

Epiphany House Blessing

L. In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

A. Amen.

L. Peace be to this house and: to all who dwell here, in the name of the Lord.

A. Blessed be God forever.

L. A reading from the holy gospel according to St. John

A. Glory to You, O Lord.

In the beginning was the Word and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came to be through him, and without him nothing came to be..... And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we saw his glory, the glory as of the Father's only Son, full of grace and truth. (John 1:1-3.14)

After the prayers of the blessing are recited, each room of the home is sprinkled with holy water. The year and acronym for the blessing are written above the door with the chalk like this:

20 + C + M + B + 23

As you inscribe the initials, say "Christus **M**ansionem **B**enedicat," which means "May Christ bless this house."

L. Lord God of heaven and earth, you revealed your only begotten Son to every nation by the guidance of a star. Bless this house and all who inhabit it. May we be blessed with health, goodness of heart, gentleness and the keeping of your law. Fill us with the light of Christ, that our love for each other may go out to all. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

A. Amen.

Blessing the Chalk

If you cannot obtain blessed chalk, it is permissible for the head of the household to bless chalk to be used. Here is a simple formula:

L. Our help is the name of the Lord.

R. Who made heaven and earth.

Let us pray.

Bless, O Lord God, this creature chalk
to render it helpful to your people.
Grant that they who use it in faith
and with it inscribe upon the doors of their homes
the names of your saints, Caspar, Melchior, and Balthasar,
may through their merits and intercession
enjoy health of body and protection of soul.
Through Christ our Lord.
Amen.