

# Blessing of Homes with Easter Water



DUBLIN, IRELAND  
**WORLD**  
MEETING of  
FAMILIES  
21-26 AUGUST 2018

## Instruction:

Gather the members of the household together for a moment.

You will need to....

- Have one household member to Lead the prayer
- Another will be required to read the Reading 2 Chron 7:15-16
- A third participant will make a sign of the cross with the water, which was pre-blessed during the Easter Triduum
- Invite to all who are present to prepare a personal intercession before the Home Blessing begins (if they are happy to do so)
- All of the above roles can also be led by one individual

## Gathering Prayer:

**Leader** - Heavenly Father, thank you for the gift of our home. We gather here today to celebrate and welcome your presence here amongst us in our dwelling place. May your blessings continue to pour down upon this home and upon all who are gathered here; that our home may be enriched with love, memories, grace and peace.

## Reading: 2 Chronicles 7:15-16

**Reader** - "Now my eyes will be open and my ears attentive to the prayer that is made in this place. For now I have chosen and consecrated this house that my name may be there forever. My eyes and my heart will be there for all time."

The Word of the Lord

*All: Thanks be to God*

## Personal Intercession:

**All** – Invite each participant to offer a prayerful intention which they will have had time to prepare before the blessing began. Remember to pray for deceased family members and for real hopes, fears and joys that relate to those who have gathered and with whom you share your home.

## Blessing:

**Leader** – Let us now pray that the Lord will enter our home and bless it with his presence.

May the lord always be here among us,

deepen our love for each other,

share in our joys,

and comfort us in our sorrows.

May our home be a place of love,

Filled with the goodness of the Lord. Amen



## Begin Making a Sign of the Cross

We bless this house In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

*All: Amen*

## Conclude with official prayer for the World Meeting of Families

Adapted from 55 Ways to connect with families in your parish, Pg. 138 Blessing of Homes  
Peace be to this house and all who will live here.

The remaining Blessed Water can be used in a Holy Water font or kept within a sacred space in the home.

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## Additional Prayers:



### **Beannú Tí**

**Go mBeannaí Dia an teach seo óna bhun go dtí a bharr,  
go mbeannaí sé gach fardoras, gach cloch is gach clár,  
go mbeannaí sé an teaghlach, an bord ar a leagtar bia,  
go mbeannaí sé gach seomra I gcomhair sámh chodladh na hoíche.  
go mbeannaí sé an doras a osclóimid go fial  
don stráinséir is don bhochtán chomh maith is dár ngaol,  
go mbeannaí sé na fuineeoga a ligeann dúinn an léas  
ó sholas geal na gréine, na gealaí is na réalt,  
Go mbeannaí sé na frathacha in airde os ár gcionn  
Is fós gach balla daingean atá inár dtimpeallú inniu.  
Go bhfana síocháin dá réir sin don ár gcomharsan, cion is grá.  
Go mbeannaí Dia an mhuirear seo agam agus a choimead ó bhaol.  
Is go stiúra sé sinn uile go dtí a ribhrú féin. Amen.**

May God bless this house from top to bottom,  
May He bless each lintel, each stone and beam of wood,  
May He bless the household and the table on which we place food  
May He bless each bed room in which we seek a peaceful sleep,  
May He bless the door we open generously to the stranger and the meek  
- as well as to our relatives and friends.  
May He bless the windows through which come  
the bright beams, of sunlight, moon and stars.  
May He bless the rafters above our head and each strong wall surrounding us,  
May peace love and affection dwell herein and flow towards our neighbours.  
May God bless this gathering and keep us from danger,  
And May He guide us all together to his Heavenly sanctuary. Amen.

Traditional Irish Collected by An t-Ath Diarmuid Ó Laoghaire SJ  
translated by Pádraigín Clancy

May God give blessing  
May Jesus give blessing  
May Spirit give blessing  
May all who come here give blessing  
Both roof and frame  
Both window and timber  
Both gate and door  
Both man and woman  
Both young and old  
Both guest and host  
Peace on each window that lets in light  
Peace on each place that ushers sleep  
Peace of the Father, Peace of the Son

**To this house and all who come here.  
To this house and all who come here.  
To this house and all who come here.  
To this house and to all they meet here.  
Both brick and beam.  
Both foot and head.  
Both coming and going.  
Both parent and child.  
Both wisdom and youth.  
Both stranger and friend.  
Peace on each corner of the room.  
Peace on each plate that cradles food.  
Peace of the Spirit, Peace of the One.**

(Prayer form the Iona Community, published in *Human Rites: Worship Resources for an Age of Change* compiled by Hannah Ward and Jennifer Wild, London: Mowbray, 1995, p.76-77)