

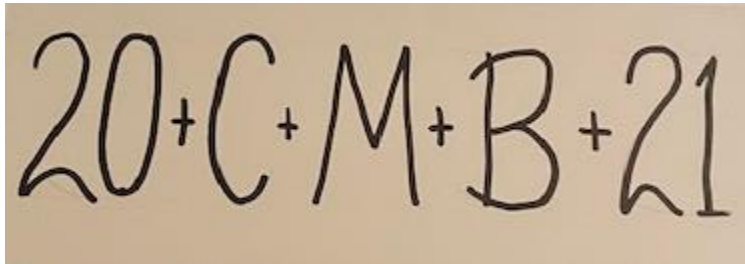
## An Ancient Tradition - Chalking the Door

Chalking the door is the practice of marking a blessing in chalk to invite God's blessing on the doorway of your home. You can use chalk or draw it on a paper and place it over your doorway.

### How To

The markings are usually made above the front door or main entrance, in this pattern:

20 + C + M + B + 21



The numbers change each year to reflect a new calendar year.

The letters C, M, and B are given two meanings: the initials of the traditional names of the three magi, Caspar, Melchior, and Balthazar, and the initials of the Latin phrase *Christus Mansionem Benedicat*, which means Christ bless this dwelling. The plus signs are for the cross of Christ.

### Prayer

Before, during, or after chalking the door, this prayer can be offered.

Seeing the symbols remind us that our homes and all that dwell there belong to Christ. They remind us of the welcome the magi have to Jesus. Who might we welcome into our hearts this coming year? The chalk will fade and as it does allow the meaning of the symbols to sink into our hearts, words and actions.

### Photos

Take a picture of your family's Chalking the Door entryway and email it to Kelley Lane, [adultministries@reveilleumc.org](mailto:adultministries@reveilleumc.org).