



Ignite the F.I.R.E.

Families Involved in Religious Education



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An online article published by Daryl Moresco, Order of Carmelites.

The Feast of the Epiphany is a wonderful time for the family to gather to ask God's blessing on their home and on those who live in or visit the home. It is an invitation for Jesus to be a daily guest in our home, our comings and goings, our conversations, our work and play, our joys and sorrows, especially during these difficult and challenging times.

In this time of uncertainty and hardship when we are spending so much more time in our homes and seeing fewer family members, friends and loved ones let us keep faith and hope alive in our homes and our hearts. It is a timely reminder, as the Christmas season draws to a close and the New Year begins, to place our home under God's watchful gaze. With the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph, we can entrust our family, loved ones, friends and neighbors into God's loving protection as we bless our home.

(A traditional way of doing this is to use chalk to write above the home's entrance(s). It can also be written somewhere inside the home.)

20 +C +M +B +21

The letters **C, M, B** have two meanings:

- They are the initials of the traditional names of the three magi: **C**aspar, **M**elchior, and **B**althazar.
- They also abbreviate the Latin words *Christus Mansionem Benedicat*, "May Christ bless this house."

The "+" signs represent the cross and **2021** is the year.

For the full prayer & blessing, along with an additional prayer especially for these challenging times of the pandemic, visit <https://www.carmelites.net/news/epiphany-house-blessing-2021/amp/>

"Be who God meant you to be and you will set the world on fire!" ~ St. Catherine of Siena