

EPIPHANY HOUSE BLESSING

Epiphany (which means “revealing”) commemorates the Magi who came from the four corners of the world bearing gifts and following a star to meet the child who would become king. We celebrate Epiphany to remember that we too are invited to come and witness the life of Jesus and be blessed as we begin a new year.

“**Chalking the door**” is a centuries-old way to celebrate and to (literally) 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 (2019), 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.

Here’s how to participate in this traditional house blessing:

1. Mark the Doorpost

Using blessed chalk, mark your doorpost (inside or out) with this inscription:

20 + C + M + B + 19

2. Then Pray

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.

Then simply leave the inscription on the door. It will fade with time and weather.

The Table is an Anglican church in Indianapolis learning to encounter, embody, and extend the presence of Christ together. You’re invited to join us Sundays for worship at 11:15am. More info at thetableindy.org.

