

From the Liturgy Office.....

Blessing of the Home on Epiphany

The Feast of the Epiphany, also known as The feast of manifestation, is traditionally celebrated the 12th day after Christmas, January 6th. However, the Church will be celebrating this Feast on 2 January 2022.

On this day, families are invited to bless their homes and place the inscription of the initials of the three Magi above each door. This is a way for families to remember that every time they pass through that door, they are to search for Christ and pay him homage as the wise men did. This blessing can be performed by the father or head of the family. The blessing below has been adapted from the book The Twelve Days of Christmas by Elsa Chaney.



Prayer: *On entering the home*

Leader: Peace be to this house.

All: And to all who dwell herein.

All: From the east came the Magi to Bethlehem to adore the Lord; and opening their treasures they offered precious gifts: gold for the great King, incense for the true God, and myrrh in symbol of His burial.

Leader: Our Father. . .

And lead us not into temptation

All: But deliver us from evil.

Leader: All they from Saba shall come

All: Bringing gold and frankincense.

Leader: O Lord, hear my prayer.

All: And let my cry come to You.

Leader: Let us pray. O God, who by the guidance of a star didst on this day manifest Thine only-begotten Son to the Gentiles, mercifully grant that we who know Thee by faith may also attain the vision of Thy glorious majesty. Through Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

Leader: Be enlightened, be enlightened, O Jerusalem, for thy light is come, and the glory of the Lord is risen upon thee—Jesus Christ born of the Virgin Mary.

All: And the Gentiles shall walk in thy light and kings in the splendour of thy rising, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon thee.

Leader: Let us pray.

Bless, + O Lord God almighty, this home, that in it there may be health, purity, the strength of victory, humility, goodness and mercy, the fulfillment of Thy law, the thanksgiving to God the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit. And may this blessing remain upon this home and upon all who dwell herein. Through Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

After the prayers of the blessing are recited, each room of the home is sprinkled with Epiphany water. The initials of the Magi are inscribed upon the doors with the blessed chalk. Example: 20 + C + M + B + 21

(The initials C, M, B, can also be interpreted as the Latin phrase "Christus mansionem benedicat" which means "Christ bless this house".)