

Epiphany House Blessing

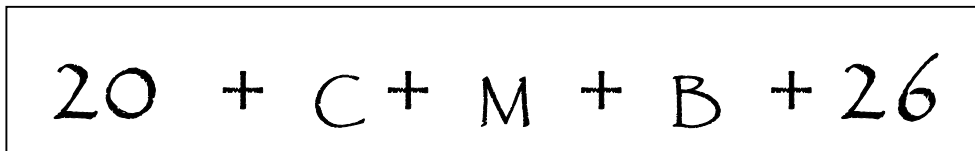
January 6th

Epiphany means “manifestation” or “appearance.” It is the day after the twelfth day of Christmas, and the end of the Christmas season. Traditionally, this day is also recognized as “Three Kings Day,” the culmination of the journey of the Magi to Bethlehem, guided by the brilliant star that announced the birth of Jesus, the Messiah.

Blessing of the Home on Epiphany

Matthew writes that when the wise men saw the shining star stop overhead, they were filled with joy. “On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother.” (Matthew 2:10-11) In your home, Christ is met in family and friends, visitors and strangers. Christ is welcome.

If you live alone, invite friends to share your house blessing with you. In many countries, every year on Epiphany the portal to the home is marked with white chalk in the following way:



The numbers change, of course, with each new year. The three letters stand for either the ancient Latin blessing *Christus mansionem benedicat* (“May Christ bless this house”) or the legendary names of the Magi: Caspar, Melchior and Balthasar.

Here is a prayer of blessing for your home:

*O God, you revealed your Son to all people by the shining light of a star.
We pray that you bless this home and all who live here, with your gracious
presence. May your love be our inspiration, your wisdom our guide,
your truth our light, and your peace our benediction;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.*