

Yarns 'n Prayers



St. Giles Prayer Shawl Ministry

News from the 1st Quarter, 2022

1- **Do you know someone in need of our community's prayers?** Whether it's a physical, emotional or spiritual problem, our prayer shawls and blankets carry our prayers to those in need. You can get a shawl or blanket for that someone you know at the Parish Center when it's staffed, or ask someone on the Pastoral Team, or the contact below.

2- **There is no charge for this** but donations of yarn, or money to buy yarn, are appreciated to carry on this ministry.

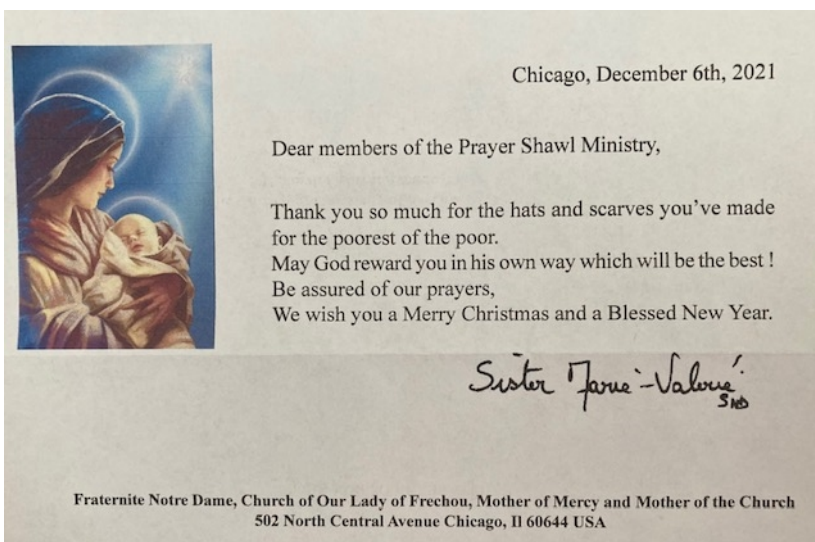
3- **Do you knit or crochet? Would you like to participate in this ministry?** We gather at the Parish Ministry Center on the second Monday of each month at 1 PM to bless and record new shawls and blankets, share patterns and ideas, and get yarn for new projects. Attendance is not required. You can join this ministry by making at least one shawl or lap blanket. If you need yarn to do this, you can get some from our stash. Send your contact info to Paul Joseph Schleitwiler, FCM to be added to the roster

4- **Do you have a story to share about prayer shawls or blankets?** Or other things related to this ministry or the making of shawls and blankets? Did something in this newsletter inspire you to comment about it?

Share what you have to say by email to pjschleitwilerfcm@yahoo.com

What More Can I Do?

You may not be able to make things to carry our prayers to those in need, but, if you know of someone who needs our prayers, you can get a shawl, blanket or other item from the Parish Center and give it to that person. If you can't physically do that, call the Parish Center with your information about where and to whom and why to send something and ask that it be passed to one of us who can do it.



We are praying for the unhoused

The Fraternité de Notre Dame (also known as "The French Nuns") distributes sleeping bags to the unhoused as winter draws near. Last year Nancy Hoel crocheted several hats and donated them to the French Nuns. This year, she asked the St Giles Prayer Shawl Ministry if they wanted to participate in this endeavor as well. Our prayer shawl ministers knitted and crocheted beautiful hats and scarves and brought them to our monthly meetings. Nancy delivered the beautiful work of our hands to the French Nuns at the Elmhurst Farmers Market in late October. Many heads and necks will be warmer this winter because of our efforts!

Prayer Shawl Ministry meeting dates in 2022

The 2nd Monday of each month

1st Qtr Jan. 10, Feb. 14, Mar. 14

2nd Qtr Apr. 11, May 9, Jun. 13

3rd Qtr Jul. 11, Aug. 8, Sep. 12

4th Qtr Oct. 10, Nov. 14, Dec. 12

To confirm a particular meeting date, contact Paul Joseph Schleitwiler, FCM at pjschleitwilerfcm@yahoo.com

Statistics for the Quarter

Not all the items made and given out were recorded. As near as we can tell crafting members in this ministry made and submitted 19 shawls, 8 blankets, 21 scarves, 52 hats and some gloves and laces this quarter. 42 shawls, 40 blankets, 79 scarves, 30 hats and head warmers, more than 22 gloves or mittens, more than 100 blessing squares and 7 bags went to people in need of our prayers.

