



Blessing of the Prayer Shawls by Rev. Walter Burgess (2018)

D'Amario conducted a “Blessing of the Hands” ceremony on August 19, 2013.

The Ministry has donated prayer shawls locally and internationally. Shawls of different hues, and shapes have been donated to other churches, and local charitable organizations.

Join us if you can knit or crochet or would like to learn. We meet every Monday at 7pm or Thursday at 10am at Leighton Hall.

You can also be a part of the ministry by:

- ✦ Praying for the ministry
- ✦ Donating yarn
- ✦ Donating funds to buy yarn and supplies
- ✦ Creating cards, and gift-bagging
- ✦ Delivering Prayer Shawls

For more information:  
Contact Ministry Leaders  
Karen Webb – (434)227-7421 or  
Judy Kawaja – (410)679-4840

## The Prayer Shawl Ministry



The Church of the Resurrection



Copley Parish – Gunpowder  
Hundred

P.O. Box 222  
700 Anchor Drive  
Joppa, Maryland 21085

410-679-8700

<http://www.copleyparish.org/>  
GunpowderHundred@aol.com

The Prayer Shawl Ministry at The Church of the Resurrection was established as an Outreach Ministry in January 2012. Since then the Knitting and Crocheting group meets twice a week.

Every meeting starts with a brief prayer to guide the hands and surround the shawl makers with positive thoughts to create each stitch with love to comfort, heal and bring hope.

Each completed shawl is finished with a wooden cross stitched on one corner. The shawls receive a final blessing from the priest during a Sunday service; and then sent on the journey to the recipients.

The first batch of Prayer Shawls was blessed by Rev. Dr. Janice Gordon-Barnes on February 5, 2012. The Rev. Matthew

## History of the Ministry

In 1998, Janet Bristow and Victoria Galo, graduates of the 1997 Women's Leadership Institute at The Hartford Seminary in Hartford, CT. gave birth to the ministry. Compassion and the love of knitting/crocheting have been combined into prayerful ministry and spiritual practice.

Whether they are called Prayer Shawls, Comfort Shawls or Manties, etc., the shawl maker begins with prayers and blessings for the recipient. The intentions are continued throughout the creation of the shawl. Upon completion, a final blessing is offered before the shawl is sent on its way. Some recipients have continued the kindness by making a shawl and passing it onto someone in need. Thus, the blessing ripples from person-to person, with both the giver and the receiver feeling the unconditional embrace of a sheltering, mothering God!

For centuries, shawls have been 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.

Shawls can be used: for those undergoing a medical procedure; as a comfort after a loss or in times of stress; prayer or meditation; marriage ceremonies; birthing; nursing; bridal shower; or wedding gift; during an illness and/or a recovery; ministering to others; graduation; birthday; anniversary; ordination; holiday gifts or just socializing. There are endless possibilities!

## Church of Resurrection, Copley Parish

The Church of the Resurrection was founded in 1724. The Church is a welcoming community of the Episcopal Church, the American Anglicans, located at the juncture of Bridge and Anchor Drives on Rumsey Island in the historic city of Joppatowne, Maryland. We are young and old, rich and poor, straight and gay, liberal and conservative, and most things in between. Our goal is not like-mindedness, but a holy communion of mutual respect and understanding, in order that together we may find God and serve the world in Christ's name.

Sunday Services 8:00 am & 10:00 am  
Bible Study Tuesday 5:30 pm  
Tuesday Evening Service 7:00 pm



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