



THE PARISH OF
ST. SARAH
THE EGYPTIAN



APOSTOLIC JOHANNITE CHURCH

Blessing of the Home

This blessing of the home and inscription of the initials of the three Magi above each door can be performed either by a priest or a member of the household. This is traditionally done each year at Epiphany, though it may be performed at other times if the need arises.

On entering the home,

Leader (Priest, if present) : + Peace be to this house.

All: + And to all who dwell herein.

All: From the east came the Magi to Bethlehem to adore the Lord; and opening their treasures they offered precious gifts: gold for the great King, incense for the true God, and myrrh in symbol of His sacrifice.

All:

My soul glorifies the Lord,
my spirit rejoices in God, my Saviour.
He looks on his servant in her lowliness;
henceforth all ages will call me blessed.
The Almighty works marvels for me.
Holy his name!
His mercy is from age to age,
on those who fear him.
He puts forth his arm in strength
and scatters the proud-hearted.
He casts the mighty from their thrones
and raises the lowly.
He fills the starving with good things,
sends the rich away empty.
He protects Israel, his servant,
remembering his mercy,
the mercy promised to our fathers,
to Abraham and his sons for ever.

During the Magnificat, the room is sprinkled with holy water and incensed. After this is completed,

All: From the east came the Magi to Bethlehem to adore the Lord; and opening their treasures they offered precious gifts: gold for the great King, incense for the true God, and myrrh in symbol of His sacrifice.

Leader: Our Father,
who art in heaven,
Hallowed be Thy name;
Thy Kingdom come;
Thy Will be done
On earth as it is in Heaven.

Give us this day
Our daily bread;
And forgive us our trespasses
As we forgive those who trespass against us;
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil

Leader: May we never falter in time of trial, and see the peace which has never departed. In your mercy keep us free from confusion and protect us from ignorance as we wait in joyful hope for the

manifestation of the Redeemer.

All: For the Kingdom, the Power and the Glory are yours, now and forevermore.

Leader: All they from the east shall come

All: Bringing gold and frankincense and myrrh.

Leader: O Lord, hear my prayer.

All: And let my cry come to You.

Leader: Let us pray. O God, who by the guidance of a star didst on this day manifest Thine only-begotten Logos to the world, mercifully grant that we may attain to the Holy Gnosis. Through the Most Holy Logos.

All: Amen.

Leader: Be illumined, be illumined, O Jerusalem, for thy light is come, and the glory of the Lord is risen upon thee.

All: And we shall walk the earth illumined by the Sacred Flame, and behold the glory of the Logos.

Leader: Let us pray. Bless, Divine Beloved, this home, that in it there may be health, purity, the strength of victory, humility, goodness and mercy, the fulfillment of Thy law, the thanksgiving to God the Father and to the Word and to the Thought. And may this blessing remain upon this home and upon all who dwell herein. Through the Most Holy Logos.

All: Amen.

After the prayers of the blessing are recited, each room of the home is sprinkled with holy water and incensed. The current year and the initials of the Magi (traditionally Caspar, Melchior, and Balthasar) are inscribed upon the doors with the blessed chalk. (The initials, C, M, B, can also be interpreted as the Latin phrase "Christus mansionem benedicat" which means "Christ bless this house".)

Example: 20 + C + M + B + 21

The inscription may be written using the blessed chalk without any of the accompanying ritual, though the full ritual is, of course, ideal.

An alternative inscription can be used, including a counting from the date of the Era of Gnosis Restored (1890), and appears thus: 2013 + C + M + B + 131

The blessing of the chalk should be done by the priest at the end of the Epiphany service using the following form:

Priest: O Lord God, bless this chalk that it may be used for the salvation of the human race. Through the invocation of Thy most Holy Name grant that whoever shall take of this chalk and write with it upon the doors of his or her house the names of Thy saints, Caspar, Melchior and Balthasar, may through their merits and intercession receive health of body and protection of soul. (*sprinkling the holy water*) Through the Father, the Word, and the Thought. Amen.