

# Holy Thursday Agape Meal 2020 - Guidelines

## You Are the Expert

It may not be very likely that you have hosted and Agape before, but you are already a dab hand at preparing meals for family and friends. Remember this is an AT HOME SERVICE so be relaxed in your approach and deal with any slip ups calmly.

## Preparing the Table

Apart from providing food and drink and the cutlery and crockery required the only specific items are three candles arranged in a triangle or circular form. If the base of the candle holders can be decorated in the form of a wreath all the better but ideally it won't too closely resemble one used at Christmas. More Spring like please. You may not have or usually place a cloth on the table but that would help emphasise the special nature of the meal. Even a small cloth for the candles to stand on would be good.

## Involve the Media Savvy member of the Household

You will notice that there are YouTube links with the order of service. Being able to play these at the points suggested will greatly enhance the experience especially if everyone can watch the visuals. If you have a smart TV and can set that up that would be perfect. And if it's not where the table is, take the table to where the TV is. It will be worth the effort I promise you.

## I'm Usually Very Reluctant to Give Orders

So, I'll simply remind you of what is in the order of service. Please don't take sneak preview of the Holy is His Name clip. It would be so much better if everyone saw it together for the first time.

## When to Celebrate the Agape

That's very much up to you although sometime in the evening is best. If there are children, then staying up a little later than usual often helps make an occasion seem important. Speaking of child psychology; it's never good to pray on an empty stomach unless you are very holy. So, I recommend having the first part of the meal without lighting the candles. Allow people a comfort break after that. Then come together again for a simple desert. I'm going to recommend pancakes, let me say again.... Pancakes!!! (but if you really can't then a substitute will be okay).

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**Please remember that Father Peter is Celebrating Mass this Evening on behalf over all parishioners. He will be praying that your Agape Meal will create really special memories for you all. It would be great to receive some feedback and photos. If you do then it's important to say clearly, whether or not they could be used on the parish website and or social media. This can be done anonymously or at most would mention the family name, not individuals. Email direct to:**  
**[bjhnwarrington@gmail.com](mailto:bjhnwarrington@gmail.com)**

God's Blessing on You and Those you will be Physically or Spiritually united with this Evening.  
Father Peter