



# BLESSING OF THE HOME AND HOUSEHOLD ON EPIPHANY

On Epiphany, we celebrate the visit of the magi to the boy Jesus and, by extension, the revelation of the Messiah to all nations. By praying this blessing on or around Epiphany (January 8, 2023), we dedicate our homes and our families to the Lord in the new year.

*Assemble inside or outside the front door of your home.*

**Leader:** In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**All:** Amen.

**Leader:** Let us praise God, who fills our hearts and homes with peace. Blessed be God forever.

**All:** Blessed be God forever.

**Leader:** The Word became flesh and made his dwelling place among us. It is Christ who enlightens our hearts and homes with his love. May all who enter this home find Christ's light and love.

Listen to the words of the holy Gospel according to Matthew: "And behold, the star that they had seen at its rising preceded them, until it came and stopped over the place where the child was. They were overjoyed at seeing the star, and on entering the house they saw the child with Mary his mother. They prostrated themselves and did him homage. Then they opened their treasures and offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they departed for their country by another way."

**Leader:** The Son of God made his home among us. With thanks and praise let us call upon him.

**All:** Stay with us, Lord.

**Leader:** Lord Jesus Christ, with Mary and Joseph you formed the Holy Family: remain in our home, that we may know you as our guest and honor you as our Head. We pray:

**All:** Stay with us, Lord.

**Leader:** Lord Jesus Christ, you had no place to lay your head, but in the spirit of poverty accepted the hospitality of your friends: grant that through our help the homeless may obtain proper housing. We pray:

**All:** Stay with us, Lord.

**Leader:** Lord Jesus Christ, the three kings presented their gifts to you in praise and adoration: grant that those living in this house may use their talents and abilities to your greater glory. We pray:

**All:** Stay with us, Lord.

**All:** Our Father, who art in heaven...

**Leader:** Lord God of heaven and earth, you revealed your 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.

**All:** Amen.

**Leader:** (*making the Sign of the Cross*) May Christ Jesus dwell with us, keep us from all harm, and make us one in mind and heart, now and forever.

**All:** Amen.

1. We three kings of Orient are;  
bearing gifts we traverse afar,  
field and fountain, moor and mountain,  
following yonder star.

Refrain: O star of wonder, star of light,  
star with royal beauty bright,  
westward leading, still proceeding,  
guide us to thy perfect light.

2. Born a King on Bethlehem's plain,  
gold I bring to crown him again,  
King forever, ceasing never,  
over us all to reign. [Refrain]

3. Frankincense to offer have I;  
incense owns a Deity nigh;  
prayer and praising, voices raising,  
worshiping God on high. [Refrain]

4. Myrrh is mine; its bitter perfume  
breathes a life of gathering gloom;  
sorrowing, sighing, bleeding, dying,  
sealed in the stone-cold tomb. [Refrain]

5. Glorious now behold him arise;  
King and God and sacrifice:  
Alleluia, Alleluia,  
sounds through the earth and skies. [Refrain]

*Take a piece of blessed chalk and write the initials of the three magi (traditionally called Caspar, Melchior, and Balthazar), connected with crosses, over the inside or outside lintel of your front door. Then write the year, breaking up the numbers so they fall on either side of the initials and crosses. It should look like this:*

**20 + C + M + B + 22**

*The initials can also stand for “Christus mansionem benedicat” (“Christ bless this house”).*

**Leader:** In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**All:** Amen.

— Adapted from *Catholic Household Blessings & Prayers*