

FAMILY BLESSING OF THE HOME

We gather together as a family to bless the home with Jordan Blessed Holy Water. We light at least one candle. It is customary for the youngest or the oldest to hold the candle, although all can have candles as symbol of the Light of Christ that dispels the darkness from our home. One member of the family takes the role of Leader and the rest respond.

Leader: Through the prayers of our holy fathers, O Lord Jesus Christ, our God, have mercy on us.

Response:Amen.

Heavenly King, Comforter, Spirit of Truth, You are everywhere present and fill all things. Treasury of Blessings and Giver of Life, come and dwell within us, cleanse us of all stain, and save our souls, O gracious Lord.

Holy God, Holy and Mighty, Holy and Immortal, have mercy on us. (3 times)

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and for ever and ever. Amen.

O Most Holy Trinity, have mercy on us: O Lord, cleanse us of our sins; O Master, forgive our transgressions; O Holy One, come to us and heal our infirmities for Your name's sake.

Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and forever and ever. Amen.

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come, They 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. Amen.

TROPAR

*At Your baptism in the Jordan, O Lord,
worship of the Trinity was revealed;
for the Father's voice bore witness to You,
calling You His beloved Son,
and the Spirit in the form of a dove
confirmed the truth of these words.
O Christ God, who appeared and
enlightened the world, glory be to You!*

Leader: Let us listen to a reading of the Holy Gospel according to St. Mark

Response: Glory be to You, O Lord, glory be to You.

During that time, Jesus came from Nazareth in Galilee and was baptized in the Jordan by John. Immediately on coming out of the water he saw the sky rent in two and the Spirit descending on him like a dove. Then a voice came from the heavens: "You are my beloved Son. On you my favour rests."

Response:Glory be to You, O Lord, glory be to You.

Leader: Let us pray to the Lord.

Response: Lord have mercy.

Leader: O God, our Saviour, you entered the home of Zacchaeus and brought salvation to him and to all those who lived there. In the same way, O Lord, enter into our home, and keep all of us who live here safe from harm. We ask You: bless this home through the sprinkling of this water, sanctified in remembrance of Your baptism in the River Jordan. Keep it safe and sound, a peaceful haven against the winds of adversity, a place of love and security for all of us who live here. Bless and protect each of us, and give to constantly and abundantly of your goodness; health, hope, and happiness, courage and confidence, an awareness of Your lasting love and presence.

For You, O Christ our God, are the One who blesses and sanctifies all things, and to You we give glory, honour and worship, together with the Father and the Holy Spirit, now and for ever and ever.

Response: Amen.

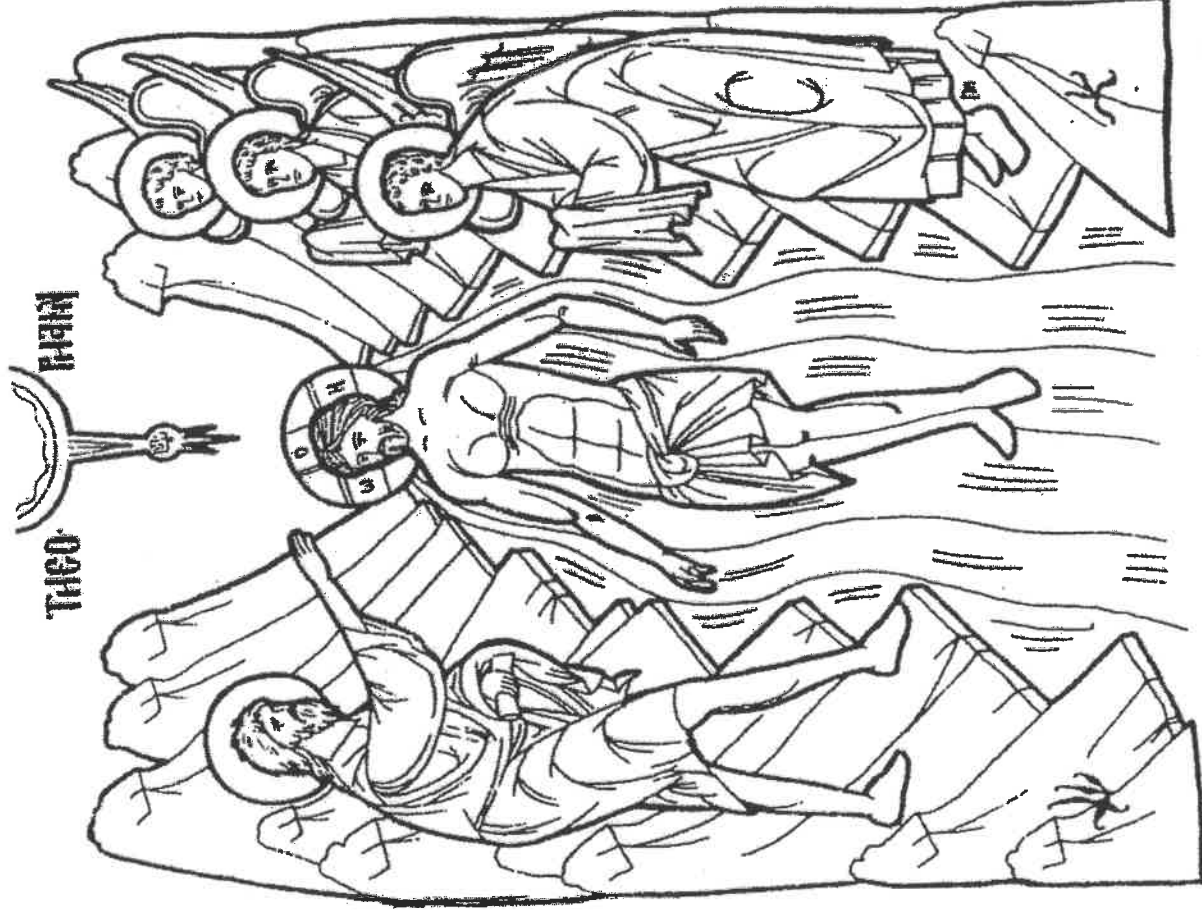
The youngest person leads everyone through every room of the house while the eldest sprinkles the home with the Holy Water. While the home is being blessed to continue to recite or sing the following:

**Today You have revealed Yourself to the universe,
and Your light O Lord has shone upon us**

who spiritually sing to You:

*You have come and revealed yourself,
O inaccessible light!*

CHRIST IS BORN! GLORIFY HIM!



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