God Bless This Home 20 + C + M + B + 25

Explanation: We invite you to bless your home for the new year using this take-home kit. For generations, Christians have blessed their homes around the Feast of the Epiphany. Throughout difficult times, people of faith lift their voices in prayerful hope. This blessing involves a simple chalking of the door frame with " **20 + C + M + B + 25**". Legend holds that within this phrase are the letters C + M + B which represent the initials for the Three Magi – Casper, Melchior and Balthasar who were led by a star in hope. More importantly they abbreviate the Latin phrase: "Christus Mansionem Benedicat" ("May Christ bless this house"). Within the phrase " **20 + C + M + B + 25**", note that the year 2025 is separated by four crosses which signify our call to extend mercy to whoever God sends us in this new year from the four corners of the globe. Crosses also remind Christians of our source for eternal hope. As agents of God's life and love, we share a commitment to: + grow in faith, + live our faith, + share our faith, and + be transformed by our faith.

Epiphany Home Blessing

(You can begin by sharing a Christmas hymn, or just make the sign of the cross)

Leader: Please repeat after me: May God bless this house... (repeat) And protect all who enter it... (repeat)

Leader: O God, you once made a humble home for Jesus in our world, and you led wise ones to welcome him. As we cross this threshold each day, we rededicate ourselves to love You, love our neighbors, do Your will and lead others to You. May Your divine light, warm and guide us in our lives each day of this new year.

Reader: Isaiah 60: 1-7

Leader: Please mark the doorway (top or sides) with **20 + C + M + B + 25**.

Leader: Let us take a moment to recall the many blessings that fill us with gratitude in this New Year... Lord, as we cross this threshold each day for work, study or play, remind us of our true purpose - to love Your people, do Your will, and lead others to You, just as the Wise Ones who followed Your star. May all who enter here find Your gracious hospitality in our company and may all who dwell here seek You in the face of every guest.

Leader: May the Lord dwell with us, and make us one in mind and heart, now and forever. We pray for this, and all good things in Your Holy Name. (Amen.)

Leader: Please repeat after me: May God bless this house... (repeat) And protect all who enter... (repeat)

Many blessings in 2025 to you and your family