

Blessing in homes at Epiphany

You can divide the parts of this service up among members of the household.

Peace be to this house, and to all who dwell in it.

Everyone then can join in the Magnificat, or one person can read it.

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord, my spirit rejoices in God my Savior; for he has looked with favor on his lowly servant.

From this day all generations will call me blessed: the Almighty has done great things for me, and holy is his Name.

He has mercy on those who fear him in every generation.

He has shown the strength of his arm, he has scattered the proud in their conceit.

He has cast down the mighty from their thrones and has lifted up the lowly.

He has filled the hungry with good things, and the rich he has sent away empty.

He has come to the help of his servant Israel, for he has remembered his promise of mercy,

The promise he made to our fathers, to Abraham and his children for ever.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

O God, by the leading of a star you manifested your only Son to the peoples of the earth: Lead us, who know you now by faith, to your presence, where we may see your glory face to face; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Visit, O blessed Lord, this home with the gladness of your presence, May all who live here be blessed with the gift of your love; and grant that we may manifest your love to each other and to who whose lives they touch. May we grow in grace and in the knowledge and love of you; guide, comfort, and strengthen us; and preserve us in peace, O Jesus Christ, now and for ever. Amen.

Now gather outside the door.

Gracious God, as a shining star once guided the magi to the birthplace of the infant Jesus, so enable those who dwell here to be your light in the world; through Jesus Christ we pray. Amen.

Using the chalk write on the lintel (the horizontal frame above the door). The symbol is made up of the numbers from the calendar year and the initials the traditional names for the three kings, Caspar, Melchior & Balthazar. Some people suggest that the letters might stand for Christus Mansionem Benedicat, which means, May Christ bless this dwelling.

The symbol is:

$20 + C + M + B + 23$

End with the Lord's Prayer