



An Order for the Blessing of Homes at Theophany

To prepare your home for blessing, cover a table with a cloth and place a bowl of holy water on it. Have an icon standing behind the bowl and a lit candle in front of the icon. All family members should gather around the table together with the priest and any other faithful.

Priest: Blessed is our God, always, now and ever and unto ages of ages.

Reader: Amen. Glory to Thee, O God, Glory to Thee!

O Heavenly King, the Comforter, the Spirit of Truth, Who art everywhere and fillest all things; Treasury of blessings and Giver of Life; come and abide in us, and cleanse us from every impurity, and save our souls, O Good One.

Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal, have mercy on us. *(3x)*

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit,
now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

O Most Holy Trinity have mercy on us; Lord, cleanse us from our sins; Master, pardon our transgressions; Holy One, visit and heal our infirmities for Thy Name's sake.

Lord have mercy. *(3x)*

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit,
now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy Name. Thy Kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day, our daily bread, and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one.

Priest: For Thine is the Kingdom and the Power and the Glory, of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages.

Reader: Amen.

Priest: Let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord have mercy.

Priest: O God our Savior, the True Light, who was baptized in the Jordan by John to renew all men by the waters of regeneration, and who deigned to enter under the roof of the house of Zacchaeus, bringing salvation to him and to all his house: Do Thou, the same Lord, also keep safe from all harm those who dwell here; grant them Thy blessing, purification, and health of body and soul; grant all their petitions that are for salvation and eternal life. For blessed art Thou, together with Thy eternal Father and Thy most-holy, good, and life-creating Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages.

People: Amen.

All gathered now sing the Troparion of Theophany as the priest blesses the home. One member of the family leads the priest through the house holding the lit candle, while other members of the family accompany them, one holding the icon and another the bowl of holy water, while singing the following troparion.

Troparion (tone 1)(of Theophany)

When Thou, O Lord wast baptized in the Jordan,
The worship of the Trinity was made manifest.
For the voice of the Father bare witness to Thee,
And called Thee his beloved Son.
And the Spirit, in the form of a dove,
Confirmed the truthfulness of His Word.
O Christ, our God, who hast revealed Thyself//
And hast enlightened the world, glory to Thee!

After having gone through the entire house and having come back to the starting point, all sing 'Glory...Now and ever...' and the Kontakion of Theophany.

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit,
now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Kontakion (tone 4) (of Theophany)

Today Thou hast appeared to the universe
And Thy light, O Lord, has shone on us
Who with understanding praise Thee:
Thou hast come and revealed Thyself, //
O Light unapproachable.

Priest: Have mercy on us, O God, according to Thy great goodness, we pray Thee, hearken and have mercy.

People: Lord have mercy. (3x) *(The people respond with the triple 'Lord have mercy' after each petition.)*

Priest: Again we pray for mercy, life, peace, health, salvation and visitation for the servants of God *NN.*, and for the pardon and remission of their sins.

[Priest: Again we pray for the repose of the souls of the servants of God, *NN.*, departed this life, and that they may be pardoned all their sins, both voluntary and involuntary. ⬆]

Priest: Hear us, O God our Savior, the Hope of all the ends of the earth, and of those who are far off upon the sea, and show mercy, show mercy, O Master, upon us sinners, and be merciful to us.

For Thou art a merciful God and lovest mankind, and unto Thee we ascribe glory: to the Father, and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages.

People: Amen.

Priest: Wisdom! Most Holy Theotokos, save us!

People: More honorable than the Cherubim, and more glorious beyond compare than the Seraphim,/ without defilement you gave birth to God the Word, // true Theotokos, we magnify You.

Priest: Glory to Thee, O Christ, our God and our hope, glory to Thee!

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People: Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen./ Lord have mercy, Lord have mercy, Lord have mercy!// Father, bless!

Priest: May He who deigned to be baptized by John in the River Jordan for our salvation, Christ our True God, through the prayers of his Most Pure Mother, the Theotokos and Ever-Virgin Mary, [the commemoration of the patron saints of the family members may be added here], of the Ven John of the Ladder, the patron of our community, of the Holy and Righteous Ancestors of God, Joachim and Anna, and of all the saints, have mercy on us and save us for He is good and loves mankind.

People: Amen.

Priest: A long life, peace, health, salvation, and furtherance in all good things, do Thou grant, O Lord, to Thy servants, *NN.*, and preserve them for many years!

People: God grant you many years!

[*Priest:* Grant rest in blessed falling asleep, O Lord, to the souls of thy servants, *NN.*, departed this life, and make their memory to be eternal!

People: Memory eternal!]

The family members now come forward to receive a blessing with holy water and reverence the cross.

Please list below family whom you would like commemorated:



Living

Departed
