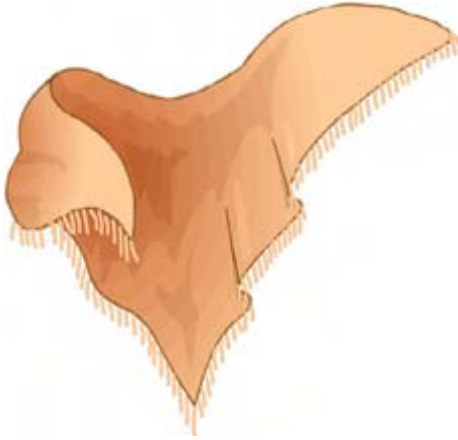


Prayer Shawl Ministry Begins



Shawls can warm the wearer both literally and figuratively. The act of wrapping the shawl around oneself literally warms the wearer while the cocooning effect of wearing the shawl can psychologically warm the wearer. Through the Shawl Ministry, the St. Christopher Philoptochos Chapter would like to provide both of these feelings for the recipients of our Prayer Shawls.

Any church member or friend can participate by making a shawl. The specialness of these shawls will come from the prayers offered by the shawl maker as the shawl is constructed. Prayers are offered for the recipient of the shawl at the beginning of the shawl making process, prayers are offered throughout the construction of the shawl and a final prayer is offered at the completion of the shawl. Fr. George has written a wonderful (and original) *Prayer Guide* to be used while making the shawl, so **WE ARE READY TO BEGIN.**

The process for creating a prayer shawl is easy:

- Contact Susan Kleto to get your copy of the *Prayer Guide*
- Select a shawl pattern to knit, crochet, sew, quilt or weave that inspires you
- Select yarn or fabric that inspires you
- Enjoy yourself as you make your special shawl

While knitting and crocheting instructions are available at www.shawlministry.com, it is not necessary to use only these patterns. However, the finished product needs to be approximately 24 inches to 30 inches wide and 72 inches long.

Our first group of shawls will be donated to the Orthodox Christian Mission Center (OCMC) to go with their Romanian Mission volunteers in September. The focus of this mission is to provide training to Romanian Presbyteres to help women in their parishes. Our shawls will be given to these ladies for distribution as they deem most needed. **For this reason, all shawls must be finished and turned into Susan Kleto by Tuesday, September 1st.**

This is a on-going ministry, with many more opportunities to make shawls if your summer schedule does not permit you to make a shawl by September 1st. For more information about this project or to get your copy of the *Prayer Guide*, please contact Susan Kleto at (770) 253-8469 or by email at sbkleto@aol.com.