Who Else Are We Praying For

In addition to those we are already praying for, there are added

this quarter:

immigrants

a niece requiring regular IV treatments

a student whose father died in Uganda

a woman for emotional healing

a woman grieving loss of both parents in five months

a sister whose teen daughter died

a friend's mother's emergency surgery

a woman for death of daughter

a woman for loss of brother

another woman for loss of brother

a person for loss of family

a person for sickness,

another person for sickness

a man for surgery

a woman for cancer,

a woman for illness,

a man for help,

a woman for illness

a man for illness

another woman for illness

two women, God knows their need

a friend for loss of her son in an accident

a friend of a friend whose daughter died

a son-in-law for head trauma

a woman whose husband died

another friend whose husband died.

a woman having multiple ER visits, tests, weight loss

a woman for her 2nd bout of cancer

a parishioner with a career ending degenerative disease

a priest who broke a hip in a fall

a man with heart problems

a woman with elderly health problems

a woman with heart problems

a woman with lung cancer

a woman who lost a son by suicide in the past and is still grieving

another woman who lost a son by suicide in January

a woman with breast cancer

a woman with family problems

a woman diagnosed with MS

the mother of a friend for surgery.

asylum seekers at the Chicago Greyhound bus station

Someone who crochets is obviously a magician. She mumbles strange words and waves a stick around some yarn and beautiful things appear.

Dec. 25, 2021

Dear Sister Sue & the St Giles Prayer Shawl Ministry.

Thank you for your prayers & the lovely prayer shawl. This is my 3rd bout with cancer and I'm still a SURVIVOR. Prayers are so powerful and I'm thankful you've been prayer for me and my chemo is going well without too many side effects. God Bless you all! Denise

October Shawl

By: Kimberly K. McAlindin for windyvalleymuskox.net

This beautiful crochet shawl pattern is the perfect new accessory for your fall wardrobe. The October Shawl is a gorgeous, moss green shawl with a beautiful lacy scalloped edge. This practical, cozy shawl has a sleeve on one side to keep it from falling off your shoulders. There's nothing to hate and everything to love about this adorable piece, so feel free to move about naturally in this pretty crocheted shawl for fall.

Intermediate

Crochet Hook J/10 or 6 mm hook

MATERIALS

Yarn weight 1 to 3 oz., 1308 yds. (1196.0352 meters)

Size J (10 -6.0mm) crochet hooks

Darning needle

Stitch markers

SIZE Outer edge, 135"; height, 20"; sleeve length, 11" from underarm

GAUGE

14 sts = 4" (10 cm) in linked double crochet

Take time to save time: crochet a gauge swatch!

INSTRUCTIONS

Notes: While sleeve is worked in the round, the shawl is worked back and forth in rows. Turn after every row. Techniques used include: working in the round, lace edge.

Stitches

Beginning linked double crochet (B-ldc): Ch3, insert hook in the second chain from the hook, yarn over and draw up a loop (2 lps on hook). Insert hook in the same st as the beginning ch3 and draw up a loop (3 lps on hook). [Yarn over, draw through 2 loops] twice.

October Shawl continued

SHAWL

Using the foundation single crochet method, work 55 sts.

Row 1: sc in each stitch across. 55 sc.

Row 2 (RS): B-ldc and ldc in first sc (increase made), (ldc, ch 3, ldc) in next sc, ldc in next 7 sc (for left sleeve), (ldc, ch 3, ldc) in next sc, ldc in next 21 sc, (ldc, ch 3, ldc) in next sc, ldc in next 10 sc, (ldc, ch 3, ldc) in next sc, ldc in next 10 sc, (ldc, ch 3, ldc) in next sc, 2 ldc in last sc. 62 ldc.

Row 3: B-ldc and ldc in first ldc, * ldc in each ldc across to first ch 3 space (ldc, ch 3, ldc) in ch 3 space; repeat from * across to last ldc, 2ldc in last ldc. 74 ldc.

Repeat Row 3 until there are 45 stitches for the left sleeve.

SEPARATE SLEEVE STITCHES

Next Row: B-ldc and ldc in first ldc, ldc in each ldc across to next ch 3 space, 1 ldc in ch 3 space, ch 13, 1 ldc in next ch 3 space, * ldc in each ldc to next ch 3 space (ldc, ch 3, ldc) in ch 3 space; repeat from * twice more, ldc in each ldc to last ldc, 2ldc in last ldc.

Row 1: B-ldc and ldc in first ldc, ldc in each ldc across to ch 13 space, ldc in first 6 chs, (ldc, ch 3, ldc) in next ch, ldc in next 6 chs, * ldc in each ldc across to next ch 3 space (ldc, ch 3, ldc) in next ch 3 space: repeat from * twice more, ldc in each ldc to last ldc, 2ldc in last ldc.

