

## ***Prayer Shawl and Baby Blanket Ministry***

The Prayer Shawl Ministry at Mary Help of Christians began three years ago. A few prayer shawls were crocheted for bereaved families and for those who were homebound due to illness. It has expanded to include anyone who has a need for prayer. The purpose of the prayer shawl is to bring comfort and peace to the recipient and to let them know that the people of Mary Help of Christians are praying for them. Each decorated prayer shawl includes a prayer from the parish with that message.

The ministry also contributes to the liturgy. Last Easter, the catechumens received crocheted stoles as a remembrance of their Baptisms. The parish also presents a crafted baby blanket to each newly baptized child and their family. Prayer shawls, stoles and baby blankets symbolize the joy we feel as a parish on these special sacramental occasions.

Currently the Prayer Shawl and Baby Blanket Ministry has two members, Maggie Brown, and Myrna Merced. If you knit or crochet, the ministry welcomes you to join in crafting something for someone who needs comfort or is celebrating their faith. We do not have meetings but communicate by email as needed. We appreciate any level of participation. Blessing's flow from this ministry, not only to those who receive but also to those of us who can use our talents to minister to God's people.

