



## **Order of Blessing of a Home**

*(You will need one person as a leader and another as a reader)*

### **Introductory Rites**

*All make the sign of the cross.*

**Leader:** In the name of the Father, and the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**All:** Amen.

**Leader:** May the God whom we glorify with one heart and voice enable us, through the Spirit, to live in harmony as followers of Christ Jesus, now and forever.

**All:** Amen.

**Leader:** When Christ took flesh through the Blessed Virgin Mary, he made his home with us. Let us now pray that he will enter this home and bless it with his presence. May he always be here among us; may he nurture our love for each other, share in our joys, comfort us in our sorrows. Inspired by his teachings and example, let us seek to make our home before all else a dwelling place of love, diffusing far and wide the goodness of Christ.

### **Reading of the Word of God**

**Reader:** Let us listen of the words of the holy gospel according to Luke (24:28-32)

As they approached the village to which they were going, he

Gave the impression that he was going on farther.

But they urged him, "Stay with us,

For it is nearly evening and the day is almost over."

So he went in to stay with them.

And it happened that, while he was with them at the table,

He took bread, saying the blessing,

Broke it, and gave it to them.

With that their eyes were opened and they recognized him.

But he vanished from their sight.

Then they said to each other,

"Were not our hearts burning within us

While he spoke to us on the way and opened the Scriptures to us?"

## Intercessions

**Leader:** The Son of God, Lord of heaven and earth, made his home among us. With thankfulness and gladness let us upon him, saying:

**All:** Stay with us, Lord.

**Reader:** Lord Jesus Christ, by your life with Mary and Joseph you sanctified the life of the home; dwell with us in our home. So that we may have you as our guest and honor you as our Head.

**All:** Stay with us, Lord.

**Reader:** In you every dwelling grows into a holy temple; grant that those who live in this house may be built into the swelling place of God in the Holy Spirit.

**All:** Stay with us, Lord.

**Reader:** You taught your followers to build their houses upon solid rock; grant that the members of this family may hold fast to your teachings and, free of all discord, serve you with their whole heart.

**All:** Stay with us, Lord.

**Reader:** You had no place to lay your head, but in uncomplaining poverty you accepted the hospitality of your friends; grant through our help people who are homeless may obtain decent housing.

**All:** Stay with us, Lord.

## Prayer of Blessing

**Leader:** Bless our home, Lord, and all who live here in peace. Be our shelter when we are at home, our companion when we are away, and our welcome guest when we return. And at last receive us into the dwelling place you have prepared for us in your Father's house, where you live for ever and ever.

**All:** Amen.

**Leader:** Let this water call to mind our baptism into Christ, who has redeemed us by his death and resurrection.

**All:** Amen

*Sprinkle those present and the home with holy water.*

## Concluding Rite

**Leader:** May the peace of Christ rule in our hearts, and may the word of Christ in all its riches dwell in us, so that whatever we do in word and in work, we will do in the name of the Lord.

**All:** Amen