



Opportunities

6 February 2021
The Beatitudes for
Today

Here is another opportunity for you to join with the Los Olivos worldwide Community and be blessed in your home on this retreat. The Beatitudes will be compared with the message of modern day prophets. For more details [click here](#).



Spend time with one or more of the following links, waiting for an epiphany moment.

[Epiphany on the Jordan](#)
[Steve Bell and Malcolm Guuite](#)
[Poem and Song](#)

[Sand Art](#)
[Alexandra Komofalskaya](#)

[Birds in Flight](#)
[Wildlife World](#)



Consider preparing for Lent, possibly reading "At Home in Lent" by Gordon Giles [Click here for details](#).

Epiphany at Home

We are currently in the season of Epiphany in the church calendar. I love that word 'Epiphany'! It's about something unexpected showing up which means that even living in a time which may seem dull and boring, the potential for newness, revelation and realisation is there. Epiphany moments just come and leave us with a sense of amazement. They are "aha moments" - as the magi and many others discovered when they met Jesus.

The epiphany we celebrate is the revelation of God to all people. And where did it happen? In an ordinary place which was a home.



Many of us are confined to our homes at the moment. We are becoming very familiar with everything in them, even what is in the back of the cupboards! But I wonder how many of us expect these ordinary places to be where God will show himself to us? A place where we can have "aha moments" even beyond the season of Epiphany.

It was as I pondered and prayed in my apartment that I had an "aha moment" at the end of 2020. As I thought about a casual visit I had made to Angel's Hills Mountain Resort in September, and realising that the Katafiyio Retreat House would probably need to close, God revealed this would be a good home for Katafiyio. An epiphany moment!

Our homes are important places. An epiphany tradition of "Chalking the Door" helps some to remember this fact. The three letters being the initials of the names of the magi, the numbers referring to the calendar year and the crosses representing Christ. The letters are also an abbreviation of the Latin blessing **Christus Mansionem Benedicat**, meaning **May Christ Bless this House**.

As Christ blessed many homes when living on earth, may be we can look out for his appearing, revealing himself, in our homes this year.



Katafiyio: Room on top floor on the right.

An Exercise

Take a walk round your home and notice:

- what you have been blessed with.
- anything that makes you smile.
- if there is anything that surprises you.
- who or what you are reminded of.
- and be thankful.

Now sit and ask God:

- if there is anything he wants to reveal to you.
- if anything you have noticed connects with something that is going on in your life - a thought, a feeling, an event.

You may like to:

- ask God to protect your house this year.
- pray for any who may come to your home this year.
- try "Chalking your Door" or gate at the beginning of this new year.



Listen to the following song sung by Doris Day. You may wish to pray the words for your own home as you start 2021.

[Bless This House](#)