

EPIPHANY BLESSING OF THE HOME (CHALKING THE DOOR)

Leader:

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

The Word became flesh and made his dwelling place among us. It is Christ who enlightens our hearts and homes with his love. May all who enter this home find Christ's light and love.

Leader:

Listen to the words of the holy Gospel according to Luke: *Jesus came to Jericho and intended to pass through the town. Now a man there named Zacchaeus, who was a chief tax collector and also a wealthy man, was seeking to see who Jesus was; but he could not see him because of the crowd, for he was short in stature. So he ran ahead and climbed a sycamore tree in order to see Jesus, who was about to pass that way. When he reached the place, Jesus looked up and said to him, "Zacchaeus, come down quickly, for today I must stay at your house." And he came down quickly and received him with joy. When they all saw this, they began to grumble, saying, "He has gone to stay at the house of a sinner." But Zacchaeus stood there and said to the Lord, "Behold, half of my possessions, Lord, I shall give to the poor, and if I have extorted anything from anyone I shall repay it four times over." And Jesus said to him, "Today salvation has come to this house because this man too is a descendant of Abraham."*

Leader: The Son of God made his home among us. With thanks and praise let us call upon him. We pray:

Respond: Stay with us, Lord.

Leader: Lord Jesus Christ, with Mary and Joseph you formed the Holy Family: remain in our home, that we may know you as our guest and honor you as our Head. We pray:

Respond: Stay with us, Lord.

Leader: Lord Jesus Christ, you had no place to lay your head, but in the spirit of poverty accepted the hospitality of your friends: grant that through our help the homeless may obtain proper housing. We pray:

Respond: Stay with us, Lord.

Leader: Lord Jesus Christ, the three kings presented their gifts to you in praise and adoration: grant that those living in this house may use their talents and abilities to your greater glory. We pray:

Respond: Stay with us, Lord.

Using the blessed chalk, the leader writes the following upon the lintel of the door of the home:

20 + C + M + B + 21

*Together, all pray the **Our Father**.*

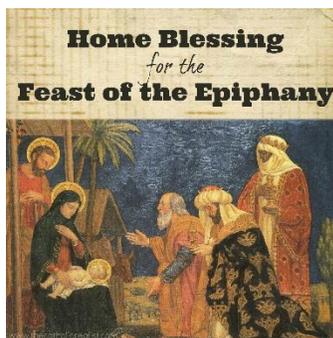
Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come; thy will be done
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
Amen.

Leader:

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.
Fill them (us) with the light of Christ,
that their (our) concern for others may reflect your love.
We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Leader:

May Christ Jesus dwell with us,
keep us from all harm,
and make us one in mind and heart,
now and forever. Amen.



It is preferable to end the celebration with a suitable song, for example, "O Come, All Ye Faithful" or "We Three Kings" while blessing the rooms of the home with holy water.