

A prayer over the chalk

Our help is the name of the Lord:
The maker of heaven and earth.

The Lord shall watch over your going out and your coming in:
From this time forth for evermore.

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Let us pray.

Loving God,
May you bless our chalk which you have created,
that it may be helpful to your people;
and grant that through the invocation
of your most Holy Name all who
in faith write upon the doors of their homes
the names of your saints,
Caspar, Melchior, and Balthazar,
may receive health of body and protection of soul
for all who dwell in or visit their home;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Instructions for Blessing the Home

Using the blessed chalk mark the lintel of your front door (or front porch step) as follows:

20 + C + M + B + 21

saying:

The three Wise Men, Caspar, Melchior, and Balthazar followed the star of God's Son who became human two thousand and twenty years ago.

May Christ bless our home and remain with us throughout the new year. Amen.

Then say the following prayer:

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 for ever. Amen.