

# Yarns 'n Prayers



## St. Giles Prayer Shawl Ministry

News from the 3rd Quarter, 2021

**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. 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](mailto:pjschleitwilerfcm@yahoo.com)

### Prayer Shawl Ministry meeting dates in 2021

We continue meeting on the 2nd Monday of each month in the Parish Center.

Oct 11 Nov 8 Dec 13

If you would like to join us, contact Paul Joseph Schleitwiler, FCM at [pjschleitwilerfcm@yahoo.com](mailto:pjschleitwilerfcm@yahoo.com)

### Lucia from Italy

We sent Lucia two shawls for her family's needs and she was very grateful. Recently, she sent us a donation of \$100 and asked for continued prayers.

She said, "Thank you, my 45-year-old sister Anna Istone has been operated on but is still very ill. Today the drainage of the intervention is also blocked. Everything seems to be going wrong. Pray for her and for my desperate parents Pasquale and Speranza."

### We have a bunch of priorities right now.

#1, #2 & 3- Oct meeting - 40 new prayer shawls for Healing masses - and as always the needs of the St. Giles community is #1. 50-75 blessing squares for Maudette, then divide the scarves and hats we have between Nancy Hoel's French nuns and Sister Sue's food pantry

#4 - Dec meeting- 30 new scarves and/or hats for the Girls at Mercy Home for Christmas gifts

#5 - Jan & Feb meetings - assess if we have anything to send to the border

#6 - Feb & March - St. Catherine & St. Lucy's program for people with mental illness

~ Margie Rudnik

**You too can knit or crochet. You need take no test, nor apply for a license or membership. It doesn't matter how fast or how much you do or if you just started or have been doing it for years. All that is required is that you want to do it.**



### Statistics for the Quarter

We made forty-one shawls and eight blankets this quarter. Annette Hulefeld continues to produce the most shawls. More crafters have joined us and we continue to make scarves and hats.

People we are praying for received fifty-four shawls and a couple blankets.

## Who Are We Praying For?

Marietta W.  
Kate C. O'B., lung cancer, Kate is a friend of Mary Schmidt's sister.  
a parishioner with fractured hip  
Domi G-P., cancer,  
Mary and John K., John is suffering from dementia, Mary is caring for him. Friend of Margie.  
Bob E., surgery,  
a 13 year old girl whose grandmother died.  
Mary - her mother died a few months ago - from parish  
Leslie - death of her mom  
Janice H. has been moved to Belmont Village on Madison Street. She is having trouble moving around.  
Jill B., a friend, for her critically ill sister.  
Maria R.. for brain surgery. She is a breast cancer survivor.  
My mother is taking on a new role as my father's caretaker.  
My father, K., is suffering from primary progressive aphasia, a degenerative brain disease that has progressed in the past few months. Thank you. Rachel D.  
Please pray for our grandfather, Sanders (Bud) J.. His cancer treatments are not helping him.  
Sister Colleen N. who is suffering from dementia. Sister Janet D. wrote the note for her - "She is so grateful for the beautiful prayer shawl. As she wears it you will be remembered in her prayers. I know it will be worn frequently for she gets chilly easily. She sends her love and gratitude to each of you."  
Juanita.  
Mike R. - brother died.  
Susie, a cousin who had openheart surgery.  
Two shawls to a friend, Laurel, for family of a woman killed on the Dan Ryan Expressway.

To say a mere "thank you" seems inadequate for the gift of the beautiful purple shawl that Rita made & delivered to me - I was completely stunned! Guess it's one thing to make something and being presented with one is completely different. I treasure the shawl & want you to know each time I see it a prayer of blessings will go to all of you.  
oops!  
Gratefully, Juanita

Thinking how much your kindness and caring mean, and thanking God for the blessing of you.

for Debra who has cancer.  
Joyce R.  
Lois, a friend of Marcy D whose parents have died and needs a kidney transplant  
Fran F. whose husband died.  
Joseph C, hospitalized  
Chrisy in Florida, family sick with Covid  
Anne Marie, lost job  
Judy H.'s sister, Parkinsons and cancer  
Kathy N.'s, sister, hip surgery  
Kathleen D.'s daughter, Jane.  
Kathleen D., death of brother and brother-in-law.  
Joanne's friend, death of husband  
Jane, death of father  
Chuck R.'s granddaughter - leg problem  
Mike K.'s wife  
Karla H., surgery

## Knitters enter heaven through the purly gates

Dear Margie,  
What a happy surprise arrived on my front porch. It was so very thoughtful of you to think of us & to send a prayer shawl. It is already sending out a comforting message. I will miss my new Mercy companions. This is a time of hard decisions.

Again, thank you for your kindness + generosity. It touched me to the core.

Sincerely,  
Mary Kane

I wish you all well in these final steps to become a Mercy Associate.

One who sleeps under a crocheted blanket is cradled in love.

## Melon Ball Shawl

### Materials Used:

1 skein of color A– 265 yds/242 m – 140 g/4.9 oz.

1 skein of color B– 265 yds/242 m – 140 g/4.9 oz.

1 skein of color C– 265 yds /242 m – 140 g/4.9 oz.

Or any size 3 light weight yarn

G/6 (4.25 mm) crochet hook

Stitch markers

Tapestry needle for weaving in ends

Finished Size Approximately: 63” Width x 29½” Height

Gauge: 17 double crochet stitches and 7½ rows in a 4” (10cm) square.

