

Agape Meal

Table Set Up:

1. Places are set with plates, cups, napkins, etc.
2. At the head table a place is set for Jesus
3. Put a candle is put at the place for Jesus.
4. The Bible is also put on the head table.
5. Put name of each family member at each place
6. Place a Rosary by each setting
7. Place the bread (made together) in the middle of the table.

Simple Bread-In-A-Bag Recipe: <https://www.agclassroom.org/teacher/matrix/resources.cfm?rid=50>

8. Place a bottle or pitcher of wine, grape juice, or other juice on the table.
9. Set up for Background music (optional)
10. Decorate (optional)

Everyone is invited to the Table.

The head of the house (father, mother, grandparent) will be the leader.

Leader lights, or asks someone to light the candle at Jesus' place.

Leader: Today is Holy Thursday, the day we remember Jesus celebrating the Last Supper with his disciples before his crucifixion. We have set a place for Jesus at the head of the table to remember he is our Lord.

Let's begin with prayer:

In the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

All: Amen.

Leader: Lord, we have gathered to remember your Last Supper, an agape meal, a meal of love, which we remember and celebrate at every Mass.

We invite you into our presence, into communion with us.

May our agape meal tonight nourish our love for one another and nourish our souls so that our love for you will grow.

All: Amen.

Mother or Oldest Child reads John 6:51:

The holy gospel according to Luke.

Jesus said to the crowds:

"I am the living bread that came down from heaven;
whoever eats this bread will live forever;
and the bread that I will give
is my flesh for the life of the world."

Leader: In the Name of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen.

Leader: We now ask our Lord to bless our food and drink.

Loving God, we ask you to bless this bread and bless this (wine, juice.) They are precious gifts that can literally mean the difference between life and death.

May we reverence the blessed earth in which they grow,
the hands which sow and tend and reap their harvest,
and most of all – you, gracious God, who is the source of all life.

May we recognize you in this breaking of the bread.

May we recognize you in the sharing of this drink.

May we recognize ourselves, as the family you call us to be, in the sharing of this bread.

As we share it, may we recall the promise you have made for all time through your son, Jesus Christ.

All: Amen.

The leader breaks the bread and says, as s/he offers a piece to each person:

“(NAME) may this bread nourish you for the journey ahead.”

Response: Amen.

Leader: After the bread has been shared, wine or juice is poured into each cup:

Let us raise our glasses in honor of our God and thanksgiving for His many blessings upon our family.

Leader: Let us pray a decade of the Rosary together and ask our Mother Mary to wrap her mantle of protection around us and all in special need of her comfort this night.

(Leader begins the Our Father, each family member takes turns leading each Hail Mary, the Glory Be, and the optional Fatima Prayer)

Leader: To complete our Agape Meal, let's offer each other a sign of peace.