

Year A - The Epiphany of the Lord

Matthew 2: 1-12

House Blessing

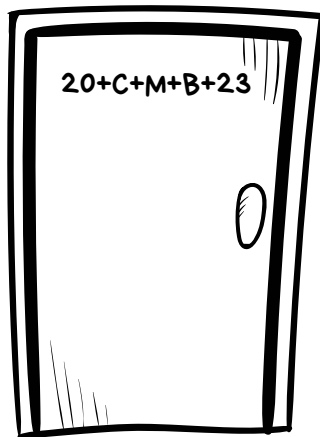


Background

- After Jesus' birth in Bethlehem, the Holy Family was visited by Magi from the East who came to worship Jesus and bring him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.
- On the feast of the Epiphany, it is traditional for families to bless their homes, remembering the hospitality of the Holy Family to the Magi and asking for protection and blessing on their home and all who enter it.

Instructions

- You can write this blessing above your front door and share the blessing with everyone who enters your home.



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20+C+M+B+23

- The legendary names of the three Magi are Casper, Melchior, and Balthasar. The initials C+M+B also stand for the Latin words, "Christus Mansionem Benedicat" which means: "May Christ bless this dwelling." The markings over the doors should be left all year round as a sign that yours is a Christian home.

- The home blessing can be done like this:
- make the Sign of the Cross
- read Matthew 2:1-2, 10-12
- Pray the following prayer:

*May all who come to our home this year
rejoice to find Christ living among us; may we seek and serve, in everyone
we meet, that same Jesus who is Lord of all people, for ever and ever.
Amen.*

Did you know?

Chalk gets blessed at the Epiphany Masses, which you can use for your house blessing.

- With chalk, mark the current year and the initials of the Magi above the outside doorways of your home. Place a cross between each of the letters.
- For 2023 it will read 20+C+M+B+23
- pray the Our Father
- sing an Epiphany song e.g. We Three Kings of Orient Are;
- or Come All Ye Faithful
- finish with the Sign of the Cross