**Announcements:**

**Sunday Bulletin/Email?Newsletter**

Epiphany House Blessing Challenge 2018   Friday Jan 5-Saturday Jan 6

How Many Home Can Fr./Mo. Swinden Bless in 24 Hours?

Let’s find out!

It has been a tradition to bless homes on Epiphany, recalling the visitation of the Magi to the Holy Family.  We want to bless every single home in the parish and encourage you to invite your neighbors to receive a blessing as well.   We need drivers in 2 hour shifts starting Friday Jan 5 at 4 pm and going till 11 pm and starting again on Saturday Jan 6 from 8 am til we’re done!

Here’s where to sign up:  LINK    Or there’s a sheet in the narthex for you to fill out.

The blessings take 10-15 minutes and can include Communion.  We are holding to a certain schedule in order to fit in as many as we can.  If you are away or the timing isn’t right, we can bless your home throughout the Season on Epiphany. Just schedule that with Fr. Mo.   We will send you a link to the route so you can follow the priest as they make their journey.  He/She will be blogging along the way so you can share in the joy of it.

**How to Prepare For 2018 Epiphany Home Blessing**

     Your home blessing can be as elaborate or as simple as you’d prefer.   It is accomplished in as long as twenty minutes or as few as five. The service can be a simple gathering in the main living area or dining room.  We can also organize this right on the spot as we perform it.  You need not feel the burden of planning for a formal ritual.  Whether simple or more extensive, the service will be an elegant and moving one. Please read through the service leaflet provided.  Several other leaflets will be brought for all to participate.

    This is a perfect opportunity to invite family and friends, but also neighbors and others who might not have a church home and whose experience of this grace-filled event would be a wonderful introduction to our community of faith.  The occasion also offers us a special time for good but brief conversation and community building between priest and parishioner.

    It is preferred to share a brief Eucharist, which you prepare using a small plate with a single piece of bread and a glass with a bit of wine of your choosing. A bowl for holding holy water can be available as well as a small (5-8”) evergreen twig for the blessings. We will have the water and a sprinkling branch in case you cannot provide this.

    Chalk will be brought for the door signing, but if you have young children, it is better to use their chalk if available.  The signing may be done on apartment doors just as well as single dwellings. Please sign up here:   LINK    or call the Parish Office to schedule your house blessing.