

Announcement of Easter and the Moveable Feasts
On the Epiphany of the Lord, after the singing of the Gospel, a Deacon or cantor, in keeping with an ancient practice of Holy Church, announces from the ambo the moveable feasts of the current year according to the formula.

(for the year 2018)

Know, dear brethren (brothers and sisters), that, as we have rejoiced at the Nativity of our Lord Jesus Christ, so by leave of God's mercy we announce to you also the joy of his Resurrection, who is our Savior.

On the **14th** day of **February** will fall Ash Wednesday, and the beginning of the fast of the most sacred Lenten season.

On the **1st** day of **April** you will celebrate with joy Easter Day, the Paschal feast of our Lord Jesus Christ.

On the **10th** day of **May** will be the Ascension of our Lord Jesus Christ.

On the **20th** day of **May**, the feast of Pentecost.

On the **3rd** day of **June**, the feast of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ.

On the **2nd** day of **December**, the First Sunday of the Advent of our Lord Jesus Christ, to whom is honor and glory for ever and ever. Amen.

From the Roman Missal, Third Edition, Appendix I

Blessing of the Home on Epiphany

20+C+M+B+18

(20+Caspar+Melchior+Balthazar+18)

OR: *Christus Mansionem Benedicat*

(Christ bless this house.)

from www.acatholiclife.blogspot.com

Chalk is customarily blessed on the feast of the Epiphany, before the celebration of the main Mass of the day. The chalk is a sacramental, intended for the blessings of homes.

Later that day – or any day within the Octave of the Feast of the Epiphany – at home, the ceremony is completed by a priest, or the father, or senior member of the family. He should mark the year and the initials of the three Magi (Caspar, Melchoir and Balthasar), connected with Crosses, on the lintel of the main door. A prayer for blessing a home is recommended at this time, as printed below. The prayer is said once at the main entrance of the house.

Write with blessed chalk above the door like so:

20 + C + M + B + 18



A suitable prayer:

Hear us, O Holy Lord, Father Almighty, Eternal God, and send Thy Holy Angel from Heaven to watch over, cherish, protect, be with, and defend all who live in my house. I call upon Your Saints, Casper, Melchior, and Balthazar, to protect my family and my home from every harm and danger, and I place the marks of their holy names over the doors of my home to remain there as a constant reminder to us and to all who enter here that my house is truly a house of the Lord.

O God, make the door of my house wide enough to receive all who need human love and companionship; narrow enough to shut out all envy, pride, and strife. Make its threshold smooth enough to be no stumbling block to children, nor to straying feet, but rugged and strong enough to turn back the tempter's power.

O God, make the door of my house the gateway to Thy eternal Kingdom. I ask these things in the Name of Jesus Christ Thy Son. Amen.