Row 2: B-ldc and ldc in first ldc, *ldc in each ldc across to ch 3 space, (ldc, ch 3, ldc) in ch 3 space; repeat from * 3 times more, ldc in each ldc to last ldc, 2ldc in last ldc.

Repeat Row 2, 4 times more.

LACE EDGING

(Lace edging is variation of mussel edging from Donna Kooler's encyclopedia of crochet p.217 – beginning with Row 5 on this pattern.)

Row 1: 2sc in first ldc, * sc in each ldc, 4 sc in each ch 3 space; repeat from * to last ldc, 2sc in last ldc. 350 sts.

Row 2: Ch3 (counts as a dc + ch1) * skip 2 sc, dc in 3rd sc, ch1, working in front of dc just worked, dc in first sc of skipped 3 sc; repeat from * .

Row 3: Ch 1, 2sc in first dc, sc in each dc and in each ch space to last dc, 2sc in last dc. 352 sts.

Row 4: Ch 1, sc in each sc.

Row 5: Ch 1, sc in first sc and in next 4 sc, * skip 3 sc, ch 4, (dc, ch 2, dc) in next sc, skip 3 sc, ch 4, + sc in next 9 sc; repeat from * across ending last repeat at +, sc in last 5 sc.

Row 6: Ch 1, sc in first sc and in next 3 sc, * ch 5, dc in first dc, ch 2, (dc, ch 2, dc) in next ch 2 space, ch 2, dc in next dc, ch 5, + skip 1 sc, sc in next 7 sc; repeat from * across ending last repeat at +, skip 1 sc, sc in last 4 sc.

Row 7: Ch 1, sc in first sc and in next 2 sc, * ch 5, (dc in next dc, ch 2) twice, (dc, ch 2, dc) in next ch 2 space, (ch 2, dc in next dc) twice, ch 5, + skip 1 sc, sc in next 5 sc;

repeat from * across ending last repeat at +, skip 1 sc, sc in last 3 sc.

Row 8: Ch 1, sc in first sc and in next sc, * ch 5, (dc in next dc, ch 2) 3 times, (dc, ch 2, dc) in next ch 2 space, (ch 2, dc in next dc) 3 times, ch 5, + skip 1 sc, sc in next 3 sc; repeat from * across ending last repeat at +, skip 1 sc, sc in last 2 sc.

Row 9: Ch1, sc in first sc, * ch 5, (dc in next dc, ch 2) 4 times, (dc, ch 2, dc) in next ch 2 space, (ch 2, dc in next dc) 4 times, ch 5, + skip 1 sc, sc in next sc; repeat from * across ending last repeat at +, skip 1 sc, sc in last sc.

DO NOT FASTEN OFF.

FINISHING

Edging

Note: Edging is worked in sc around entire shawl beginning with lace bottom and going up one side of the side around the neck and back down the other side.

Round 1: Ch 1, sc in first sc, * 3sc in each ch 5 sp and 2sc in each ch 2 sp; repeat from * across bottom of lace edging, sc evenly up side of shawl across neck and down the other side of shawl. Fasten off.

Row 1: B-ldc in first ch, ldc in next 6 chs, linked dc in next 45 ldc (around armhole), ldc in next 6 chs. 58 ldc. Row 2: B-ldc in first ldc, ldc in each ldc across.

Row 3: B-ldc in first ldc, ldc in each ldc across.

Row 4: B-ldc in first ldc, skip 1 ldc, ldc in each ldc across to last 2 ldc, skip 1 ldc, ldc in last ldc. 56 ldc.

Repeat Rows 2-4 to 46 sts. Work on those 46 sts until armhole measures 11”

Next Row: B-ldc in first ldc, ldc in next 2 ldc, skip 1 ldc, * ldc in next 3 ldc, skip 1 ldc; repeat from * across. 35 ldc.

SLEEVE

Note: sleeve will be worked back and forth down from the armhole and seamed up.

With RS facing, rejoin yarn to center of underarm.

SLEEVE EDGING

Row 1: ch 1, sc in each ldc across.

Row 2: ch 1, sc in each ldc across. Fasten off leaving a long tail to seam up sleeve.

Weave in ends.

Block shawl.

Crafters in the Prayer Shawl ministry are a tight knit group.

Lattice Brioche Blanket or Lapghan

Difficulty level: *** Intermediate

Free Baby Blanket or Lap Afghan Knitting Pattern

This charming blanket or lapghan uses brioche knitting to create an intricate geometric pattern. As with a lot of Brioche patterns, the blanket is fully reversible. The pattern is not too difficult, but prior experience knitting Brioche is recommended.

