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The Blessing of A House



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charismatic **e**vangeli**c**al **s**acramental
together

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The Blessing of a House

The celebrant, members of the household, and friends assemble in the living room of the home (in which a table has been prepared for the Holy Communion).

The Celebrant greets the people.

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: *And also with you.*

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, grant to this home the grace of Your presence, that You may be known to be the inhabitant of this dwelling, and the defender of this household; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who with You and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. ***Amen.***

The Lesson

3 John 1-6a,11,13-14

1 The elder, To my dear friend Gaius, whom I love in the truth. 2 Dear friend, I pray that you may enjoy good health and that all may go well with you, even as your soul is getting along well. 3 It gave me great joy when some believers came and testified about your faithfulness to the truth, telling how you continue to walk in it. 4 I have no greater joy than to hear that my children are walking in the truth. 5 Dear friend, you are faithful in what you are doing for the brothers and sisters, even though they are strangers to you. 6 They have told the church about your love. Please send them on their way in a manner that honors God. 11 Dear friend, do not imitate what is evil but what is good. Anyone who does what is good is from God. Anyone who does what is evil has not seen God. 13 I have much to write you, but I do not want to do so with pen and ink. 14 I hope to see you soon, and we will talk face to face. Peace to you. The friends here send their greetings. Greet the friends there by name.

Reader: The Word of the Lord

People: *Thanks be to God.*

heal you by His wounds. Amen.

May the Holy Spirit,
who leads us into all truth,
speak to you words of pardon and peace. Amen

And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father +, the Son +, and the Holy Spirit + be with you and remain with you now *✠* forever. Amen.

If there has not been a Communion as part of the service, it is desirable that there be a celebration of the Holy Eucharist in the home at the earliest convenient time.

The Psalm Appointed

Psalm 112:1-7

Beatus vir

1 Hallelujah! Happy are they who fear the Lord *

and have great delight in His commandments!

2 Their descendants will be mighty in the land; *

the generation of the upright will be blessed.

3 Wealth and riches will be in their house, *

and their righteousness will last for ever.

4 Light shines in the darkness for the upright; *

the righteous are merciful and full of compassion.

5 It is good for them to be generous in lending *

and to manage their affairs with justice.

6 For they will never be shaken; *

the righteous will be kept in everlasting remembrance.

7 They will not be afraid of any evil rumors; *

their heart is right; they put their trust in the Lord.

Celebrant and People:

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:

as it was in the beginning, is now and will be for ever. Amen.

The Gospel

Matthew 6:25-33

Reader: May the Lord be on minds, on our lips, and in our hearts.
The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to
St. Matthew.

People: Glory to You, Lord Christ!

At the conclusion of the reading is said

Reader: The Gospel of our Lord

People: Praise to You, Lord Christ!

Reflection

Invocation

Celebrant: Let the mighty power of the Holy God be present in this place to banish from it every unclean spirit, to cleanse it from every residue of evil, and to make it a secure habitation for those who dwell in it; in the Name of Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Room Prayers

The Celebrant, with members of the household (one of them carrying a lighted candle if desired), and others as convenient, move from room to room, concluding the procession in the living room. Meanwhile, those not participating in the procession remain in the living room, praying silently or singing hymns or other suitable songs.

The prayers in the rooms may be used in any convenient sequence.

The appointed antiphons may be read or sung by all, or by the celebrant, or by some other person.

At the Entrance

Antiphon: Behold, I stand at the door and knock, says the Lord. If you hear my voice and open the door, I will come into the house, and eat with you, and you with me.

V. The Lord shall watch over your going out and your coming in:

R. *From this time forth for evermore.*

Let us pray. (Silence) Sovereign Lord, You are Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end: Send Your servants out from this place on many errands, be their constant companion in the way, and welcome them upon their return, so that coming and going they may be sustained by Your presence, O Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

In an Oratory or Chapel, or at a Shrine

Antiphon: Let them make me a sanctuary, that I may dwell in their midst.

V. Lift up your hands in the holy place:

R. *And bless the Lord.*

but above all for Your immeasurable love in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ; for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory. And, we pray, give us such an awareness of Your mercies, that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth Your praise, not only with our lips, but in our lives, by giving up our selves to Your service, and by walking before You in holiness and righteousness all our days; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with You and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory throughout all ages. *Amen.*

A Prayer of St. Chrysostom

Almighty God, You have given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplication to You; and You have promised through Your well-beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in His Name You will be in the midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord, our desires and petitions as may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of Your truth, and in the age to come life everlasting. *Amen.*

The Dismissal

Celebrant: Let us bless the Lord who comes among us.

