

# The Church of India – CIPBC



## *Memorial Church Anglican - Whitefield*

### **Blessing A Non Anglican Christian Homes**

In the recent past there have been demands on our Vicar to “Bless Non Anglican Homes”. So, a process for acceptance to perform a blessing as well as an Order of Worship (centred around The Book of Common Prayer) has been designed and followed. Please find below a **“Draft Letter”** to the believer who desires such a Blessing and a **“Request Application”** from the believer, followed by **“The Order of Worship”**.

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Before starting the Spiritual Blessing process of your home, there are certain important steps that you must undertake. They are:

1. Thoroughly clean out the unnecessary items from your house (physically). Give away what you do not need to others who do need them and give what remains to the less fortunate (as long as it is in good condition).

## **Many Times, Spiritual Unrest Follows A Disorganized Venue.**

2. Thoroughly clean your house, top to bottom: literally, ceilings to floor and basement. Clean the walls of dust, vacuum, clean carpets... and do not forget those sundry storage places.
3. Air out the house for Seven Days if you can. With all the windows and screens now clean and fresh, the fans without dust and mould, you can literally say “out with the old and in with the new” air in your house. So if the weather is going to be nasty for a few days, use that time to clean out... then let the house air out during the lovely fresh-aired days following.
4. Here in our country we tend to collect, bags with various types of Idols printed on them - paper bags, containers and carry bags. During the festive season even the News Papers and Magazines carry such pictures. Please have them removed from your residence. Remove all signs of foreign deities (not artefacts) from your home. Remember our Omnipotent God said “Thou shall have no other gods but Me”.
5. You would need possess at least one wall hanging Crucifix or Cross or two of the same if you do not have a Home Altar. These will need to be blessed at the Sanctuary on any Friday at SEXT (Noontime) Prayers. If you cannot make it to the Sext, you can give it to the Vicar and he shall have the Religious Items Blessed. You can then collect it at a convenient time. One of these Crucifix/Cross will need to be hung high above the MAIN DOOR in you home and the other

placed on your Home Altar – if you don't have one then in your Master Bedroom.

Once this is done, please approach the undersigned for **“The Blessing of A Christian Home”** and work out a TIME that is convenient.

Yours in Christ

The Vicar

# **Blessing A Non-Anglican Christian Homes**

## **The Application**

FULL NAME: MR/MRS/MS -

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DENOMINATION:

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DATE OF BIRTH:

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MARITAL STATUS:

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DEPENDENTS NAME:

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POSTAL ADDRESS:

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EMAIL ADDRESS:  
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LANDLINE:  
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CELULAR:  
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COPY OF DOCCUMERNT OF IDENTIFICATION: -  
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The above information mentioned is true to  
the best of my knowledge.

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Name & Signature of the applicant

Date: -----

Place: -----

# **Blessing of A Non Anglican Christian Home**

*Used when Blessing is done for the first time*

*It is in the home that the first experience of love occurs; it is there that love is nurtured and grows to maturity. The Christian home is also the ground for much of people's Spiritual growth.*

*The ministry of our Lord Jesus occurs in many different homes. Therefore to hallow the home as the environment for **nurture and renewal**, is a deeply felt need by many Christian households.*

*The **Blessing of A Home** encourages Christians to dedicate their life at home to God and to others.*

*When proceeding for such a Blessing take long a **White Chalk**, a **Thurible** and an **Aspergillum**. Be sure to take along extra copies of the Order of Worship, White Chalk, Incense and Holy Water*

*At the Entrance to the Home; The family, their friends and the Priest/s gather outside the main door. This door is Incensed and Holy water is then sprinkled upon it. The Incense is constantly raised until the end of the Worship and leads the movement into the various rooms.*

*The Priest greets the people assembled and  
says*

Dearly beloved in our Lord **Jesus** Christ; we enter this doorway; in the name of our God the Creator, the Redeemer and Sanctifier we enter this home - The Lord is here.

**The Assembled: God's Holy Spirit is with us.**

Encircle this dwelling place with Your protection, O God; may Your Holy Angels encompass these walls, and peace be within them. Enter the gates with thanksgiving in your hearts. Come into God's presence with praise.

*A Priest then signs the door posts with the sign  
of the Cross using a white chalk (this signing is  
done on all doorposts that are facing outward)  
and says*

Open the windows and doors of this house that the light and love of Your Holy Ghost may shine within, a light in the world for warmth and welcome.

**The Assembled: AMEN**

*The Priest shall sprinkle Holy Water on all  
assembled*

*The group moves into the home; assembles  
immediately around  
the Front Door*

*The Priest says*

In the name of The Father, The Son and The Holy Ghost peace be to this *house and all who live therein.*

**The Family: O Lord God Almighty make it a haven for all us who live here.**

*The Priest stands at the door and says*

Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me. **Revelation 3:20** (King James Version)

**The Family: Welcome to this our home. Blessed be The Omnipresent God who dwells in love among His people. Blessed be The Omnipotent God who gives peace and shelter to His believers. Amen.**

*A Priest shall say the Blessing*

God of hearth and home, maker of love and laughter, make this a place a place of reflection and restoration, rest and renewal, a place where the life of *N and N and their child/children* may abide in peace and find Your protection, strength and health.

