

Epiphany House Blessing • 2023

Traditionally conducted by the head of the household.

Using the blessed chalk that you brought with you from church, you will write numbers, letters, and crosses on the lintel of your home's front door (and any other door you wish) while reciting a prayer. The end result should look something like this, ideally centered over the door:

20 + C + M + B + 23

The prayer follows below; what you write while saying each part is indicated. Read it through beforehand and try to visualize the spacing and positioning of the letters so that you have a beautiful outcome! The inscription may be written either on the outside or inside of the home. In any case, it remains throughout the year as a reminder that yours is a Catholic and Christian home. *"As for me and my household, we will serve the Lord!"* (Joshua 24:15)

PRAYER TO BLESS A HOME DURING EPIPHANYTIDE

Leader: In the name of the ✠ Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.
Let us pray. The three Wise Men,
C Caspar,
M Melchior,
B and Balthazar,
followed the star of God's Son, who became man
20 two thousand
23 and twenty-three years ago.
+ May Christ
+ bless our home
+ and remain with us
+ throughout the new year.

Let us pray. Almighty God, incline your ear. Bless us and all who are gathered here. Send your holy angel, who will defend us, and fill with grace all who dwell here. Through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

In conclusion, you may wish to sing the carol, "We Three Kings":

WE THREE KINGS of Orient are; Bearing gifts we traverse afar;
Field and fountain, moor and mountain, Following yonder star. *Refrain*

Refrain: O! Star of wonder, star of light, Star with royal beauty bright,
Westward leading, still proceeding, Guide us to thy perfect light.

Born a king on Bethlehem's plain; Gold I bring to crown Him again;
King forever, ceasing never, Over us all to reign. *Refrain*

Frankincense to offer have I; Incense owns a Deity nigh;
Prayer and praising, voices raising, Worshipping God on high. *Refrain*

Myrrh is mine, its bitter perfume, Breathes a life of gathering gloom;
Sorrowing, sighing, bleeding, dying, Sealed in the stone-cold tomb. *Refrain*

Glorious now behold Him arise; King and God and sacrifice;
Alleluia, Alleluia, Sounds through the earth and skies. *Refrain*