



Theophany House Blessings

Between the Feast of the Theophany and the beginning of the Great Fast-Lent, it is customary in our Holy Church to have our homes blessed by the parish priest with the Holy Water sanctified on this glorious Feast Day. This is an ancient tradition of the Eastern Church and through it we extend the “blessing of Jordan” into our homes and private places.

This blessing of our homes underscores and enhances the connection between our parish life and our “HOME CHURCH.” It also gives us and our children an opportunity to see our priest in a more personal situation. All of this strengthens our relationship with God and His Holy Church.

*** Below are some guidelines for this House Blessing and pastoral visitation:

- In a main room or at the Icon corner place a candle, Cross and/or Icon on a clean linen cloth.
- You may make a list of all the family members you want prayed for during the Blessing Service, with the living and dead on separate columns.
- Turn on a light in every room so that Father can see where he is going.
- Turn off all stereos, TVs, computers, etc.
- Please have all pets confined or restrained.
- If you have any Icons, Crosses, religious articles you wish to have blessed, please place them on the table where the Service will take place.

Everyone present when Father arrives should join him around the Icon corner or the kitchen or dining room table. Father will designate one family member to lead him through the house; the rest should follow along and participate in the Blessing Service. Remember that participation is very important.