**The Family: AMEN**



*The Priest faces the dwellers and pronounce the Blessing :*

The Lord God Almighty will watch over your going out and your coming in from this time forward and for evermore. ✠

*The then shall Priest sprinkle Holy Water on those who dwell therein*

**The Family: † AMEN**

### **AT THE LIVING ROOM**

*The group moves into the Living Room*

***The Head of the home shall say:***

Indwelling O God, you are ever welcome in this our home. May we hear and share your Living Word, live in unity and love and follow Your Commandments.

*Then a member of the Family shall read the from The Holy Gospel:*

**St. Luke 6:36-38 (King James Version)**

Be ye therefore merciful, as your Father also is merciful. Judge not, and ye shall not be judged: condemn not, and ye shall not be condemned: forgive, and ye shall be forgiven: Give, and it shall be given unto you; good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over, shall men give into your

bosom. For with the same measure that ye mete withal it shall be measured to you again.

**St. John 14:21-23** (King James Version)

He that hath my commandments, and keepeth them, he it is that loveth me: and he that loveth me shall be loved of my Father, and I will love him, and will manifest myself to him. Judas saith unto him, not Iscariot, Lord, how is it that thou wilt manifest thyself unto us, and not unto the world? Jesus answered and said unto him, If a man love me, he will keep my words: and my Father will love him, and we will come unto him, and make our abode with him.

*The Priest says*

O how good and pleasant it is, when God's people live together in unity. Above everything, in love towards one another fervently, for love covers many sins.

*A Priest shall pronounce the Blessing*

God in Trinity, You have made us to need each other and to grow best with companions; Bless all those who shall sit or talk or work together in this place. May they share Your Care and Understanding.

**The Assembled: AMEN**

*The Priest shall sprinkle Holy Water in all the corners of the room.*

### **AT A BEDROOM**

*The family moves to each bedroom in turn.*

*The Priest says*

Guide us waking, O God, and guard us sleeping, that awake we may watch with Christ, and asleep we may rest in Your peace. "I lie down in peace and take my rest for it is in God alone that I dwell unafraid".

*The Priest shall pronounce the Blessing*

God of the night, may this be a Holy and blessed place for N (**and N** ) and all who may sleep here. Here may they know Your loving presence, find rest for their fatigue, and peace for their anxiety. May Your Holy Angels guard them,  
and Your continual blessing strengthen them.

**The Family: AMEN**

*The Priest shall sprinkle Holy Water in all the corners of the room.*

### **AT THE BATHROOM/S**

*The Priest shall pronounce the Blessing*

Blessed are You O God, our Saviour Jesus Christ, fountain of living water springing up to

eternal life; in You is our Baptism, in You is our Faith. Blessed are You God of the rain, the rivers, and the lakes, You give water for life and health to refresh and cleanse all creatures.

**The Family: AMEN**

*The Priest shall sprinkle Holy Water in all the corners of the room.*

### **AT THE STUDY**

*The family moves to the Study*

*The Priest says*

Teach us, O God, where wisdom is to be found, and show us the place of understanding. Seek Your God and you will be found. Search for God with all Your heart and with all Your mind. Keep God Almighty FIRST; all other things in life will fall into their proper places automatically.

*A Priest says the Blessing*

O God, the source of all wisdom, may this be a place of reflection and awareness, of knowledge and understanding. Show Yourself for us, lest we go about in ignorance; reveal Yourself to us, for in You we know The Incarnate Word.

**The Family: AMEN**

*The Priest shall sprinkle Holy Water in all the corners of the room.*

**AT THE KITCHEN**

*The family moves to the kitchen.*

*The Priest says*

You shall eat in plenty and be satisfied, and praise the name of the Lord your God, who has dealt so wondrously with you. The eyes of all wait upon You O God and You give them their food in due season.

*A Priest says the blessing*

O Creator, Sustainer and Life-giver; food shared between a mother and child is Your first gift, it is the first taste we know of love. May the food they prepare, be a work of love done in this room, let it be a sign that You dwell for ever with them every day. May Christ be their constant guest and make their humblest meal a welcome offering.

**The Family: AMEN**

*The Priest shall sprinkle Holy Water in all the corners of the room.*

**AT THE DINING AREA**

*The Family moves to the dining room or area.*

*The Priest says*

Our living God, gave you from heaven rain and fruitful seasons satisfying your hearts with food and gladness. God brings forth food from the earth and wine to gladden the hearts.

*A Priest says the blessing*

Blessed are You, O Sovereign of the universe, for gifts from Your bounty which we receive. May our hearts be thankful; may we always have room for a guest. Make us grateful for all your mercies, and mindful of the needs of others.

**The Family: AMEN**

*The Priest shall sprinkle Holy Water in all the corners of the room.*

**THE PRIEST/S AND FAMILY TO RETURN TO  
THE LIVING ROOM.**

**THE BLESSING**

*The priest lays hands on each member of the household, saying to each  
By Name:*

God bless you and keep you secure in this place. May your family and friends find in you Christ's love and understanding.

**The Assembled: AMEM**

**THE BENEDICTION**

*The Priest shall pronounce to all present The  
Benediction:*

The fruit of righteousness will be peace and the result of righteousness, tranquillity and trust for ever, my people will abide in secure dwellings and in quiet resting places. And now the Eternal Spirit, enfold this home with love †; indwell this home with joy †; and build this home in peace † now and for evermore.

**The Assembled: AMEN.**

The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make his face to shine upon you, and be gracious to you; the Lord lift up his countenance upon you, and give you peace ☩

**All Assembled: AMEN**

**The Thurible Is Set Aside & Allowed  
To Cool Before Packing**