

# Epiphany House Blessing

**HISTORY:** Blessing of the doors that lead to the outside world is an ancient custom dating back long before the Middle Ages. It is customary to bless the door with the symbol: **20+C+M+B+21**, which stands for “2021 Caspar, Melchior, Balthasar” (English: The Three Kings, Caspar, Melchior, Balthasar, in the year of our Lord, 2021). After the Protestant Reformation, the non-Catholic Churches liked the tradition, but not the names. Thus this title could also mean: 2021 Christus Manionem Benedicat or “2021 May Christ Bless this house!” Of course this blessing is traditionally done every year, thus the actual date changes accordingly. As the Three Kings came to visit Christ and bless him with their gifts, may your house too be blessed and protected from all evil.

## Blessing

**LEADER:** Peace be with this house and with all who live here. Blessed be the name of the Lord, now and forever. (ALL) AMEN

Our lives are made up of days and nights, of seasons and years. During these days of Christmas, we keep the Epiphany, celebrating the blessed visit by the Three Kings bearing their gifts to our King. We too are blessed, Christ comes among us, for wherever two or more are gathered in his name, there He is in their midst. We gather today to bless this home, to remember that we are God’s children, His favored ones. As the Magi blessed Christ, so Christ now blesses us.

Let us pray.

Lord our God,  
throughout this year,  
bless this house with your presence.  
Bless us in good times and in bad,  
in sickness and in health  
for we belong to you, God ever faithful.  
As the Magi Kings blessed you with gifts,  
bless us with good health,  
your gentleness, and goodness of heart.  
Fill the year with your light O God,  
that our thoughts maybe for you;  
who lives and reigns with Christ and the Holy  
Spirit, One God forever and ever. AMEN

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The placard to the right of this prayer is meant to be hung above the entrance door(s) to the house. This welcoming sign, reminds all that every day and every moment is a gift from God to us.

20  
+  
C  
+  
M  
+  
B  
+  
21

20  
+  
C  
+  
M  
+  
B  
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21