

Epiphany House Blessing

A tradition kept by some Christians in Epiphany is to bless the Church doors and those of the home.

It is an invitation for Jesus to be a daily guest in our home, our comings and goings, our conversations, our work and play, our joys and sorrows.

One way of doing this is to chalk the door and write above the home's entryway,

20 + C + M + B + 21

The letters C, M, B have two meanings.

- They are the initials of the traditional names of the three magi: Caspar, Melchior, and Balthazar.
- They also abbreviate the Latin words *Christus mansionem benedicat*, "**May Christ bless the house.**"

The "+" signs represent the cross, and 2021 is the year.

With our Church doors closed it seems even more important that we remember that God is with us in our homes too. "Chalking the door" is a way to celebrate and physically mark the occasion of the Epiphany and God's blessing of our lives and home. With time the chalk will fade. It is a reminder to let the meaning of the written symbols sink into the depths of our heart and be manifest in our words and actions. You can do this at any time over the coming weeks but the traditional time to do it would be the eve of the Feast of Epiphany so 5th January.

Blessing your home.

Using chalk write 20 + C + M + B + 21 on the lintel of your front door (front porch step or other convenient location) while saying:

May Christ bless our home and remain with us throughout the new year. Amen.

Visit, O blessed Lord, this home with the gladness of your presence. Bless all who live or visit here with the gift of your love; and grant that we may manifest your love to each other and to all whose lives we touch. May we grow in grace and in the knowledge and love of you; guide, comfort, and strengthen us in peace, O Jesus Christ, now and for ever. Amen.

Share your picture

If you would like to take a picture of your chalked blessing and share it with us on social media:

Facebook All Saints with Holy Trinity Loughborough

Twitter ASwHTChurch

Instagram aswhtloughborough