

# 20 + C + M + B + 21

## EPIPHANY BLESSING OF CHALK

It has been a tradition in many parts of the Church to bless chalk at the Eucharists for Epiphany, and then use the blessed chalk as part of blessing one's home in the New Year.

*The home blessing can be done as follows:*

Use the blessed chalk to write:

**20 + C + M + B + xx**

above the doorways: 20xx for the year;

C, M, B for the 3 Magi

Casper, Melchoir and Balthazar

and for *Christus Mansionem Benedicat*,

Latin for "May Christ Bless this House"

*As you are writing, pray one of the following prayers:*

May all who come to our home this year rejoice to find Christ living among us; and may we seek and serve, in everyone we meet, that same Jesus who is Lord, for ever and ever. Amen.

Lord God of heaven and earth, you revealed our only-begotten Son to every nation by the guidance of a star. Bless this house and all who inhabit it. Fill us with the light of Christ, that our concern for others may reflect your love. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Lord our God, bless this household. May we be blessed with health, goodness of heart, gentleness, and the keeping of your law. We give thanks to you, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and for ever. Amen.