

**What are your hobbies?** In his younger years, Fr. Larry enjoyed canoeing and snow-skiing. Currently he enjoys reading.

**How did you decide to become a priest?** When he was young, Fr. Larry and his brother were visiting with their grandmother when she asked if they ever thought about being a priest. They both said 'No'. However, the look on her face proved that she knew something they didn't know. Fr. Larry was just laid off at a missile base in Iowa where he worked in common labor and as a carpenter thereafter. At age 24, he visited the Crosier Seminary in Onamia, MN and signed up to join the priesthood. He had completed 2 years of high school and took 2 years of college general education classes along with Latin. In 1969 at the age of 34, he was ordained a priest.

**Where have you served throughout your priesthood?** Fr. Larry began his ministry at Park Rapids for 2 years, then went to East Grand Forks for a year, and spent about 9 years at Brooks. After this, he did a 3 month renewal at Notre Dame and met people from many different countries. When he returned, there was an envelope on his desk with a letter from the Bishop looking for a priest to serve in Venezuela. Fr. Larry accepted the call and went to language school for 3 months in Mexico. He went to Maracay, Venezuela at the age of 47 where he spent the next 10 years; working with the St. Cloud team for about 7 of those years and then on his own for 3 years. The bishop then called him back to Steven, MN for 3 years. He returned to Venezuela for another 10 years then came back to the Crookston Diocese for 4 years and retired at the age of 70. Yet again, he returned to Venezuela where he continued to serve as a priest even under dangerous living situations. He helped run 2 child care centers that provided care for single-parent families and 1 elderly care center.

At age 75, he was encountered with a near death experience when a thief tied him up and stole his car. He was moments away from his last breath until the grace of God saved him and gave him enough strength to work himself free from the knots. He was able to escape and realized the dangers he was in so he flew to South Texas. Despite what happened, he was called by God to go back to Venezuela once more to serve until the age of 88. His final ticket to the U.S. in June 2023 wasn't an easy path as he had trouble leaving the country due to Passport issues. He had to get to Colombia and after being forced to sign some papers that he wasn't able to read, was finally able to get a ticket that flew him to the U.S. with long layovers and no sleep until he could get to Minneapolis and having to attend his brother-in-law's funeral the next day.

**What have you enjoyed most while being a priest?** In Venezuela, Fr. Larry had the opportunity to form small groups of parents while they were preparing their children for First Communion. This doubled to over 200 people in just two years. He was able to lead these group discussions and witnessed the people finding their faith by studying scripture together. This was true evangelization.

**What has been the biggest challenge of being a priest?** Due to the high crime and violence in Venezuela, Fr. Larry had to carry 20 keys around as all doors needed to be kept locked at all times. It was unsafe to go out after sunset around 7pm. He had funerals for many young people in their 20s because of the violence. Amongst all the dangerous living situations he has been through, the biggest challenge was working under 8 bishops in Venezuela and the misunderstandings that were encountered through this.

**What's one of your favorite memories and greatest accomplishments in life?** Leading the 30 years of parent catechesis with the different groups was the most rewarding and memorable time of Fr. Larry's life.

**What advice do you have for people who have difficulty finding their faith?** Fr. Larry says reading the Vatican Council documentation to see what the Church teaches versus what is practiced in your own life helps us to deepen our faith. Also, get to know the Holy Spirit, as no one can guide you as the Holy Spirit can, and be happy and at peace with where the Holy Spirit leads you. Fr. Larry's greatest quote is, "The longest distance is from our head to our heart." People get so caught up in thinking they know everything with their heads instead of letting their heart, through the Holy Spirit, guide them.

Fr. Larry can lead a 5 day meeting retreat where the group meets for about an hour each day and will help you to learn to listen to the Holy Spirit. If interested, please contact Fr. Larry.

*A note from the Facilities Director- Sr. Sharon*

**CHRIST HAS DIED! CHRIST HAS RISEN! CHRIST WILL COME AGAIN!**  
We are at the halfway point of our **Lenten pilgrimage**-a pilgrimage of HOPE in this **Jubilee Year!**

**Jesus, dying and rising, is always ready to help us and is the reason of our HOPE. He gives us Himself!** Are we on the Highway to Heaven? On the road to a **Resurrection Easter?**

He gave Himself up for each of us as if we were the only one. Our **Salvation** He won so that we might **be with Him FOREVER!**

**Yes! He died! Yet, He Rose** for our assurance to give us a path to follow, a **pilgrims path! He will come again** to take us with Him whenever He sees fit!  
**ALLELUIA! He is RISEN! Happy and Blessed Easter to all!**