

Monday, 4 January 2021 – Weekly Inspiration from Rev. Jason

Weather permitting, one of my daughter's favorite activities is coloring our driveway (or any other usable surface) with sidewalk chalk; someday her artwork may even become less abstract and more along the lines of recognizable shapes, but part of me hopes not.

This week we celebrate Epiphany (on Wednesday) the liturgical day associated with the arrival of the Wise Men/Magi/Astrologers to visit the child Jesus. They followed the star, and arrived to Mary, Joseph, & Jesus with their gifts. As we mark this day, we are also invited to mark our dwellings by "chalking our doors."

The tradition is less-known, but falls in line with the command of Deuteronomy 6:9 that the words God has given us should be written "on the doorposts of your house and on your gates" - a reminder as you go in and out from your home (in context, read Deuteronomy 6:1-9). It is also reminiscent of the Passover event.

To chalk your home, on Epiphany write over a doorpost the following:  
"20 + C + M + B + 21"

The year bookending the first letters of 'Christus Mansionem Benedicat' (May Christ Bless this House), and remind us of the supposed names of the Wise Men: Caspar, Melchior, Balthazar.

Regardless, may we all seek our Lord's blessing on our homes, on our comings and goings in this new year, for the glory of our Lord.

Prayer: Lord, bless my house and family, that we may do your will and proclaim your good news. Amen.

More info on Chalking the Door: <https://buildfaith.org/chalking-the-door/>