



# EPIPHANY

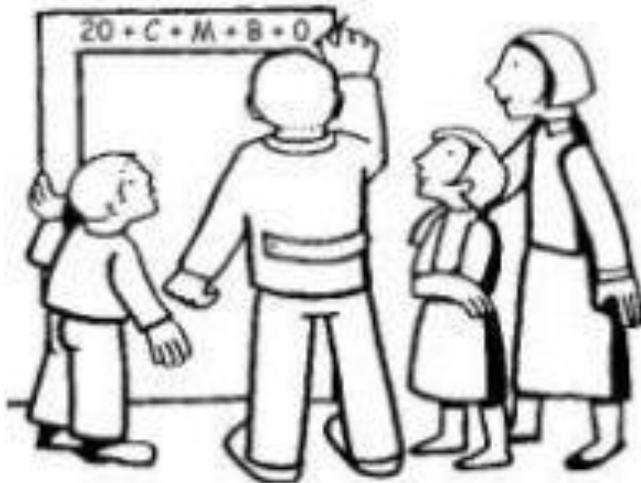
## *Home Blessing Ceremony*



**20 ✠ C ✠ M ✠ B ✠ 21**

*Christus **M**ansionem **B**enedicat*

*[May Christ Bless this Dwelling Place]*



*Saint Michael the Archangel*

*Faith Formation*

**Catholic Prayer:  
Roman Ritual: Blessing of Chalk on Epiphany**

<https://www.catholicculture.org/culture/liturgicalyear/prayers/view.cfm?id=48>

It is traditional for parish priests to bless chalk for each family so that they may mark the names of the three Magi over their doors, in the blessing of homes as a witness of their faith and protection against evil. [*Your chalk has been previously blessed by Father Dwight.*]

The chalk is a type of memento mori or literally, Memento homo ("Remember, man, you are dust and to dust you will return.") This is an image of the reminder of the dust of the earth from which man was made- *Genesis 3:19.*

The feast of manifestation, or Epiphany, is traditionally celebrated the 12th day after Christmas, January 6th. In the dioceses of the United States this feast has been moved to the Sunday between January 2 and January 8.

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**EPIPHANY HOME BLESSING CEREMONY**

*Gather around the manger, if you still have it up. If you do not, at least bring baby Jesus, Mary and Joseph – and of course the three magi.*

*Head of the household [or someone in authority] is the Leader= **L:***

L: God's peace be in this home,

All: And in all who live here.

L: O Lord, hear our prayer.

All: And let our cry come unto you.

L: Let us pray. O God, who by the guidance of a star did this day reveal your Only Begotten Son to the Gentiles, grant that we who know You by faith may be brought to the contemplation of the heavenly majesty, through the same Christ, Our Lord.

All: Amen.

All: Be enlightened and shine forth, O Jerusalem, for your light has come, and upon you is risen the glory of the Lord, Jesus Christ, born of the Virgin Mary.

L: Nations shall walk in your light, and kings in the brilliance of your rising.

All: And the glory of the Lord is risen upon you.

**PRAYER FOR THE BLESSING OF THE HOME**

L: 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 us with the light of Christ, that our concern for other may reflect your love.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

*Three members of the family representing each king (or those the family choose) now mark the door lintel with the following:*

Caspar inscribes C

Melchior inscribes M

\_\_\_\_\_C + M + B\_\_\_\_\_

Balthasar inscribes B

*After these inscription, the leaders says and marks:*

L: These wise men were led by the star they followed:

**Two thousand** [*inscribes the '20' on left*] **20**+C + M + B\_\_

**Twenty one years ago** [*inscribes '21' on right*] **20**+C + M + **21**

**Final inscription on lintel**

**20+C+M+B+21**

L: Almighty God, incline your ear. May you bless this house and all who are gathered here. Send your holy angel who will defend us and fill with grace all who live here.

All: Amen.

*May play the song We Three Kings from Orient Are, while listening to the message in the song. Share with the rest of family members what you think is the meaning of the song.*