# EPIPHANY HOUSE BLESSING



The Magi - Caspar, Melchior, and Balthasar journeyed from the East to adore the Lord

Epiphany (which means "revealing") commemorates the Magi who came from the East following a star and bearing gifts to meet the child who would become king. We celebrate Epiphany to remember that Christ has revealed himself to us, too.

"Chalking the door" is a centuries-old way to celebrate and to mark the occasion of the Epiphany with God's blessing of our lives and homes. Using blessed chalk, people mark the doorpost of their home with an inscription signifying the new year (2025), along with the marks C+M+B, which stand for the Latin words **Christus Mansionem Benedictat**, which means "May Christ bless this house." They also stand for the traditional names of the Magi who visited Christ: Caspar, Melchior, and Balthazar.

## Chalking the Door Liturgy:

Leader: Beloved in Christ, at the end of these days of Christmastide, we keep the Feast of Epiphany.

We celebrate Christ being made known to the Magi, to John in the River Jordan, and to the disciples at the wedding in Cana. Today Christ is made known to us! Today this home is a holy place!

#### Peace be to this house and all who enter here.

Let us pray: O God, by the leading of a star you manifested your only Son to the peoples of the earth: Lead us, who know you now by faith, to your presence, where we may see your glory face to face; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

#### Amen.

Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord rises upon you ~ Jesus Christ, born of the Virgin Mary. Nations will come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn.

Using blessed chalk, mark your lintel or doorpost (inside or out) as you read:

"On coming to the house, they saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped him. Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh" two thousand (20) and twenty-five (25) years ago.

Now add the crosses as you pray the blessing

May Christ + Bless + Our Home + and us throughout the 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 forever. **Amen.** 

### **Epiphany Proclamation 2025**

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ+

On this joyous Feast of the Epiphany, when we commemorate the manifestation of our Lord and Savior to the Gentiles, as revealed in the coming of the Magi, we give thanks for the grace and mercy of God, and the light that continues to shine in our hearts.

By the grace and mercy of Almighty God, we announce to you the dates of the solemn and holy feasts that shall mark the course of our sacred liturgical year. These holy days and seasons are a guide for us as we continue our journey of faith in the light of Christ. Let us, therefore, lift our hearts in gladness and prayer as we prepare to observe these sacred mysteries.

- Ash Wednesday, marking the beginning of the penitential season of Lent, shall fall on March 5th.
- The Feast of the Resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ, Easter Day, will be celebrated on April 20th, the pinnacle of our Christian faith.
- The Ascension of our Lord Jesus Christ, when we remember Christ's glorious return to the Father, shall be observed on May 29th.
- Pentecost, the day when the Holy Spirit was poured out upon the apostles, will be observed on June 8th.
- The Feast of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ (Corpus Christi), will be celebrated on June 19th.
- The First Sunday of Advent, the beginning of our liturgical year, shall be observed on November 30th, as we look forward to the coming of Christ in His glorious return.

Let these dates serve as an invitation to all the faithful to prepare with expectation and devotion for the holy seasons to come, and may our hearts be filled with the hope of Christ's presence among us, now and always.

To Him, who is the Light of the World, be honor and glory, now and forever. Amen.

As you use this liturgy in your homes, we invite you to offer your own prayers of blessing, seeking and naming the loving presence of Jesus in your lives. At Hope Church, we believe that the invitation to encounter Christ is not just a one-time event but a continual journey of faith. We encourage you to embrace the love and grace that surrounds you, and to share in the joy of discovering Christ's presence in all things, both in our homes and in our world. May God bless you and your household with peace and joy, and may you know the abiding love of Jesus through this community. We invite you to walk alongside us as we journey in faith together.

Hope Always!

To be added to our mailing list, please fill out a pew card, place it in the offering plate or hand it to an usher.

You may also fill this out online by using the QR code.

