

MONTHLY MEETING

**Shared Prayer
Storytelling
Knitting
Crocheting
Conversation
Snacks**

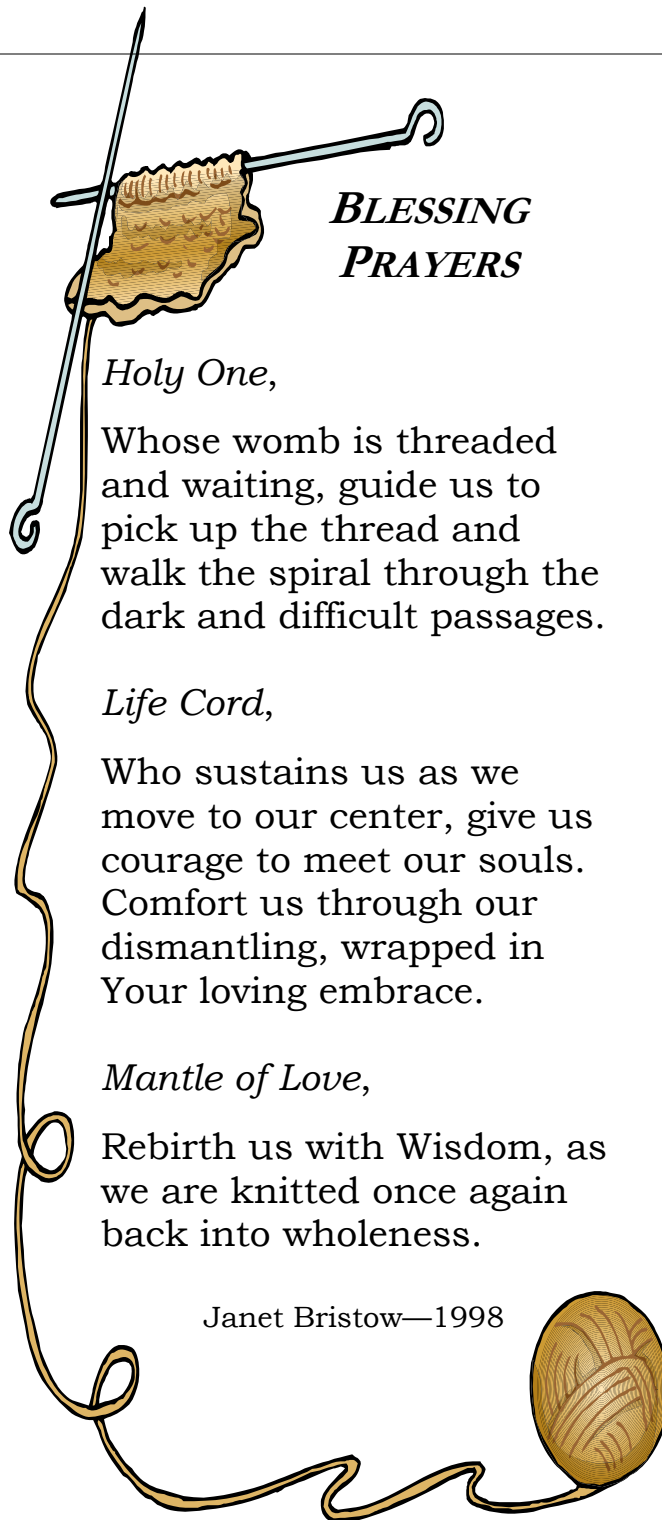
**Ritual blessing
of completed shawls**

**Preparation of shawls
for presentation to
recipients**

*For more information about this
ministry, please contact
Karen Feller at 330-479-9941*

This ministry is coordinated by the
Christian Service & Social
Concerns Committee &
the Pastoral Care Team

For further information or
to obtain patterns and other
information about this
ministry, go to
www.shawlministry.com



BLESSING PRAYERS

Holy One,

Whose womb is threaded
and waiting, guide us to
pick up the thread and
walk the spiral through the
dark and difficult passages.

Life Cord,

Who sustains us as we
move to our center, give us
courage to meet our souls.
Comfort us through our
dismantling, wrapped in
Your loving embrace.

Mantle of Love,

Rebirth us with Wisdom, as
we are knitted once again
back into wholeness.

Janet Bristow—1998

Prayer Shawl Ministry



*St. Anthony
All Saints
PARISH*

*“You created every part of me,
knitting me in my
Mother’s womb.
For such handiwork,
I praise you. Awesome this
great wonder!”*

Psalms 139:13-14

About The Shawls

In 1998, Janet Bristow and Victoria Galo, two graduates of the 1997 Women's Leadership Institute at The Hartford Seminary in Hartford, Connecticut gave birth to a ministry as a result of their experience in this program of applied Feminist Spirituality under the direction of Professor Miriam Therese Winter, MMS.

Care and the love of knitting (and crochet) have been combined into a prayerful ministry that reaches out to those in need of comfort and solace. Many blessings are knitted into every shawl. The knitter begins each shawl with prayers for the recipient. Intentions are continued throughout the creation of the shawl. When the shawl is completed it is offered a final ritual before being sent along its way.

As this gift has been sent along, some recipients often continue the kindness by making one themselves and passing it onto someone in need.

Thus, the blessing is rippled from person to person, with both the giver and receiver feeling the unconditional embrace of a sheltering, mothering God!

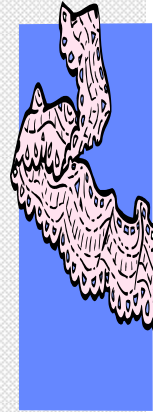
Besides knit and crochet; the shawls can be woven, sewn, quilted, machine knitted, etc.

"Shawls ... made for centuries universal and embracing, symbolic of an inclusive, unconditionally loving, God.

They wrap, enfold, comfort, cover, give solace, mother, hug, shelter and beautify.

Those who have received these shawls have been uplifted and affirmed, as if given wings to fly above their troubles..."

Janet Bristow -1998
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**St. Anthony All Saints
Prayer Shawl Ministry
meets on the Second
Thursday of each month
from 12:30-2:30 or 6:00-8:00
in the Friendship Room**

When meeting schedules and personal calendars conflict, we craft from home, as time permits. The opportunity to craft with our shut-ins is also available.

Some uses for the shawl

For those who are hurting, to comfort those in need of healing, to console those who are grieving, to bring hope to those in despair or in transition, to remind someone that they are not alone, or provide a special blessing for someone in need. There are endless possibilities!

To make a shawl personal, the giver or the recipient may adorn the shawl with beads, shells, feathers and charms. A blessing is offered when the gift is presented.



Parishioners are invited to support this ministry by making a contribution to assist with the purchase of yarn and other supplies.