



HIERONYMUS BOSCH, THE ADORATION OF THE MAGI, ABOUT 1475

Epiphany House Blessing

CHALKING THE DOOR · 2027

20 + C + M + B + 27

C, M, B are the initials of Caspar, Melchior and Balthasar, the Wise Men of tradition, and of the Latin prayer *Christus mansionem benedicat*: may Christ bless this house. The crosses stand for Christ, and 20 and 27 frame the year.

When. On the feast of the Epiphany (Sunday, January 3, 2027 in the United States, January 6 in many places), or on any day of the season that follows.

What. A piece of chalk, blessed at Mass if your parish offers it, and holy water if you have some.

Who. The whole household. One person leads; the youngest can hold the chalk.

Where. Above the front door, inside or out. Leave it there until time wears it away.

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The Blessing

FOR THE HOUSEHOLD, AT THE FRONT DOOR

AT THE DOOR *Luke 10 : 5*

Leader Peace be to this house.

All And to all who live in it.

THE GOSPEL *Matthew 2 : 1-2, 9-11*

Now when Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judaea in the days of Herod the king, behold, there came wise men from the east to Jerusalem, saying, Where is he that is born King of the Jews? for we have seen his star in the east, and are come to worship him. ... And, lo, the star, which they saw in the east, went before them, till it came and stood over where the young child was. When they saw the star, they rejoiced with exceeding great joy. And when they were come into the house, they saw the young child with Mary his mother, and fell down, and worshipped him: and when they had opened their treasures, they presented unto him gifts; gold, and frankincense and myrrh.

ANTIPHON *from the Roman Ritual*

All From the East the Wise Men came to Bethlehem to worship the Lord. They opened their treasures and offered precious gifts: gold for the great King, incense for the true God, and myrrh for his burial. Alleluia.

The rooms may now be sprinkled with holy water. Then all pray the Our Father.

LET US PRAY

O God, who on this day revealed your only Son to the nations by the guiding of a star: grant in your mercy that we, who know you now by faith, may be led on until we see the beauty of your glory. Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

MARKING THE DOOR

The leader writes above the door:

20 + C + M + B + 27

All May Christ bless this house, and all who come and go through this door, in this year of grace 2027.

BLESSING OF THE HOME

Bless, O Lord God almighty, this home: may there be in it health and purity, the strength that wins the victory, humility, goodness and gentleness, the fulfilling of the law, and thanksgiving to God the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. And may this blessing remain on this house and on all who live in it. Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Arise, shine; for thy light is come, and the glory of the Lord is risen upon thee. ISAIAH 60 : 1

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