Skills required: To knit this blanket, you have to know how to knit 2-color brioche stitch, and make brioche decreases.

Size: length 40" (100 cm), width 40" (100 cm)

Materials: worsted weight yarn 880 yards (804.672 meters) dark color

worsted weight yarn 880 yards (804.672 meters) light color

Notions: stitch markers, yarn/tapestry needle.

Needles: US 6 (4.0 mm) circular needles 24" (60 cm) or longer.

Gauge:

16 sts x 20 rows = 4" x 4" (10cm x 10cm) In 2-color brioche st:

Note, that 1 row of brioche consists of 1 row of LC and 1 row of DC

Abbreviations

Please note that I use Nancy Marchant terminology for brioche stitch. I highly recommend her books *Knitting Brioche: The Essential Guide to the Brioche Stitch* and *Knitting Fresh Brioche: Creating Two-Color Twists & Turns*.

yf - yarn forward: bring the yarn to the front, between the tips of the needles.

yb - yarn back: take the yarn to the back, between the tips of the needles.

sl1yof - slip 1, yarn over, yarn to front: with working yarn in front, slip the next stitch purlwise, then bring the yarn over the needle and the slipped stitch, then bring yarn back around to the front, ready to purl the following stitch.

yfsl1yo - yarn forward, slip 1, yarn over: bring the working yarn between the tips of the needles to front of work, slip the next stitch purlwise, then bring the yarn over the needle and the slipped stitch. Leave yarn in back, ready to knit the next stitch.

brk - brioche knit: knit the stitch together with its accompanying yarnover

brp - brioche purl: purl the stitch together with its accompanying yarnover

3-3 (brioche gathered 3 into 3 st) –slip the next st (the

marked st with its yarn over) knitwise, onto the right-hand needle.

Brk together 2 next sts (sl1yo and next brk), inserting right-hand needle into brk first, DO NOT take these 2 sts off the left-hand needle, yo, insert right-hand needle into these 2 sts again and pull another st (now you have 3 sts made out of those 2 sts), with left needle pass the slipped st over 3 sts.

LS – light side

DS – dark side

LC – light color

DC- dark color

k – knit

p – purl

sl1 – slip 1 (knitwise for the 1st stitch in a row).

Pattern Notes

Two-Color Brioche Stitch – Basic Instructions

These instructions are included as a guide to the technique, and as instructions for swatching.

A single brioche row is worked in two passes, one in light color (LC) and the other in dark color (DC). Both colors are worked in one direction, then the work is turned and both colors are worked in the other direction. The light side (LS) of the project is first worked in light color (LC) yarn, then in dark color (DC) yarn. The LS of the work is where brk stitches are worked in light color (LC) yarn.

Odd number of stitches

Set-up row (LC): k1, *sl1yof, p1, rep from *, to last 2 sts, sl1yof, p1. Do not turn, slide work to the other end of the needle.

Set-up row (DC): sl1, yb, *brk1, yfsl1yo, repeat from * to last 2 sts, brk1, yb, sl last st. Turn.

Row 1 (LS, LC): k1, *yfsl1yo, brk1, repeat from * to last 2 sts, yfsl1yo, k1. Do not turn, slide work to the other end of the needle.

Row 1 (LS, DC): sl1, yf, *brp1, sl1yof, repeat from * to last 2 sts, brp1, yb, slip last st. Turn.

Row 2 (DS, LC): p1, *sl1yof, brp1, repeat from * to last 2 sts, sl1yof, p1. DO not turn, slide work to the other end of the needle.

Row 2 (DS, DC): sl1, yb, *brk1, yfsl1yo, repeat from * to last 2 sts, brk1, yf, sl last st. Turn.

Chain Selvedge

When working the selvedge stitches at the beginning and the end of the row, at the start of the LC rows, always bring LC under the DC.

Short Overview of the pattern

The blanket is worked in 2-color brioche stitch, dark (DC) and light color (LC) yarns are used. The blanket alternates rows of straight brioche st, and a brioche lattice, which is achieved by working br3-3 (brioche gathered 3 into 3 st).

Blanket

Using 2 strands of yarn (LC and DC), cast on 183 sts.

Setup Row (DS LC): k1, (p1, yf sl1yo) 2 times, p1, [(yf sl1yo, p1) 2 times] 43 times, yf sl1yo, p1, yf sl1yo, p2. 183 sts.

Setup Row (DS DC): k1, (yf sl1yo, brk) 2 times, yf sl1yo, [(brk, yf sl1yo) 2 times] 43 times, (brk, yf sl1yo) 2 times, p1.