### Abbreviations:

FC – foundation chain

RS – right side

WS – wrong side

ch(s) – chain(s)

st(s) – stitch(es)

sc – single crochet

dc – double crochet

sl st – slip stitch

Notes: When working with a long FC, you can make your job of counting easier if you place a stitch marker at certain intervals along your chain so you don't have to start over if you lose count. For instance, you can place a stitch marker at every 25 chs, 50 chs, or even every 100 chs. It's your choice.

This pattern naturally decreases as you work back and forth in rows, which means you will not need to keep track of your rows unless you are changing colors. If you are changing colors, you will need to change your color beginning on a Row 3 or Row 5 repeat. Always attach your new color in the 3rd sc from the previous Row 2 or 4 repeat.

### Instructions:

FC: Ch 206 (If you'd like to make a larger or smaller shawl, use a FC with a multiple of 8 chs plus 6.)

Row 1: (RS) In 2nd ch from hook, sc. \*Sc in next ch, ch 2, skip next ch, dc in next 4 chs, ch 2, skip next ch, sc in next ch\* Repeat from \* to \* across until 4 chs remain. Sc in next ch, ch 2, skip next ch, dc in next 2 chs. Turn.

Row 2: (WS) Ch 1, sc in same st ch 1 comes out of, sc in next st, \*ch 4, sc in next 4 dc's from previous row\* Repeat from \* to \* across. Turn.

Row 3: (RS) Ch 1, skip the st the ch 1 comes out of, skip next st, \*sc in next st, ch 2, skip next st, 4 dc in next ch-4 space, ch 2, skip next st, sc in next st\* Repeat from \* to \* across. Turn.

Row 4: (WS) Ch 4, sc in next 4 dc's from previous row, \*ch 4, sc in next 4 dc's from previous row\* Repeat from \* to \* across. Turn.

Row 5: (RS) Ch 1, skip the st the ch 1 comes out of, skip next st, \*sc in next st, ch 2, skip next st, 4 dc in next ch-4 space, ch 2, skip next st, sc in next st\* Repeat from \* to \* across until 2 sts and ch-4 space remain. Sc in next st, ch 2, skip next st, dc in ch-4 space, dc in 3rd ch of turning chain. Turn.

Repeat Rows 2 – 5 for pattern.

Final Row: Ch 1, skip the st the ch 1 comes out of, skip next st, sc in next st, ch 2, skip next st, dc in ch-4 space, dc in 3rd ch of turning chain.

If changing color for the trim, finish off and weave in ends.

### Trim

Attach in corner st with RS of shawl facing you. Ch 6 (counts as dc + ch 3), work a dc in that same corner st, dc evenly to next corner. \*In corner st, (dc, ch 3, dc). Dc evenly to next corner\* Repeat from \* to \* once more. Sl st in 3rd ch of ch-6. Finish off. Weave in end.

The sample shawl was created with a random stripe pattern. Each row of color consists of a Row 3 and Row 4 OR a Row 5 and Row 2. So, in other words, a row with 4 dc's together and a row with 4 sc's, ch 4 are the two rows that constitute one color stripe. The number of squares in each row is unimportant.

**Joseph's coat of many colors was obviously some ancient-times crocheter's attempt to use up her stash of yarn!!**

**Prioritize your tasks.  
You are less likely to mess up the house  
if you crochet first, clean later.**

# KNIT EASY EYELET STITCH WRAP

## MATERIALS

worsted weight, 1085 yds/992.124 m

Size U.S. 10 (6 mm) circular knitting needle 29" [73.5 cm] long or size needed to obtain gauge.

## ABBREVIATIONS

Approx = Approximately

Beg = Beginning

K = Knit

K2tog = Knit next

2 stitches together

Pat = Pattern

Rep = Repeat

St(s) = Stitch(es)

Yo = Yarn over

MEASUREMENTS Approx 24 x 70" [61 x 178 cm].

GAUGE 15 sts and 30 rows = 4" [10 cm] in

## INSTRUCTIONS

Note: Wrap is reversible. There is no right or wrong side.

Cast on 91 stitches (sts) (multiple of 3 sts + 16). Do not join. Working back and forth across needle in rows, proceed as follows:

Knit 16 rows (garter st).

Next row: Knit 8 (K8). \*K1. Yarn over (yo). Knit next 2 stitches together (K2tog). Repeat (Rep) from \* to last 8 sts. K8.

Rep last row for Easy Eyelet Pat until work from beginning (beg) measures 68" [173 cm].

Knit 16 rows (garter st).

Cast off.

FINISHING Pin Wrap to measurements on a flat surface. Cover with a damp cloth, leaving cloth to dry.

**knitting takes a lot of wool power and shear dedication.**

Dear Charlotte,

Thanks so much for the beautiful yellow prayer shawl. It is truly a labor of love.

I am giving it to my niece for her 17 month old baby, Liam Collins.

He was diagnosed with Retinal Blastoma and had his eye removed a couple of weeks ago.

Unfortunately it is genetic, so they will have to test the other eye every 6 weeks and undergo chemo for 6 months. After 1 treatment, he has been hospitalized twice with a fever.

Please keep them in your prayers. I wasn't sure if you have moved, so I am sending this to St. Giles.

Thanks again.

Jeanne Murray Lynch

**"Knitting is a boon for those of us who are easily bored. I take my knitting everywhere to take the edge off of moments that would otherwise drive me stark raving mad."**

**~Stephanie Pearl-McPhee**

## 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!