

Epiphany House Blessing: Chalking the door

It is in the home that the first experience of love occurs; it is there that love is nurtured and grows to maturity. The Christian home is also the ground for much of people's spiritual growth. The ministry of Jesus occurs in many different homes. Therefore, to hallow the home as an environment for nurture and renewal, is a deeply felt need by many Christian households. The blessing of a home encourages Christians to dedicate their life at home to God and to others.

Epiphany House Blessing:

Take (blessed) chalk (of any color) and mark on the lintel (top of the frame) of your front door:

$20 + C + M + B + 21$

saying: The three Wise Men, Caspar, Melchior, and Balthasar followed the star of God's Son who became human two thousand and nineteen years ago. May Christ bless our home and remain with us throughout the new year. Amen.

Note: C M B above the door, also stands for Christus Mansionem Benedicat, Latin for "May Christ Bless this House." The last number represents the current year.

Let us pray...

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Other possible prayers:

May all who come to our home this year rejoice to find Christ living among us; and may we seek and serve, in everyone we meet, that same Jesus who is your incarnate Word, now and forever. Amen.

God of heaven and earth, you revealed your only-begotten One to every nation by the guidance of a star. Bless this house and all who inhabit it. Fill us with the light of Christ, that our concern for others may reflect your love. We ask this through Christ our Savior. Amen.

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Loving God, bless this household. May we be blessed with health, goodness of heart, gentleness, and abiding in your will. We ask this through Christ our Savior. Amen.

God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them. Christ, God's incarnation, is present in the love and care we manifest to each other in our ordinary daily lives together.

From A New Zealand Prayer Book page 762

Adapted from The Rev. Bosco Peters,

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