Row 1 (LS LC): sl, (brk, yf sl1yo) 2 times, [(brk, yf sl1yo) 2 times] 43 times, (brk, yf sl1yo) 2 times, brk, p1.

Row 1 (LS DC): sl, (yf sl1yo, brp) 2 times, [(yf sl1yo, brp) 2 times] 43 times, (yf sl1yo, brp) 2 times, yf sl1yo, p1.

Row 2 (DS LC): sl wyif, (brp, yf sl1yo) 2 times, brp, [(yf sl1yo, brp) 2 times] 43 times, (yf sl1yo, brp) 2 times, p1.

Row 2 (DS DC): sl wyif, (yf sl1yo, brk) 2 times, yf sl1yo, [(brk, yf sl1yo) 2 times] 43 times, (brk, yf sl1yo) 2 times, p1.

Repeat rows 1-2 thirty (30) more times both LC and DC.

Row 33 (LS LC): sl, 3-3, yf sl1yo, [3-3, yf sl1yo] 43 times, 3-3, yf sl1yo, brk, p1.

Row 33 (LS DC): sl, yf sl1yo, p1, yf sl1yo, brp, [yf sl1yo, p1, yf sl1yo, brp] 43 times, yf sl1yo, p1, yf sl1yo, brp, yf sl1yo, p1.

Row 34 (DS LC): repeat row 2.

Row 34 (DS DC): repeat row 2.

Row 35 (LS LC): sl, brk, yf sl1yo, 3-3, [yf sl1yo, 3-3] 43 times, yf sl1yo, 3-3, p1.

Row 35 (LS DC): sl, yf sl1yo, brp, yf sl1yo, p1, yf sl1yo,

[brp, yf sl1yo, p1, yf sl1yo] 43 times, brp, (yf sl1yo, p1) 2 times.

Row 36 (DS LC): sl wyif, (brp, yf sl1yo) 2 times, [(brp, yf sl1yo) 2 times] 43 times, (brp, yf sl1yo) 2 times, brp, p1.

Row 36 (DS DC): sl wyif, (yf sl1yo, brk) 2 times, [(yf sl1yo, brk) 2 times] 43 times, (yf sl1yo, brk) 2 times, yf sl1yo, p1.

Repeat rows 33-36 seven (7) more time both LC and DC.

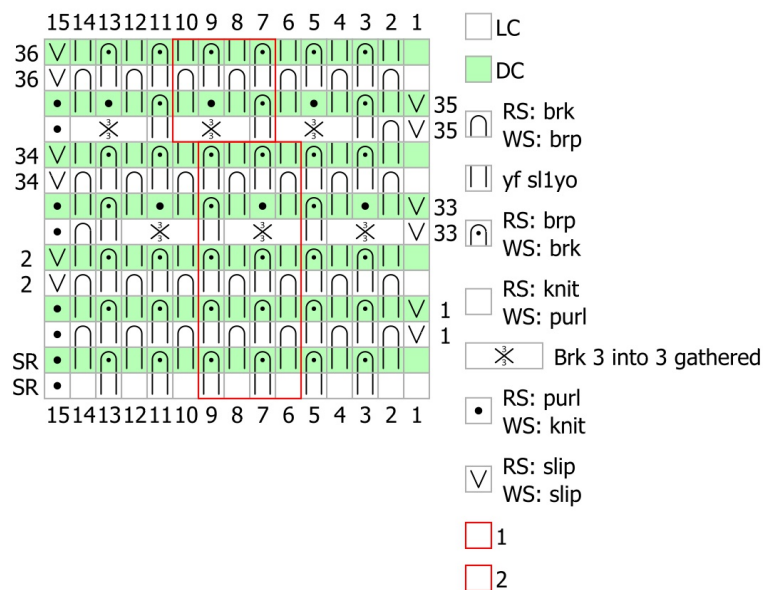
Repeat rows 1-64 two (2) more times.

Repeat rows 1-32 one (1) more time.

Bind off.

Finishing: Block.

Key



If you clean the house, do the laundry or wash the dishes they get dirty again. If you crochet or knit something, it's done!

True friendship is helping someone to untangle their yarn.

Our Blessing for Shawls and Lap Blankets

(adapted from Janet Severi Bristow - 2000)

May God's grace be upon these shawls and blankets ...
warming, comforting, enfolding and embracing.

May these mantles be a safe haven ...

a sacred place of security and well being ...

sustaining and embracing in good times as well as difficult ones.

May those who receive these shawls and blankets be cradled in hope,
kept in joy, graced with peace,
and wrapped in love.

Blessed be!