

St. Benilde's Prayer Shawl & Blanket Ministry 2020-2021

Our Mission:

Our Mission is to knit, crochet, embroider, or sew shawls, lap blankets, and quilts that have been lovingly anointed with prayer. These are then given to persons in need of prayer and comfort—be it physically, emotionally, or mentally. Our hope is that these blankets and shawls will become a visible expression of both God and our community's care, concern, and love for them.

Materials:

All fabric used to make quilts should be 100% cotton and the batting will be high loft quilt batting. The yarn used to make a shawl or lap blanket, meanwhile, should be soft, warm, and easily washable. Because the purpose of these blankets is to provide comfort, please be mindful to choose soothing colors, avoiding very bright or dull patterns/colors.

Beginning and Finishing the Shawl, Blanket, or Quilt:

Before one begins the creating process, members are encouraged to say a brief prayer of their choice, dedicating the work of your hands and lifting up the intentions of the receiver. Similarly, when you've finished your product, say a quick prayer or blessing keeping the receiver in mind.

Shawls, Lap Blankets, and Quilts are Given but NOT Sold.

The making of a shawl, blanket, or quilt is a spiritual practice which embodies our thoughts and prayers for the receiver. It is a gift freely given with **no strings attached**. These items are meant to be passed on hand-to-hand and heart-to-heart.

If someone offers to buy one, you can respond, "Although our creations aren't sold, a donation to our ministry is gratefully accepted in whatever dollar amount you feel comfortable in giving".

Any donations received will be used to purchase more yarn and material, continuing the ripple effect of unconditional love!

General Practices:

Shawls should be designed with comfort in mind and large enough for the recipient to easily wrap the shawl around themselves. Lap blankets should measure about 40" x 40" for a square blanket and about 36" x 48 for a rectangular blanket. However, these sizes are guidelines and need not be strictly followed. You may also use already made blankets, embroidering special messages on them to bestow that personal touch.

Below, you will find patterns that may be used if you desire. However, this is your own personal offering of love and **you are welcome to use your own pattern or design**.

KNIT: HONEST WARMTH SHAWL

Lion Brand® Homespun® Pattern #: 81046AD – FREE PATTERN
Skill Level: Easy



FINISHED SIZE: About 45 x 67 inches

MATERIALS: 3 skeins Homespun (or equivalent soft bulky weight) yarn, size 13 29 inch circular knitting needles

Cast on 3 stitches.

Row 1: Knit

Row 2: Knit 1, yarn over, knit to end.

Repeat Row 2 until you have 153 stitches.

Bind off.

FINISHING: Weave in ends.

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KNIT: Prayer Shawl / Healing Shawl
Lion Brand® Homespun® Pattern #: 20281-K

Skill Level: Beginner



SIZE: Approximately 24 x 60 inches

MATERIALS: 3 skeins Homespun yarn (or equivalent soft bulky weight yarn); knitting needles size 10

Cast on 63 stitches

First row: Knit 3, purl 3 to the end of the row.

Repeated row: Turn and knit the purl stitches and purl the knit stitches. (Always start the next row with the opposite stitch of what you see. For instance, if the first stitch on the needle is a knit, then start with a purl. **KNIT THE PURLS AND PURL THE KNITS!!!** It should NOT look like ribbing.)

OPTIONAL PATTERN: Cast on 63 stitches and knit each row.

Work about 2 1/2 skeins in this pattern. Use the rest of the yarn for fringe, which can be from 3 inches to 9 inches long. Knot the ends of the fringes to keep the yarn from frizzing.

CROCHET: Prayer Shawl

By: Jo Ann M. Heiser,

www.shawlministry.com



Materials: 3 skeins of soft worsted weight yarn Size N Crochet Hook.

Pattern: Chain 55.

Row 1: (Right Side): (3dc, ch 2, sc) in fourth ch from hook, * skip next 3 chs, (3 dc, ch 2 sc) in the next ch. Repeat from * across.

Row 2: Ch 2 turn. (3 dc, ch 2, sc) in first ch 2 sp and in each ch 2 space across.

Additional note from the designer: When you finish each row....ch 2 turn (3 dc, ch 2, sc) in the same ch 2

Repeat Row 2 until you have used 2 2/3 skeins of yarn (or the piece is about 6 foot long). Do not finish off.

Last Row: Ch 2, turn * sc in first ch 2 sp, ch 2. Repeat from * across and end with a sc. Finish off.

Fringe: Add fringe to first and last rows as desired with remaining yarn.

ABBREVIATIONS:

Ch = chain
Dc = double crochet
Sc = single crochet
Sp = space

Crochet Pattern from St. Bartholomew's Church
Manchester, CT

Size "N" Crochet Hook ("P" Crochet Hook)
Chain 46 loosely (chain 36) - narrow way.

Same pattern for used for both chains:

Row 1: (dc, ch 2,sc) in fourth ch from hook, * skip next 2 chs, (2dc, ch2 sc) in the next ch. Repeat from * across.

Row 2: ch 2, turn. (dc, ch 2, sc) in first ch 2 sp. (2 dc, ch 2, sc) in each ch 2 space across. Repeat row 2 until you have used 2 2/3 skeins of yarn. Do not finish off.

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Last row: ch 2, turn, *sc in first ch 2 sp, ch 2.
Repeat from * across and end with a sc. Finish off. Add tassels.

Easy DIY Rag Strip Quilt from [Practical Stewardship](#)



What You Will Need:

- coordinating flannel (you can use re-purposed fabrics and old flannel baby blankets especially for that middle layer)
 - coordinating thread
 - sewing machine
 - fabric scissors
 - cutting mat and rotary cutter (almost a necessity-these will help you cut super fast, but if you are new to sewing and don't want to invest in these yet, you can get by with your scissors.)
- has been made with the strips 28 inches before, and it looked just fine, too.)
 - (2.) Arrange the strips in seven rows with each row containing three layers like a sandwich with the right sides facing out on the back and the front layers.
 - (3.) Take one row and sew the three layers together right down the middle in a straight line. Repeat this for the rest of the other six rows.
 - (4.) We will call the shaggy side the top side. Now lay all rows down in order, deciding which side will be fringy/shaggy top side. Sew the strips together the long way making sure the raw edges are only apparent on one side with a 1/2 inch seam allowance. Do this until all strips are sewn together.
 - (5.) Use the rotary cutter to make the length of the edges even.
 - (6.) Sew around the perimeter of the blanket with a 3/4 inch seam allowance. You'll run over the strips, and that's fine. It's okay if it's not perfect. The blanket is very forgiving.
 - (7.) Snip around the edges of the blanket every half inch or so to make it shaggy.
 - Wash the blanket once or twice to make it shaggier.



So, in a nutshell (refer to picture above for reference):

- (1.) Decide which colors you want next to each other.
- Cut out 21 strips of flannel, 4 inches X 32 inches each. (Feel free to add more rows than 7 or make them longer or shorter. This tutorial is just a guide. This pattern