People: *Thanks be to God.*

The Blessing

May God the Father,
who does not despise the broken spirit,
give you a contrite heart. *Amen.*

May Christ,
who bore our sins in His body on the tree

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.
For Thine is the kingdom,
And the power, and the glory for ever and ever.
Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread.

A period of silence is kept. Then may be said

Celebrant: The Gifts of God for the People of God

Post-Communion Prayer

Celebrant and People:

How wonderful You are, O gracious God, in all Your dealings with Your people! We praise You now, and give You thanks, because in the blessed Sacrament of the Body and Blood of our Savior Jesus Christ You have visited this house and hallowed it by Your presence. Stay among us, we pray, to bind us together in Your love and peace. May we serve You, and others in Your name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Great Thanksgiving

Celebrant and People:

Almighty God, Father of all mercies,
we Your unworthy servants give You humble thanks
for all Your goodness and loving-kindness
to us and to all whom You have made.
We bless You for our creation, preservation,
and all the blessings of this life;

Let us pray. (Silence) Almighty God, from You comes every good prayer, and You pour out on those who desire it the spirit of grace and supplication: Deliver Your servants when they draw near to You in this place from coldness of heart and wanderings of mind, that with steadfast thoughts and kindled affections they may worship You in spirit and in truth; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

In a Study or Library

Antiphon: Teach us, O Lord, where wisdom is to be found, and show us the place of understanding.

V. Seek the Lord your God, and you will find Him:

R. Search for Him with all your heart and with all your soul.

Let us pray. (Silence) O God of truth, eternal ground of all that is, beyond space and time yet within them, transcending all things yet pervading them: Show Yourself to us, for we go about in ignorance; reveal Yourself to us, for it is You that we seek, O Triune God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

In a Bedroom

Antiphon: Guide us waking, O Lord, and guard us sleeping, that awake we may watch with Christ, and asleep we may rest in peace.

V. I lie down and go to sleep:

R. I wake again, because the Lord sustains me.

Let us pray. (Silence) O God of life and love, the true rest of Your people: Sanctify to Your servants their hours of rest and refreshment, their sleeping and their waking; and grant that, strengthened by the indwelling of the Holy Spirit, they may rise to serve You all the days of their life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

In a Child's Room

Antiphon: Jesus said, Let the children come to me, and do not hinder them; for to those like them belongs the kingdom of heaven.

V. Praise the Lord, you children of the Lord:

R. *Praise the Name of the Lord.*

Let us pray. (Silence) Heavenly Father, Your Son our Savior took young children into His arms and blessed them: Embrace the child whose room this is with Your unfailing love, protect him from all danger, and bring him in safety to each new day, until he greets with joy the great day of Your kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

In a Guest Room

Antiphon: Do not neglect to show hospitality, for thereby some have entertained angels unawares.

V. Open your homes to each other without complaining:

R. *Use the gifts you have received from God for the good of others.*

Let us pray. (Silence) Loving God, You have taught us to welcome one another as Christ welcomed us: Bless those who from time to time share the hospitality of this home. May Your fatherly care shield them, the love of Your dear Son preserve them from all evil, and the guidance of Your Holy Spirit keep them in the way that leads to eternal life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

In a Bathroom

Antiphon: I will sprinkle you with clean water, and you will be cleansed.

V. Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering:

R. *Having our bodies washed with pure water.*

Let us pray. (Silence) O holy God, in the incarnation of Your Son our Lord You made our flesh the instrument of Your self-revelation: Give us a proper respect and reverence for our mortal bodies, keeping them clean and fair, whole and sound; that, glorifying You in them, we may confidently await our being clothed upon with spiritual bodies, when that which is mortal is transformed by life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

After supper He took the cup of wine; and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is My Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of Me."

Therefore, according to His command, O Father,

Celebrant and People:

We remember His death,

We proclaim His resurrection,

We await His coming in glory;

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to You, O Lord of all; presenting to You, from Your creation, this bread and this wine. We pray You, gracious God, to send Your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and His Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to Your Son in His sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through Him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under Your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with St. Chad of Mercia and all Your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of Your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, & the author of our salvation.

By Him, and with Him, and in Him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is Yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever.

Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Celebrant and People:

Our Father, who art in heaven,

hallowed be Thy Name,

Thy kingdom come,

Thy will be done,

Celebrant: It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to You, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord, who grew to perfect manhood in His parents' home at Nazareth, and in the home of friends in Bethany revealed Himself as Life and Resurrection.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of Your Name:

Celebrant and People:

*Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of Your glory.*

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

The people stand or kneel. The Celebrant continues:

We give thanks to You, O God, for the goodness & love which You have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be Your people; in Your Word spoken through the prophets; & above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, Your Son.

For in these last days You sent Him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In Him, You have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before You. In Him, You have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before He died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; & when He had given thanks to You, He broke it, and gave it to His disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is My Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of Me."

In a Workroom or Workshop

Antiphon: Many there are who rely upon their hands and are skillful in their own work.

V. Prosper, O Lord, the work of our hands:

R. *Prosper our handiwork.*

Let us pray. (Silence) O God, Your blessed Son worked with His hands in the carpenter shop in Nazareth: Be present, we pray, with those who work in this place, that, laboring as workers together with You, they may share the joy of Your creation; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

In the Kitchen

Antiphon: You shall eat in plenty and be satisfied, and praise the Name of the Lord your God, who has dealt wondrously with you.

V. The eyes of all wait upon You, O Lord:

R. *And You give them their food in due season.*

Let us pray. (Silence) O Lord our God, You supply every need of ours according to Your great riches: Bless the hands that work in this place, and give us grateful hearts for daily bread; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

In a Dining Room or Area

Antiphon: The living God gave you from heaven rain and fruitful seasons, satisfying your hearts with food and gladness.

V. He brings forth food from the earth, and wine to gladden our hearts:

R. *Oil to make a cheerful countenance, and bread to strengthen the heart.*

Let us pray. (Silence) Blessed are You, O Lord, King of the universe, for You give us food and drink to sustain our lives: Make us grateful for all Your mercies, and mindful of the needs of others; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

In a Terrace or Garden

Antiphon: As the earth puts forth its blossom, or bushes in a garden burst into flower, so shall the Lord God make righteousness and praise blossom before all the nations.

V. My boundaries enclose a pleasant land:

R. *Indeed, I have a goodly heritage.*

Let us pray. (Silence) Jesus, our good Companion, on many occasions You withdrew with Your friends for quiet and refreshment: Be present with Your servants in this place, to which they come for fellowship and recreation; and make of it, we pray, a place of serenity and peace; in Your Name we ask it. **Amen.**

In the Living Room or Family Room

Antiphon: Oh, how good and pleasant it is, when God's people live together in unity!

V. Above everything, love one another earnestly:

R. *For love covers many sins.*

Let us pray. (Silence) Give Your blessing, Lord, to all who share this room, that they may be knit together in fellowship here on earth, and joined with the communion of Your saints in heaven; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

In those rooms and other places for which no provision has been made in this service, any suitable antiphon, versicle, and prayer may be used.

The Blessing of the Home

When the procession has returned to the living room, or immediately after the homily (and invocation), the Celebrant completes the blessing of the home as follows:

Antiphon: The effect of righteousness will be peace, & the result of righteousness tranquility & trust for ever. My people will abide in secure dwellings & in quiet resting places.

V. Unless the Lord builds the house:

R. *Their labor is in vain who build it.*

Let us pray. (Silence) Visit, O blessed Lord, this home with the gladness of Your presence. Bless all who live here with the gift of Your love; and grant that they may manifest Your love [to each other and] to all whose lives they touch. May they grow in grace and in the knowledge and love of You; guide, comfort, and strengthen them; and preserve them in peace, O Jesus Christ, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: *And with your spirit.*

Celebrant: Greet one another with a sign of peace

The People greet one another in the name of the Lord.

If there is not to be a Communion, the service concludes with the Lord's Prayer and a blessing. If there is to be a Communion, the Liturgy continues with the Offertory. Members of the household present the offerings of bread and wine.

The Collect of the Day

The Celebrant stands and says:

Almighty and everlasting God, You hate nothing You have made and forgive the sins of all who are penitent: Create and make in us new and contrite hearts, that we, worthily lamenting our sins and acknowledging our wretchedness, may obtain of You, the God of all mercy, perfect remission and forgiveness; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Eucharistic Prayer B

The people remain standing.

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: *And with your spirit.*

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

People: *We lift them to the Lord.*

Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: *It is right to give Him thanks and praise.*